

# Scottish Borders

## Berwickshire Locality Plan

January 2020

# Contents

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Introduction                            | 3     |
| Berwickshire Locality Area Profile 2018 | 4 & 5 |
| Engaging with our communities           | 6     |
| Berwickshire Ward Data                  | 7     |
| Locality wide themes:                   |       |
| • Economy Skills & Learning             | 8     |
| • Health, Care & Wellbeing              | 9     |
| • Quality of Life                       | 10    |
| • Environment & Place                   | 11    |
| How we will measure success             | 12    |
| Local Plans for Berwickshire:           |       |
| • Local Community Action Plans          | 12    |
| • Learning Community Partnership Plans  | 12    |
| Strategic Action Plans                  | 12    |



## Introduction

The Berwickshire Area Partnership is about creating a space where the aspirations and ideas of the community can be heard and community planning can be strengthened through communities and public bodies working together. The Locality plan is part of this process. It outlines the priorities of the Berwickshire area with a focus on reducing inequalities to improve the area for those who live, work and visit the area.

This plan links to the Scottish Borders Community Plan and sets out:

- The priorities for improving the area over the next five years
- The commitment to work in partnership and use our shared resources<sup>i</sup> in the most effective way to reduce inequality

**Resources** – this could be:  
<sup>i</sup> funding (e.g. budget or grants),  
people (e.g. staff of volunteers)  
or assets (e.g. land, buildings or  
equipment)

In bringing together this plan we have asked, and will continue to ask, local people across Berwickshire what would make the area better.

This plan is structured around four themes:

- Economy, Skills & Learning
- Health, Care & Wellbeing
- Quality of Life
- Environment & Place

<sup>i</sup> **Area Partnership** – bringing together organisations, groups, individuals and businesses from across the locality to collectively work together

**Community planning partners** – those organisations who are taking forward the Scottish Borders Community Plan

**Local service providers** – those organisations who are providing services locally (e.g. GPs, Community Nurses, Business Advisors, etc.)

Comments and feedback gathered at Area Partnership<sup>i</sup> meetings to date have been prioritised to reflect what actions need to be undertaken in the Locality to make a difference.

Communities, community planning partners<sup>i</sup> and local service providers<sup>i</sup> will need to work together in partnership to plan and deliver better services that meet the needs of the people who use them.

At a Borders-wide level this is done through the Scottish Borders Community Plan and the Community Planning Partnership.

At an area level this is done through the Berwickshire Locality Plan and the Berwickshire Area Partnership.

At a local level, services and communities continue to respond to their local community needs. Local plans, including local community action plans demonstrate this and are referenced at the end of this plan.

# Berwickshire Locality Area Profile 2018

# BERWICKSHIRE AREA PROFILE 2019



## TOP 5 ISSUES FOR THE PEOPLE OF BERWICKSHIRE ARE:

- Growing the economy of the Borders, and supporting retailers and businesses
- Providing high quality care for older people
- Raising education and achievement and helping people of all ages obtain the skills they need
- Providing activities and facilities for younger people
- Maintaining and improving the quality of our town centres and civic spaces

(SBHS2018)

## POPULATION ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS

National Records of Scotland (NRS) estimates the population of **Berwickshire** to be

**20,945** population  
(18.2% of the Scottish Borders (SB))

**16.0%** aged 0-15  
(SB = 15.9%; SCOT = 16.9%)

**58.0%** aged 16-64  
(SB = 59.0%; SCOT = 64.4%)

**26.0%** aged 65+  
(SB = 25.1%; SCOT = 18.7%)

(NRS 2017)



**82.9%** of people live in a settlement of under 500 people  
(Scottish Borders = 28.5)

Larger settlements in Berwickshire:

|                            |                           |                          |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>3,557</b><br>Eyemouth   | <b>1,444</b><br>Chirnside | <b>514</b><br>Coldingham |
| <b>2,756</b><br>Duns       | <b>629</b><br>Greenlaw    |                          |
| <b>1,871</b><br>Coldstream | <b>607</b><br>Ayton       |                          |

