



Borders

THIRD SECTOR INTERFACE

BORDERS THIRD SECTOR INTERFACE REIMAGINED

The Borders Third Sector Interface (BTSI): Our Role



Intelligence

We provide support, learning and development opportunities for both individuals and organisations. The Borders TSI partners offer specialist services tailored to the third sector needs. We share intelligence through our monthly newsletters, via regular emails and news alerts on the website.



Voice

The Borders Third Sector Interface acts as a key channel of communication between third sector organisations and statutory bodies. We are a point of consultation on community and voluntary sector issues and regularly attend strategic meetings at all levels.



Networking

Acting as a link between the 'boots on the ground' and statutory bodies and decision makers. Our regular third sector forums bring together individuals and organisations around themed conversations which are also an opportunity for collaborative working.



Capacity

We provide wide ranging development and management assistance to third sector organisations to help develop their capacity to provide services within the community and achieve positive change. This includes setting up a new organisation; funding bids; drafting a constitution or other governing document and developing volunteering capacity.

The Partners:

In the Scottish Borders the local TSI is a partnership which was comprised of 4 partners:

Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service, The Bridge, Volunteer Centre Borders & Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chambers (SBSEC)

The partners are undertaking work to create a different structure to deliver the TSI

SBSEC took the opportunity through that process to seek an SLA as opposed to being a full partner. The remaining partners are delighted to have them as a delivery partners through an SLA, the details of which are being agreed



The Bridge



The Scottish Borders Community Development Company T/A The Bridge, operates from three local community resource centres in Peebles, Jedburgh and Galashiels. This covers the geographical localities of Tweeddale, Eildon, Cheviot and Teviot & Liddesdale.

- **Community Development:** Support to local third sector organisations, community groups and grassroots organisations. Providing organisational support via 1:1 tailored guidance in all aspects of governance, legal structure, charity status and compliance, guidance on constitutions, business planning including financial planning, assistance with funding applications and guidance on funding streams available.
- **Communications:** On-going provision of relevant information by direct email bulletins to our members/statutory partners/key partner third sector/voluntary organisations/village halls.
- **Joint work and Partnerships:** asset transfer requests, participation requests, Right to Buy and community buyouts. Working with Community Land Scotland, COSS and SOSE. Hosting third sector thematic forum meetings and network working meetings.
- **Village Halls & Community Councils support:** Secretariat to Scottish Borders Community Council's Network; Secretariat to 3 Federations of Village Halls, including management of grant programmes for other bodies.
- **Community Transport:** The Bridge operates Teviot, Tweed and Gala Wheels. We have a fleet of 8 accessible vehicles based in Galashiels, Peebles, Jedburgh, Kelso and Hawick. Supporting those with mobility difficulties to access health and social care.
- **Thrift Shops:** Innerleithen and Jedburgh Thrift shops are 100% recycle and reuse. Each shop has a large number of volunteers. Each shop also supports the community transport services and provides an income for community development activities.

Bavs is an independent organisation supporting the third sector since 1971. Our aim is to support, inform, represent and provide services to community and voluntary groups in the Berwickshire. These are the services we provide:

- **Charity Governance & support:** setting up a new organisation; funding bids; drafting a constitution, custodian and distribution of grants.
- **Training:** We hold regular training courses for third sector staff, volunteers and committee members.
- **Building Connections & Fostering Partnerships:** networking events and forums to promote peer support and learning, fostering partnership work for a stronger, more confident and sustainable sector.
- **Independent Examination of Accounts:** service provided to community groups, registered charities with an income of £250,000 or less per year.
- **Village Halls support:** We offer support, secretariat work and grant dispersion to village halls in Berwickshire.
- **Communications:** regular emails to members and monthly newsletters.
- **Community Transport:** door-to-door, affordable transport service to meet individuals' health and social care needs/ electric bike hire pilot scheme.
- **Zero waste shops:** sale of second hand items in Duns, Coldstream and Eyemouth. Income generate supports community transport, training programme and community development.



