

Current SBC Consultations

Place Making

This is a gentle reminder that the opportunity to provide your comments on the above – via the online feedback form - is due to close next Monday 25th. A link to the form was circulated on the 7th October (see below) and is provided here again for ease of access. <https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/customer-communities/f02b59f0>
The aim is to provide an analysis of the feedback to the next round of Area Partnerships which begins in Tweeddale on the 2nd November.

If you feel that you need more time to provide the feedback then please let us know. Again, if you'd prefer to provide feedback in an alternative format get in touch using the email or telephone number below.

Thank you to those who have already responded – either via the form or directly.

Authorisation form for organisations/groups requesting Council building access

As a result, our absolute priority remains the safety of the public and staff, including external groups who previously accessed Council buildings for service provision and meetings. This authorisation form has been created for external groups such as third sector organisations, community or volunteer groups who deem themselves to be an essential service which require access to a Council building to deliver this service.

This is not a booking form. This form should be completed for any request to access a Council building including meetings, events and service provision.

- An example of an essential service request maybe a volunteer group who need to access a building to prepare Food Bank parcels to distribute in a community.
- An example of a non-essential service request is a community council monthly meeting.

Any group wishing to use a [Live Borders](#)-managed building which the Council still owns should also complete this authorisation request form.

[Authorisation form for organisations/groups requesting Council building access - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

Local Housing Strategy 2023-28 Early Engagement Survey

The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) will set out how Scottish Borders Council and its partners plan to address the housing and housing related opportunities and challenges over the five year period 2023 – 2028. This new plan will build on the significant progress made on the issues identified in the [LHS 2017-2022](#) and will address newly arising housing matters particularly in response to the publication of new [LHS Guidance](#), [Housing to 2040](#) and the Covid-19 pandemic.

This short early engagement survey allows residents to share their views on housing issues within the Scottish Borders. It is a key component of the early engagement work involved in the preparation of the Local Housing Strategy 2023-28.

[Local Housing Strategy 2023-28 Early Engagement Survey - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

Community Information

Tweeddale Community Assistance Hub

As we move into recovery mode, the work of the Tweeddale Community Assistance Hub continues and weekly community partnership meetings are held every Thursday where partners can update on services and raise issues or concerns. The meetings also provide a platform to share new information and act as a forum for discussion.

Regularly the meetings focus on an issue that has been raised e.g.

- Digital inclusion and isolation.
- Support for young people and families
- Looking at services and venues as we move into recovery mode and mapping what is currently available.
- Discussion on reported anti-social behaviour of some young people in various locations across Tweeddale and looking at different approaches to dealing with this.
- Closure of public toilets in various towns in the area

The most recent meeting provided an opportunity for a presentation on Borders Older People Planning Partnership survey and recommissioning with third sector.

Following the presentation there was an opportunity for questions and discussion amongst the group. There was agreement that collaborative partnership working had been hugely beneficial in supporting people in the community and the need to acknowledge the role of communities and resilient communities and to thank people for the volunteering that they have done. The valuable relationships made between communities and the Council was recognised and Ross McGinn representing Innerleithen Resilient Group advised that volunteers from resilience teams feel part of the community and would hope that this could continue when restrictions are lifted.

Planned focus of upcoming meetings: Re-establishing the Tweeddale Volunteers sub group to address recruitment of and support for volunteers in Tweeddale; a conversation about food poverty and how to address issues in partnership; mental health support for adults in the community.

Peebles and District CAB

Just a note to say that, following careful thought and risk assessment, we are going to trial a limited opening up the CAB from Monday, 4 October. This will be for clients to come and make appointments, pick up information or drop off documents, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, between 10.00am and 1.00pm. There are no plans at the moment to begin seeing clients in the office on a regular basis, and we will monitor the situation and the Covid numbers carefully, but as the library is now open I felt it was timely to be a presence on the High Street again, and let people know we are still here and we can help them. The ceasing of furlough, the loss of the additional £20 per week on Universal Credit and the increase in fuel costs may well drive people to seek us out and I'd like us to be available.