(NRS 2017)



The Population of **Berwickshire** is projected to be **19,691** people by 2036

Of these:

**14.2%** will be aged 0-15  
(fewer than present)

**47.0%** will be aged 16-64  
(fewer than present)

**38.5%** will be aged 65+  
(more than present)

(NRS 2014 based)

## EDUCATION - CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE (CFE)

% of pupils achieving expected standards of numeracy by end of education stage (2017/18)

| STAGE            | BERWICKSHIRE | SB / SCOT |
|------------------|--------------|-----------|
| P1 (Early Level) | <b>77%</b>   | 80% / 85% |
| P4 (Level 1)     | <b>82%</b>   | 79% / 76% |
| P7 (Level 2)     | <b>70%</b>   | 74% / 75% |
| S3 (Level 3+)    | <b>90%</b>   | 93% / 89% |
| S3 (level 4)     | <b>50%</b>   | 65% / 56% |

(Seemis)

% of pupils achieving expected standards of reading by end of education stage (2017-18)

| STAGE            | BERWICKSHIRE | SB / SCOT |
|------------------|--------------|-----------|
| P1 (Early Level) | <b>79%</b>   | 81% / 81% |
| P4 (Level 1)     | <b>76%</b>   | 80% / 77% |
| P7 (Level 2)     | <b>76%</b>   | 80% / 79% |
| S3 (Level 3+)    | <b>93%</b>   | 94% / 90% |
| S3 (level 4)     | <b>57%</b>   | 64% / 53% |

(Seemis)

% of pupils achieving expected standards of writing by end of education stage (2017/18)

| STAGE            | BERWICKSHIRE | SB / SCOT |
|------------------|--------------|-----------|
| P1 (Early Level) | <b>76%</b>   | 77% / 78% |
| P4 (Level 1)     | <b>71%</b>   | 75% / 72% |
| P7 (Level 2)     | <b>70%</b>   | 76% / 73% |
| S3 (Level 3+)    | <b>91%</b>   | 93% / 89% |
| S3 (level 4)     | <b>53%</b>   | 59% / 51% |

(Seemis)

## INCOME AND POVERTY<sup>1</sup>

An average of **11%** of Berwickshire's children lived in **Low Income Families** in 2016.  
(Scottish Borders = 13%; Scotland = 17%)  
This ranged from **2%** in the **least-deprived neighbourhood** to **25%** in the **most-deprived**.

(HMRC)

**12%** of Berwickshire's school roll received **Free School Meals** on grounds of low income in 2017-18  
(Scottish Borders = 11%)  
At school level within Berwickshire, this ranged from **7%** to **40%**

(Seemis)

**16%** of Berwickshire's school roll received **Clothing Grant** in 2016.

At **school level within Berwickshire**, this ranged from **0%** to **33%**

(Seemis)

**16%** of Berwickshire's households were living in relatively low income in 2014<sup>1</sup>  
(Scottish Average = 15%)  
This ranged from **12.1%** in the **least-deprived neighbourhood** to **24.3%** in the **most-deprived**.

**10.1%** of Berwickshire's population was considered to be **income-deprived** in 2016.  
(Scottish Borders = 9.7%; Scotland = 12.5%)  
This ranged within Berwickshire from **3%** in the **least-deprived neighbourhoods** to **22%** in the **most-deprived**

(SG-SHM16)

<sup>1</sup>Relative low income (HBAI): % of households earning under 60% of the UK median gross income

The **Average Weekly Gross Household Income** in 2014 was

**£629**  
(Scottish Average £684)

This ranged **within Berwickshire** from **£498** in the **lowest-earning neighbourhood** to **£749** in the **highest-earning**.

