

# 2021/2022 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

<b>Organisation name</b>	Borders Group of Riding for the Disabled					
<b>Organisation structure</b>	SCIO					
<b>Application reference</b>	BBBB-CHE-10					
<b>Theme of application</b>	Sport	Arts & culture	Environment	Community capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Project start date</b>	01/12/2021			<b>Project end date</b>	Six months from start date	

### 2. Organisation's Finances

<b>End of year balance</b>	£25,397 <i>supported by March 2021 bank statement</i>
<b>Current bank balance</b>	£17,934.70 01/09/2021
<b>Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available &amp; purpose</b>	£9,459
<b>Total restricted /committed funds &amp; purpose</b>	<p>£5,860 is ring fenced for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One existing coach's fees - £2,360</li> <li>• Additional pony purchase £3,500</li> </ul> <p>As with many organisations the charity's finances have been impacted by Covid as there has been so few events being held that Border Group RDA normally would have benefited from. Due to restrictions the group has not been able hold any fundraising events.</p> <p>The organisation had had two years' running costs at the start of the pandemic that has enabled them to continue the upkeep of their facility and horses safely.</p> <p>Borders RDA is currently actively fund raising for general funds through an online Go Fund Me page.</p>

### 3. 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)		
<b>High</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Medium</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Low</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comment:</p> <p>Borders Group of Riding for the Disabled (Borders RDA) is one of four Riding for the Disabled Groups in the Borders (others are Berwickshire Group, Ettrickbridge &amp; Dryden and Tweeddale Rideability). All operate independently under the Riding for the Disabled Association – Edinburgh &amp; Borders Region to provide activities for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Before the pandemic approximately 50 children, young people and adults with a variety of disabilities attended each week.</p> <p>Based near Jedburgh the facility has two large fields and two paddocks along with a purpose built indoor arena which includes a tack room and viewing area where riders, families/carers and volunteers can watch the activities and socialise. The majority of service users are from the Cheviot area.</p> <p>In preparing to reopen the centre Borders RDA identified two new projects aimed at rebuilding self-confidence and confidence around others and animals. By running two projects at the same time they had the added benefit of encouraging intergenerational activity and communication.</p> <p>Equine Facilitated Learning (EFL) involves learning ground work exercises, to build a relationship with the horse and improve the confidence and self-esteem of participants. These therapeutic sessions offer a cycle of instruction, response and feedback which enables the participant to communicate with the horse in a way that the horse understands, through body language, energy and movement.</p> <p>Tea With a Pony is a relatively new programme supported by the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA). It is a meaningful activity to help those living with dementia and other long term conditions.</p> <p>Both the EFL and Tea with a Pony programmes will be available free of charge with the opportunity for clients, who can afford to do so, to make a donation.</p> <p>A grant from the Build Back a better Borders Fund would cover the costs of Equine Assisted Learning Facilitator and Volunteer training as well as the wages and expenses of a RDA coach, to deliver both programmes, and for six months.</p>		

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to <u>benefit</u> from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:		
<b>High</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Medium</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Low</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comment:</p> <p>Due to shielding, and restrictions during the pandemic, many people with disabilities, their families and carers have been unable to leave their homes. This not only had a negative impact through not being able to participate in activity that is stimulating, both mentally and physically, but has also led to a lessening of self-confidence and an increase in stress and anxiety due to the unprecedented events of the last 18 months.</p> <p>New programmes for Borders RDA, both EFL and Tea with a Pony have been operating successfully in other Riding for the Disabled Association schools so it is with confidence that they are being introduced.</p> <p>Tea with a Pony has been found to provide a supportive, safe and inclusive activity for all involved.</p> <p>The new programmes are also expected to contribute to good health and well-being of the coaches and instructors through the successful client outcomes they help to achieve.</p>		

Expected <u>impact</u> of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic		
<b>High</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Medium</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Low</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comment:</p> <p>With 50 years' experience Border RDA understands the programmes that will fit well with its service users. It is anticipated that these new programmes will help many more children and adults in the community benefit greatly with their health and general well-being be less anxious and get back to some normality and also, by interacting with others, be able to get on successfully with their lives.</p>		

#### 4. Project Expenditure:

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£11,500
<b>10% organisation contribution</b>	£1,150
<b>Request to BBBB</b>	£10,350

<b>Item of expenditure</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Coach – wages	£7,200
Coach – travel expenses	£300
Equine Assisted Learning Facilitator Training	£3,800
Volunteer Training	£1,200

Match/other funding sought:

<b>Funder</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>	<b>Status</b>
None	£	
	£	
	£	

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
		£
		£
		£
		£
		£

<b>SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT</b>	The preparation of the 2020/21 accounts has been delayed due to Covid so the application does not currently meet the criteria of the BBBB fund. The 2020/21 year end balance has been evidenced by provision of the March 2021 bank statement.
<b>Comments</b>	<p>The application scores high because the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addresses four themes of the BBBB Fund.</li> <li>• Supports groups identified within the protected characteristics.</li> <li>• Will increase access to sport</li> <li>• increase or improve community capacity, resilience and engagement</li> <li>• enhance and support both formal and informal volunteering</li> <li>• encourage intergenerational projects and events</li> </ul>
<b>Additional terms and conditions required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance</li> <li>• The rate of pay given to the Coach must meet the National Living Wage.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p>If successful, the applicant should include the following in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from staff, volunteers and service users</li> <li>• Number of services users participating in the new programmes over the six months</li> <li>• Number of new service users</li> <li>• Client outcomes achieved (predicted and unexpected).</li> </ul>