

Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund - Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

1. Applicant Details:

Organisation name	Morebattle Community Shop Ltd					
Organisation structure	Community Benefit Society – FCA No. 7800					
Application reference	BBBB-CHE-04					
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & Culture	Environment	Community Capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project start date	Oct 2021			Project end date	April 2022	

2. Organisation's finances:

End of year balance	£54,282.00
Current bank balance	£55,012.00
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	£55,012.00
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	£17,300.00 – for shop improvements including a new floor.

Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)		
High <input type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Morebattle Community Shop provides a lifeline to purchase groceries within the village, reducing the need to travel to Kelso. During the pandemic there was a sustained increase in customers which is now only slightly lower than at the height of lockdown. The number of volunteers also increased from 14 to 21 as a result of those furloughed and others wishing to help out.</p> <p>Morebattle Community Shop intend to recruit a part-time volunteer coordinator for a fixed term of six months. The co-ordinator will be responsible for increasing volunteer numbers from 21 to approximately 35, training (including writing a new volunteers manual), rotas</p>		

and social activities. In particular they will be tasked with increasing the number of young people within the community who volunteer and thus gain work experience in the shop.

The role will also give volunteers representation and a listening ear for their expectations and aspirations when supporting the shop, the co-ordinator will be able to champion their views at management and board level.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
--	---------------------------------	------------------------------

The shop is also a vital social hub for residents to meet up and keep abreast of local activities and initiatives. By having a volunteer co-ordinator in post it will make communication with local residents easier as the co-ordinator's working hours will be promoted, so the community know when they can contact the co-ordinator and the means to do so. The volunteers managing the shop will benefit as the co-ordinator will be able to manage day to day enquiries and activities.

Discussions with younger people in the village have highlighted that they are finding it difficult to gain part-time employment or work experience. An opportunity to gain experience in their village will stand them in better stead when applying for jobs in the area.

New members of the community have found it difficult to integrate while the pandemic closed down the usual social clubs in the village, and the shop has given them the opportunity to meet other residents.

Expected impact of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
--	---------------------------------	------------------------------

The objective of the temporary co-ordinator post is that it will create a legacy for the Morebattle Community Shop:

- An increased number of volunteers gaining benefit from involvement in the shop, building on the success of the community ownership through their efforts. This will alleviate loneliness and create worthwhile activity for all generations but in particular school ages and the active retired.
- A better training system in place for the future, including an updated training manual which would ensure all future volunteers are better equipped to assist the shop and enjoy their involvement going forward.
- The shop is a key hub for contact within the village and an enhanced corps of volunteers will increase its ability to serve all residents and visitors alike, with the increase in volunteers the community shop would hope to extend the hours on certain days where they currently struggle to find volunteer cover.
- The co-ordinator and volunteers will also help support the more vulnerable members of the community who are less able to travel elsewhere for shopping and social contact.

Project Expenditure:

Total Project Cost	£2964.00
10% organisation contribution	£296.40
Request to BBBB	£2667.60

Item of expenditure	Cost
Volunteer Co-ordinator – 12hrs p.w. @ £9.50p.h. (26 weeks)	£2964.00

Match/other funding sought:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
	£	

Grants received from Scottish Borders Council or any other funder within the last three years

Date	Project Title	Amount
15/10/19	Cheviot Community Fund	£10,000
17/04/20	Scottish Land Fund	£5,000
21/04/20	Coronavirus Business Support Fund	£10,000
08/07/20	CORRA Foundation Community Wellbeing Fund	£2,000
23/12/20	Scotland Loves Local Support Fund	£1,514

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT	The application meets the criteria of the Fund
Comments	The application is rated medium/high as it provides acceptable examples as to how the work of the volunteer co-ordinator will assist with improving health & wellbeing social and reduce social isolation. The project will also provide work experience for local young people which will help them enter the job market.
Additional terms and conditions required	The applicant must follow Scottish Government COVID-19 guidance. The rate of pay given to the Volunteer Co-ordinator must meet the National Living Wage.
Recommendations to evaluate impact:	If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new volunteers recruited • Number of vulnerable people in the community supported • Copy of updated training manual • Feedback from new and existing volunteers • Information about increase in shop opening hours