Established in 2005, our aims are to develop and promote volunteering for all, improve volunteering opportunities, remove barriers to participation and to fulfil the five national outcomes of the Volunteering For All National Framework set out by the Scottish Government. Governed by a board of trustees, the Centre has a team of five part time workers to cover the five localities of the Scottish Borders. Our activities include:

- Undertaking outreach work and attending public events and activities to promote volunteering
- Carrying out regular volunteering campaigns via social media, newspapers, radios and public places
- Meeting up with volunteers to discuss and explore potential volunteering opportunities for them to sign up
- Posting volunteering opportunities on behalf of charities to attract volunteers
- Working with charities/grassroots who support disadvantaged or marginalised groups to encouraging volunteering
- Partnership working and networking with organisations/groups to promote volunteering within the third sector
- Offering good practice, guidance and practical advice on volunteering to the third sector organisations
- Updating our website to keep the public informed of latest news and developments

Borders TSI Re-imagined



Supported by The Third Sector Unit at the Scottish Government and facilitated by Beverley Francis (Kirkmillan Consulting Ltd), the change programme aims to establish a credible TSI in the Scottish Borders, one that has the confidence of key stakeholders and funders, and the communities and community-based organisations in the Scottish Borders.

- We have established a **steering group** for this work. The group comprises board members from each partner organisation; the Lead Officers of each organisation, and Beverley Francis and associates. The group has agreed: Terms of Reference; Code of Conduct; schedule of meetings; method for shared communications and updates and continues to work through options for the future
- We have established a schedule of **weekly 'catch up' meetings** between all Lead Officers and the change management team
- We have re-initiated **shared communications** on the website and social media and each organisation has communicated an agreed, shared message with their stakeholders
- We are beginning to integrate all TSI functions into individual partner's engagement with their stakeholders
- We have developed a **draft strategy** for 2022 – 23. We are developing a communications and work plan
- We have engaged **legal advice** on the options for a new structure
- We have begun to examine the **impacts of change** on our services, staff and assets
- We have invited the boards of all organisations to an '**All Boards Event**' to hear about the 'Re-Imagined' project's progress and gauge their responses to the future options

Borders TSI Draft Strategy



Our Vision

‘Making the Borders Better’ through a thriving Third Sector.

Our Mission

‘Creating inclusive spaces that are trusted by our communities and those who serve them to come together.’

Our Values

- **Bold** - We will be bold in how we represent you and the communities you serve
- **Keeps Promises** - We will always keep the promises we make to you
- **Humble** - We will demonstrate humility in how we work with you and with each other
- **Wise** - We will share with you what we know and nurture the knowledge and skills in others
- **Difference** - We will strive to increase our understanding of difference in our communities and use its strength to change lives

Borders TSI Draft Strategy

Our Strategy

Our strategy aligns to:

<u>The Third Sector Purposes defined by the Scottish Government</u>		<u>The Wellbeing Outcomes of the Scottish Borders Council</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure a strong third sector voice• Develop the capacity of the sector to achieve change• Be a central source of knowledge about the third sector• Provide leadership, vision, and co-ordination	&	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A clean and green future• Fulfilling our potential• Strong, inclusive economy, transport, and infrastructure• Empowered vibrant communities• Good health and wellbeing

Borders TSI Draft Strategy



What can we do better, to serve you as a Third Sector Organisation going forward?

What do you need from us as a Third Sector Organisation?

What else would you like to share?

We welcome your Comments, Questions & Suggestions



<https://borderstsi.org.uk>

contact@borderstsi.org.uk



[@BordersTSI](https://twitter.com/BordersTSI)



[@BordersTSI](https://facebook.com/BordersTSI)



The Bridge

central@thebridge.scot



enquiries@vcborders.org.uk



admin@bavs.org.uk