

Current SBC Consultations

SBC building authorisation form

We continue to live with the threat of COVID-19, highlighted by the number of new cases in the Scottish Borders in recent weeks.

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.

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

Local Housing Strategy early engagement

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.

[Local Housing Strategy 2023-28 Early Engagement Survey - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#) – closes 30th November

Waste and Recycling Survey – Magdala Terrace & High Buckholmside

The Council is keen to reduce the number of bins on the pavement on Magdala Terrace and High Buckholmside, and would like to work with residents to try and find a way forward.

[Waste & Recycling Survey 2021 - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#) – closes 21st November

Community Information

Eildon has reintroduced our **What Matters Hub in Galashiels at Café Recharge at 58 Island Street, Galashiels TD1 1NU every Tuesday between 1-4pm**

What is the Hub?

- The Hub is a place where clients can meet:
- People from community groups and voluntary organisations from across the Borders
- People from the council such as social workers and occupational therapists

How can the Hub Help?

We Can:

- Help to get you information and advice quickly to remain in your own home and get involved in your community.
- Help you to find support you need to stay independent, such as equipment, transport or help at home.
- Provide advice for carers about support available in your area
- Provide information about what is happening in your local area and where you could meet new people.
- Provide information about volunteering opportunities.

New on-demand transport booking service launched

A new on-demand transport service mobile application has been launched to provide Borderers in the Ettrick Valley and Bonchester Bridge areas with better access to public and shared transport.

‘Go Borders’ will begin operating on the existing 910 Hawick – Bonchester Bridge and 911/912 Ettrick Valley - Hawick/Galashiels services to provide increased and more convenient access to public transport.

The service will enable residents in areas which are not serviced by public transport routes access to on-demand transport through the ‘Go Borders’ smart phone app or the existing telephony service.

The specially-created mobile application shows real-time updates and allows users to view and book journeys in the matter of a few clicks whilst also tracking the vehicle along its route by viewing live arrival information.

Payment will then be made in the traditional way via cash or concessionary card on board the bus when passengers begin their journey.

The service has been created in partnership with [Moovit](#), an Intel company, and leading ‘Mobility as a Service’ solutions provider. The Go Borders app is powered by Moovit’s technology, and the transport service is powered by Moovit On-Demand solution.

Gordon Edgar, Executive Member for Infrastructure, Travel and Transport, said: “Given the rural nature of so many of our communities in the Scottish Borders, the traditional forms of public transport struggle to meet the diverse travel needs of our residents.

“Go Borders will provide unprecedented flexibility and offer greater convenience for residents, especially those living in some of the most remote locations where there are little or no public transport services at present.

“I think this is an extremely positive development and look forward to exploring how services like this can be expanded geographically to other areas of the region.”

Yovav Meydad, Moovit’s Chief Growth and Marketing Officer, said: “We are excited to partner with Scottish Borders Council and power this new mobility offering for Scottish Borders residents for greater access to transport and shorter walk and wait times.

“Complementary to traditional modes of transport, Moovit On-Demand can help residents get around more efficiently and gain more transparency into their ride.”

The Go Borders app is available to download on the Apple App Store or Google Play.

Passengers without a smartphone who are unable to use the Go Borders DRT app can also phone the Council on 01835 826753 to book their bus.

Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities

The [Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities](https://www.sclد.org.uk/) (SCLD) has launched a new app, ‘Human Rights Town’, designed to help people with learning disabilities to understand their human rights.

<https://www.sclد.org.uk/welcome-to-human-rights-town/>

Dyslexia pop up shop, Selkirk 30th Oct

Our volunteer-led Dyslexia Scotland Borders branch will be at the pop up shop on 1 Tower Street, Selkirk on Saturday 30th October from 10am – 2pm to answer any of your questions about dyslexia.

We provide information for children, young people and adult with dyslexia, their families, teachers, employers and others.

Anyone is very welcome to drop in anytime to look at information and chat to our friendly volunteers.

Volunteer Centre Borders

WE CARE: WE VOLUNTEER

**VOLUNTEER
CENTRE BORDERS**



Get involved in Volunteering.

www.vcborders.org.uk
enquiries@vcborders.org.uk
or call us on
01896754041.

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:

- 30th July - online portal opens for submission of applications
- 13 August 2021 – deadline for submitting applications to the first bidding round
- 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

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

[Eildon Area Partnership | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityempowerment>

Information Pack on Community Empowerment for Area Partnerships:

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20015/your_council/472/area_partnerships/7

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 – Currently, there are no formal Participation Requests or formal Asset Transfer requests being considered within the Eildon area. Information about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 is available on the Council's website: [Parts of the Act | Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Section 4: Further Support

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Useful Links below

Debt Advice:

[Citizens Advice Bureau](#)

[Salvation Army](#)

NHS Money Worries App – download from Google Play or the App Store

Business support:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/covid19business

www.findbusinesssupport.gov.scot

General Funding:

<https://fundingscotland.com/>

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/>

[SBC Community Fund](#)

[SBC Enhancement & Welfare Trust](#)

[Sustainable Development Fund](#)

Heating & energy:

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/>