Age Scotland

Did you know over £330m of Pension Credit support is left unclaimed in Scotland? Don't miss out on money you or a family member are entitled to. Call the @agescotland helpline on 0800 12 44 222 or visit: www.age.scot/CheckInCashOut

<https://otbds.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Setting-up-a-Digital-Buddies-Project-What-we-learned.pdf>

Scotland's Census 2022

“Scotland’s next census will be held in March 2022. This census will be a digital first census and we want to encourage as many households in Scotland as possible to complete it online. We would like to invite you to one or more of the online events listed below, to give you information on how the census will be delivered and how you can help get messages and support to those groups you already support in other ways, to ensure they can take part in the census and be counted.

Each online event will last no longer than 30 minutes and we invite you to register for the relevant event by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday, 27 October 2021	14:00 – 14:30	Parents of young children	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 3 November 2021	11:00 – 11:30	Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME)	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 10 November 2021	14:00 – 14:30	Veterans	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 17 November 2021	11:00 – 11:30	Older people	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 24 November 2021	11:00 – 11:30	Digitally excluded/High deprivation	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 1 December 2021	11:00 – 11:30	Gaelic Speakers	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 8 December 2021	11:00 – 11:30	People with disabilities	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 15 December 2021	11:00 – 11:30	Rural areas and islands	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 12 January 2022	11:00 – 11:30	LGBTI	Click here to register for event
Wednesday, 19 January 2022	11:00 – 11:30	Young people not living at home	Click here to register for event

Please forward this invitation onto other organisations you feel would benefit from attending these events.

If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to get in touch – Scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk.”

Community Ownership Fund

You may be aware that the UK Government has launched a new £150 million Community Ownership Fund. This will provide funding over four years to support community groups to take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of being lost. From the summer onwards, voluntary and community groups can bid for up to £250,000 (up to £1M for sport projects) at 50% match funding to help them purchase or take over important assets and run them for the benefit of the local community.

The intention is to help ensure key assets within a community are not lost. The UK Government has not published a definite list of eligible assets as they want to hear what matters to communities but the fund could support community ownership proposals including:

- sporting and leisure facilities
- cinemas and theatres
- music venues
- museums
- galleries
- parks
- pubs
- post office buildings
- shops

Applicants will need to be able to demonstrate the value of the asset to local people and the sustainability of the project as well as the risk of losing the amenity without community intervention.

The Fund will run until 2024/25 and there will be at least 8 bidding rounds in total. Key dates are as follows:

- December 2021 – round 2 will open
- May 2022 – round 3 will open

The first round is primarily focused on capital costs with an expectation that development funding will be available from round 2 onwards. The UK Government intends to update the fund's prospectus and guidance notes for round 2 in the autumn based on their learning from round 1.

For more details, please see the [Community Ownership Fund prospectus](#). A copy of the application form is attached.

Locality Plan and Action Plans

[Tweeddale Locality Plan | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

0 participation requests

Continuing to work with 2 organisations to progress asset transfer requests on buildings in the Tweeddale area.

1 new informal enquiry received about a potential asset transfer request.

[Area partnerships information pack](#) | [Area partnerships](#) | [Scottish Borders Council](#)
(scotborders.gov.uk)

	Section 4: Further Support
20.	<p>Useful Links below</p> <p>Debt Advice:</p> <p>Citizens Advice Bureau</p> <p>Salvation Army</p> <p>NHS Money Worries App – download from Google Play or the App Store</p> <p>Business support:</p> <p>www.scotborders.gov.uk/covid19business</p> <p>www.findbusinesssupport.gov.scot</p> <p>General Funding:</p> <p>https://fundingscotland.com/</p> <p>https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/</p> <p>SBC Community Fund</p> <p>SBC Enhancement & Welfare Trust</p> <p>Sustainable Development Fund</p> <p>Heating & energy:</p>

www.scotborders.gov.uk/affordablewarmth

Covid-19:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/coronavirus

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/community-testing>

Health & Wellbeing:

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/coronavirus/>

NHS Borders Wellbeing Service:

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/general-services/wellbeing-service/>

NHS Borders Wellbeing Point:

www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint

Community Empowerment:

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20062/strategies_plans_and_policies/357/community_empowerment_scotland_act_2015

Scottish Community Council Newsletter:

<http://www.communitycouncils.scot/>