**5.7%** of people aged 60+ claimed **pension credit** in May 2018  
(SB = 5.7%; SCOT = 7.2)

(DWP May 2018)

## ECONOMY AND DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

### RETAIL VACANCY RATE 2016

**30%** Chirside **8%** Duns  
**17%** Coldstream **7%** Eyemouth  
 (SB = 11%)

(SBC-PR)



### TOWN CENTRE FOOTFALL 2012-2016

up **2%** Duns down **5%** Eyemouth  
 (SB = down 6%)

(SBC-PR)

### UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMANT RATE<sup>1</sup> ALL PEOPLE AGED 16-64

**1.1%** East Berwickshire  
**1.0%** Mid Berwickshire  
 (SB = 1.4%; SCOT = 1.8%)

(ONS - JAN 19)

### YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMANT RATE<sup>1</sup> ALL PEOPLE AGED 16-64

**2.3%** East Berwickshire  
**2.3%** Mid Berwickshire  
 (SB = 3.4%; SCOT = 3.2%)

(ONS - JAN 19)

### BROADBAND

**6.0%** of premises were unable to receive 2Mb/S Broadband in 2016  
 (SB = 4.2%)

This ranged within Berwickshire from 0% in the least-affected neighbourhood to 30.2% in the most-affected.

(OfCom)

Berwickshire had around average levels of digital exclusion out of the 5 localities in 2017; but higher in parts of Chirside, Eyemouth, Coldstream and Duns

(SBHS 2018/ Scottish Borders Digital Inclusion Index 2017)

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

**18%** of pregnant women admitted to being current smokers in 2015-17  
 (SB = 16.7%; SCOT = 15.9%)

An annual average of **24.3%** of 27-30 month olds had "one or more developmental concerns" between 2014 and 2017  
 (SB = 17%; SCOT = 18.3%)

An annual average of **36.8%** of babies were still being exclusively breastfed at 6-8 weeks, 2015-2018  
 (SB = 36.1%; SCOT = 29.7%)

**75.1%** of P1 pupils had "no obvious dental decay" in 2017-18  
 (SB = 75.1%; SCOT = 70.4%)

**78%** of P1 children had a "healthy weight" in 2017-18  
 (SB = 77.8%; SCOT = 76.5%)

(ScotPHO/ Statistics.gov.scot)

### HEALTH<sup>2</sup>

**329** per 100,000 people were discharged from hospital with Coronary Heart Disease, 2015-18  
 (SB = 343; SCOT = 381)

**134** per 100,000 people aged under 75 died from cancer in 2015-17  
 (SB = 136; SCOT = 160)

**5,500** per 100,000 people aged 65+ had 2 or more emergency hospital admissions in 2015-17  
 (SB = 5,443; SCOT = 5,422)

**260** per 100,000 people were hospitalised due to alcohol misuse in 2017-18  
 (SB = 412; SCOT = 675)

(ScotPHO)



### WELLBEING

**30%** of survey respondents in Berwickshire say they sometimes or often feel lonely or isolated.  
 (Scottish Borders = 33%)

**81%** of survey respondents say they take part in moderate physical 30-minute exercise at least twice a week.  
 (Scottish Borders = 78%)

**66.7%** of Primary 7 pupils took part in "Active Schools" extra-curricular sports in 2017-18  
 (SB = 79.5%)

By 54 this was down to **27.8%**  
 (SB = 36.7%)

(SBHS 2018/ScotPHO/ SEEMIS)



## NEIGHBOURHOOD AND COMMUNITY

The SIMD Crime Rate in 2016 was **148** per 10,000 people<sup>3</sup>  
 (SB = 180; SCOT = 312)

This ranged from 0 in the safest neighbourhood to 824 in the least safe neighbourhood.

