



Berwickshire Locality Plan 2020

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Berwickshire Area Partnership

The Berwickshire Area Partnership¹ 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.

¹ Area Partnership – brings together organisations, groups, individuals and businesses from across the locality to collectively work together

Introduction

Welcome to the Berwickshire Locality Plan



This plan builds on 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 ² in the most effective way to reduce inequality

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

² Resources – this could be funding (e.g. budget or grants), people (e.g. staff of volunteers) or assets (e.g. land, buildings or equipment)

This plan is structured around four themes:



“How do we build and improve our economy, skills and learning?”

“How do we promote and improve our health, care and wellbeing?”

“How do we protect and improve our quality of life?”

“How do we develop and improve our environment & place?”

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

Communities, community planning partners³ and local service providers⁴ 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 Area Partnership, the Berwickshire Locality Plan and associated Action Plan. We expect to continue to evolve these plans to reflect the developments within the area. The most up to date action plan is available on Scottish Borders Council’s Website www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships.

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.

³ Community planning partners – those organisations who are taking forward the Scottish Borders Community Plan
⁴ Local service providers – those organisations who are providing services locally (e.g. GPs, Community Nurses, Business Advisors, etc.)

What we know about Berwickshire

Key Facts and Figures

A selection of key facts and figures relating to the issues highlighted by our communities have been identified and detailed on this page. These present what data we have and what is known about the area, as well as a reflection against the Scottish Borders and national averages where possible.

A more comprehensive Berwickshire Area Profile is available detailing all the key information for the area. This is available to download from www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships



NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITY

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 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)

VOLUNTARY WORK

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)

SETTLEMENTS

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

Larger settlements in Berwickshire:

3,557 Eyemouth	1,871 Coldstream
1,444 Chirnside	628 Greenlaw
2,756 Duns	607 Ayton

(NRS 2017)



INCOME 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-SIMD)



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 Chirnside, Eyemouth, Coldstream and Duns**.

(Scottish Borders Digital Inclusion Index 2017)

ACTIVITY LEVELS

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

By **S4** this was **down to 27.8%** **(SB = 36.7%)**

(SEEMIS)

Berwickshire Wards

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 = 17.0%)

58.0% aged 16-64
(SB = 59.0%; SCOT = 64.7%)

26.0% aged 65+
(SB = 24.5%; SCOT = 18.3%)



MID BERWICKSHIRE

10,387 Population



2,756 Duns

1,871 Coldstream

EAST BERWICKSHIRE

10,558 Population



3,557 Eyemouth

1,444 Chirnside

(NRS 2017)

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 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.

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

To give us your views or to get involved with Area Partnerships please contact:

Communities and Partnerships Team
Email: communityplanning@scotborders.gov.uk
Telephone: 0300 100 1800

More information on Community Councils:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/communitycouncils
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.

More information on volunteering, community support or advice:

Volunteer Centre Borders
www.vcborders.org.uk
Telephone: 01896 754041
Email: enquiries@vcborders.org.uk

Berwickshire Association of Voluntary Service
www.bavs.org.uk
Telephone: 01361 883137
Email: Kathy.cremin@bavs.org.uk

Our 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)
- 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)

Our 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 towns 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

Our 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)

Our 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

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 priorities identified in this plan have been used as the basis for the Berwickshire Locality Action Plan. This action plan will help to track action and activities and to drive change in Berwickshire. As this will be an ever changing document the action plan is available to download from Scottish Borders Council's website, www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnership or in hard copy from the Community & Partnerships Team.

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.

Other Local Plans for Berwickshire

- Coldstream Community Action Plan
- Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl and Preston Community Action Plan
- Berwickshire Learning Community Partnership Plan
- Eyemouth Learning Community Partnership Plan



You can get this document on audio CD, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

COMMUNITIES & PARTNERSHIPS TEAM

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