

# 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>	The Peeblesshire Foodbank					
<b>Organisation structure</b>	Registered Charity					
<b>Application reference</b>	BBBB/TW/23					
<b>Theme of application</b>	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"/>
<b>Project start date</b>	January 2022			<b>Project end date</b>	May 2022	

### 2. Organisation's Finances

<b>End of year balance</b>	£34,884
<b>Current bank balance</b>	£113,551.38
<b>Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available &amp; purpose</b>	<p>£47,551.38</p> <p>This money is being kept aside to purchase additional food as donations do not cover all the food they give out. The foodbank spend an average of £120 and £150 per month on essentials such as UHT milk and instant mash.</p> <p>Additionally funds will be kept in reserve to fund it will be used breakfast clubs and school holiday lunch clubs that run through the Easter, summer and October holidays.</p> <p>These funds are also used for office costs (heating etc) and volunteer costs (mileage).</p>
<b>Total restricted /committed funds &amp; purpose</b>	<p>£66,000</p> <p>Manager salary (inc NI, Pensions costs) 28300</p> <p>Trussell Trust CAB advisor costs 13000</p> <p>Rent and utilities 11700</p> <p>Trussell Trust volunteer co-ordinator salary 13000</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 type="checkbox"/>	<b>Medium</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Low</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comment:

The Peeblesshire Foodbank are requesting funding to purchase a new van that they can use to expand their current delivery service. At the moment the food bank relies solely on their volunteers to carry out deliveries using their own vehicles and at their own expense.

The foodbank will have 14 people in total who will be trained to use the van; these will include the 9 pool drivers they currently have as well as 5 other members of their staff. In the month of November 2021 the duty manager collected a total of 850kg of food from Tesco which took the whole day and 12 journeys in their own car. During that month the foodbank also made a total of 86 food parcel deliveries to clients.

Additional to deliveries the foodbank also do pickups from local producers and supermarkets at an average of 10 crates 3 times per week. Many of their service users are unable to make the journey to the warehouse to collect their food parcels due to living remotely or not being able to afford the petrol to get there so providing a delivery service has been invaluable and a real life line for people. The food parcels themselves are also very heavy and would be impossible to transport on a bus which also provides difficulties for people who do not have access to their own transport.

The use of the foodbank remains much higher than pre pandemic levels, as people's jobs and hours have been affected by the economic downturn. The £20 reduction in Universal Credit and the rise in the cost of living means they are expect to see this growth increase. With increasing demand being placed on their service it is even more vital that they are able to provide a delivery to those in need who cannot make the journey themselves.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit 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"/>
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Comment:

The foodbank helps all people, regardless of age, sex, class, race or ability. However, the main beneficiaries are the most vulnerable in society on the lowest incomes, including those with disabilities or ill health, those on benefits, single parent families, or those on minimum wages. In the month of November they made 86 deliveries to people in need and have been collecting crates of food from Tesco at a rate of 10 crates 3 times per week.

It is the most vulnerable that will benefit the most from the expansion of the delivery service.

The volunteers will also benefit from the use of a van as it will mean they don't have to use their own vehicles for collecting or delivering food. Having previously spent a whole day making 12 separate journeys to Tesco to collect food it will be much more efficient and less time consuming to be able to collect food in one single journey. It will free up the volunteers time to spend on more deliveries if the collection process was more suitable. It will also mean that they can transport more food parcels when doing deliveries as they will have additional space if using a van.

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

**High**                       **Medium**                       **Low**

Comment:

The foodbank is essentially a distribution service. Many of their service users have limited mobility due to disability or illness so are unable to make the journey to the foodbank itself so it is vital to these individuals that a delivery service is available. Additionally due to many of their clients not having access to their own vehicles and the location unless you live in Peebles requiring 2 bus journeys to get there, it is even more necessary to have a delivery option. Having a vehicle to deliver to their clients will make their operations far more efficient. They would be able to fit more parcels in a van, meaning they could deliver to multiple addresses in one trip, rather than in several separate journeys.

This is far more environmentally friendly, reducing the number of car journeys by at least a quarter. It also means that one volunteer could do several deliveries, rather than them having to rely on 4 volunteers in their own separate vehicles. They deliver every weekday, so the van would be regularly used. A van would also allow them to do their regular weekly pick-ups from the supermarkets in Peebles, Innerleithen and West Linton with more ease. The Foodbank volunteers currently fill their own cars with huge amounts of groceries, which sometimes could be considered unsafe. They also have regular pick-ups from Glenrath eggs, and other foodbanks so having a van to transport large amounts of goods from various outlets would be really valuable.

The van would also be suitable for use in the wider community. The Foodbank are very keen that the van is used as much as possible and plan to allocate a volunteer to co-ordinate the idea of a van share with a timetable and conditions for use. They have had discussions with other groups such as The Dispensary, and Tweed Togs about their needs for a van and plan to approach Peebles Youth Trust as well who they also expect to make use of the van.

**4. Project Expenditure:**

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	£15,000
<b>10% organisation contribution</b>	£1,500
<b>Request to BBBB</b>	£6,750

<b>Item of expenditure</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Cost of Van	£15,000
	£
	£
	£
	£

Match/other funding sought:

<b>Funder</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>	<b>Status</b>
SBC Community Fund	£6,250	Application Submitted
	£	
	£	

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>
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January 2021	office computer equipment	£900
		£
		£
		£
		£

<p><b>SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT</b></p>	<p>The application meets the criteria of the BBBB fund however as outlined in the guidance notes:</p> <p>“If your group has more savings than the income your group receives in a year, you should explain what you are planning to do with this money. If you have not set aside this money for anything specific, funding is unlikely to be awarded.”</p> <p>The foodbank has outlined their intention to use the funds to cover the cost of purchasing additional food, breakfast clubs and lunch clubs.</p>
<p><b>Comments</b></p>	<p>This application scores high/medium because the project is being used to help support and provide vital resources to people who are in desperate need.</p> <p>It will allow the Foodbank to operate more efficiently and be able to provide more deliveries not at the expense of their own volunteers.</p> <p>They will be able to deliver more food parcels ensuring none of their donations go unused. They will be bringing food and toiletries to people that are vulnerable and who have been effected by Covid helping to get them back on their feet.</p>
<p><b>Additional terms and conditions required</b></p>	<p>This application if successful the group should provide feedback on;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of journeys undertaken with the van each week</li> <li>• he use of the van by other community groups and businesses</li> <li>• Anecdotal information as to the impact the van has had on their operations.</li> </ul> <p>The group must provide their own insurance for the vehicle aswell as covering on-going maintenance costs.</p> <p>Training must be provided to all those that use the vehicle.</p>