(SIMD 2016)

An average rate<sup>2</sup> of **69.8** per year died or were hospitalised due to a road traffic accident between 2015 and 2017  
 (SB = 72.6; SCOT = 59.2)

(ScotPHO)

**23%** of survey respondents said that they feel "a bit" or "very" unsafe walking alone at night  
 (SB = 24%)

(SBHS 2018)



"Rubbish and litter lying around", "Anti-social driving including speeding" and "unwanted callers at the door" are the top three most-common neighbourhood problems that are more complained-about by survey respondents in Berwickshire than average for Scottish Borders.

(SBHS 2018)



**62%** of survey respondents are involved in voluntary work, such as supporting Parent Councils, committees or helping a neighbour with shopping  
 (SB = 59%)

(SBHS 2018)

**41%** of the people in Berwickshire live within the 10% most access deprived in all of Scotland  
 (SB = 27%)

(SIMD 2016)

**36%** of survey respondents said they have problems accessing public transport due to where they live  
 (SB = 28%)

(SBHS 2018)

**22%** of survey respondents said they have difficulty accessing leisure facilities because of where they live  
 (SB = 18%)

(SBHS 2018)



KEY: ■ Better than SB and SCOT; ■ In between SB and SCOT; ■ Worse than SB and SCOT

<sup>1</sup> Unemployment Claimant Rate = Claimant Count of JSA and unemployment-related Universal Credit, as a rate of the eligible population

<sup>2</sup> Rates per 100,000, age-sex standardised, so the differences in the figures are not due to the older population balance

<sup>3</sup> Selected recorded crimes per 10,000 people for the 2016 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

## Engaging with our communities

It is the intention of the Area Partnership to involve as wide a group of people as possible. This helps to make sure our plans reflect the needs of our communities. We will create more opportunities for people to attend the Area Partnership and to talk to us in person, take part in surveys or contact us online. As further information and understanding of the needs and ambitions of our communities is gathered the Area Partnership will continue to build on this plan.

We welcome your views and suggestions.

**To give us your views or to get involved with Area Partnerships, please contact the Communities and Partnerships Team by emailing [communityengagement@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@scotborders.gov.uk) or telephone: 01835 824000**

There are many other ways of being involved in your local community, key contacts are provided below:

Community Councils – [www.scotborders.gov.uk/communitycouncils](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communitycouncils) or Telephone: 01835 825005. Many Community Council's now have their own website and social media pages and will also be contactable directly through these means.

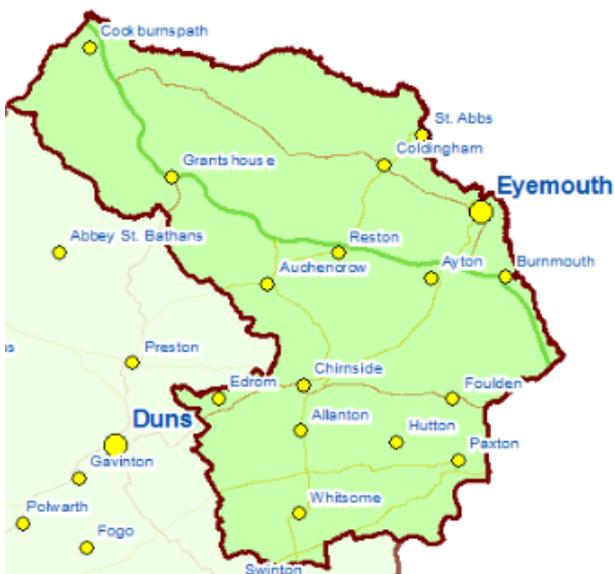
General Volunteering opportunities - [www.vcborders.org.uk](http://www.vcborders.org.uk), Telephone: 01896 754041 or by post.

Riverside House  
Ladhope Vale  
Galashiels  
TD1 1BT

## Berwickshire Wards



**Mid Berwickshire**  
Population - 10,387  
Duns - 2,756  
Coldstream - 1,871  
Greenlaw - 629



**East Berwickshire**  
Population - 10,558  
Eyemouth - 3,557  
Chirside - 1,444  
Ayton - 607  
Coldingham - 514

## Economy, Skills & Learning

**Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Berwickshire is:**

- **Improve the connectivity within and out with Berwickshire, including**
  - **Transport (infrastructure and service provision (see p10))**
  - **Digital (mobile and broadband coverage)**

Other priorities that are important to the Berwickshire community:

- Support and make the most of existing Tourism opportunities, for example
  - Coastline, including marine reserve and harbour
  - Heritage
- Widen the opportunity and availability of modern apprenticeships and vocational training
- Improve the access to further and higher education and the opportunity for lifelong learning
- Protect and retain traditional skills unique to Berwickshire (e.g. sea skills)
- Encourage business start-ups & investment in the area, for example with the availability of suitable (and flexible) business spaces
- Encourage further partnership working to support the area in managing the economic and social impact of current and future demographic changes (i.e. increasing older population, young people moving away)

## Health, Care & Wellbeing

**Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Berwickshire is:**

- **Co-location of specialist services and better service planning, acknowledging the complexities of delivering services, leading to improved outcomes**

Other priorities that are important to the Berwickshire community:

- Improve the availability and accessibility of services for people living in rural areas and town across Berwickshire
- Increase the availability of locally based rehabilitation services
- Increase the range of housing options available across the locality
- Improve support for unpaid carers
- Increase the range of care and support options across the locality to enable people to remain in their own homes and communities
- Focus on rural isolation and social inclusion and the impacts on mental health
- Understand the future care requirements for the area and how best to incentivise people to work in the sector

## Quality of Life

**Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Berwickshire is:**

- **Continue to support (multi-agency) partnership working opportunities, promoting referrals/pathways to those local initiatives and sharing good practice**

Other priorities that are important to the Berwickshire community:

- Invest in and create community facilities/spaces (for all ages/intergenerational)
- Support local community capacity building, in particular local volunteers (utilising their skills and expertise)
- Encourage leisure/cultural facilities to be as accessible as possible (convenient, affordable, time of day)
- Improve communication across communities and between public agencies, including promotion / marketing of specific activities (e.g. men's shed, walking football)

## Environment & Place

**Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Berwickshire is:**

- **Investment in transport infrastructure and service provision, including**
  - **Reston Station / A1**
  - **Cross-border, North-South services**
  - **Community Transport**
  - **Enabling people to be where they need to be (for work, education, health appointments etc.), i.e. more flexible provision**

Other priorities that are important to the Berwickshire community:

- Work with local communities on regenerating and reimagining their local places (town centres, village halls, play areas etc.)
- Understand the housing needs of the area and ensure the right developments are being considered to meet those needs, including affordable housing and housing for all stages and ages of life
- Promote environmentally friendly home energy solutions to local residents

## How we will measure success

The Berwickshire Area Partnership will feedback every year on the progress made in delivering the priorities within this plan. By monitoring the progress we make, we can measure the difference made to local people and communities. Progress and achievements will be shared with the Community Planning Partnership and other public bodies as well as being shared and celebrated with the wider community.

We will continue to ask the community their views and encourage more people to participate in the Area Partnership. As the needs of the locality change, we will ensure the priorities and actions within the plan reflect these changes.

## Local Plans for Berwickshire

### **Local Community Action Plans**

- Coldstream Community Action Plan
- Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl and Preston Community Action Plan

### **Learning Community Partnership Plans**

- Berwickshire Learning Community Partnership Plan
- Eyemouth Learning Community Partnership Plan

## Strategic Action Plans

The key strategic action plans that have an impact on Berwickshire are:

- East Berwickshire and Eyemouth Economic Regeneration Action Plan
- Joint Public Property Development Framework
- Child Poverty Action Plan
- Local Development Plan
- Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2017-2022
- SESplan Housing Need and Demand Assessment