

## **Additional Information**

### **Current consultations**

#### **Place Making and Community Engagement Sign Up**

The way we are engaging with our residents is changing - and we want you to have your say

Place making is a process of community engagement where the opinions and desires of the community are used to inform the future of the places we live, work and play - and by getting involved and telling us what matters to you, we can make sure the voices of all Scottish Borders residents are heard.

Sign up to receive updates from Scottish Borders Council on community engagement events in your areas, to find out about active consultations, funding opportunities, and who to contact when you have an amazing idea to benefit your neighbourhood.

[Have Your Say - Place making and Community Engagement Sign Up - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

#### **Play Area Improvements 2022/23 – Gavinton**

SBC is investing over £4 million in Play Areas and Outdoor Community Spaces over a seven year period. The intention is to improve community wellbeing and enhance outdoor activity for children and young people inclusive of all levels of ability. SBC currently has 187 play parks ranging from smaller local areas of play to destination play parks. A programme of investment has been developed based on previous improvements to play areas and community spaces to provide children and young people with meaningful play opportunities. To help ensure this is achieved, play areas will include items that are accessible for all such as wheelchair roundabouts, trampolines, ramped multi plays, basket swings and play panels.

The four play areas to be invested in this year are in The Green in Gavinton, Jenny Moore's Road in St Boswells, The Orchard in Newstead and Bog Park in Selkirk. Conversations are currently taking place in these communities to find out what improvements people would like to see in the play areas. People can also have their say on the development of these play areas through this consultation.

Survey closes 31<sup>st</sup> August

[Play Area improvements 2022/23 - Scottish Borders Council - Citizen Space](#)

#### **Local Housing Strategy 2023-28 Resident Survey**

We are seeking the views of residents in relation to Scottish Borders' future Local Housing Strategy.

As part of the early engagement, we have developed four issues papers:

- Housing Delivery and Place Making
- Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Housing Quality
- Homelessness
- Particular Housing and Specialist Provision

These papers identify the key housing issues in the Scottish Borders. We are seeking the views of residents and stakeholders to make sure that they meet expectations, to see if we have missed anything and to see if there are a better ways of the council carrying out its duties in relation to housing. You can access the four housing issues papers here: [https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/download/1489/local\\_housing\\_strategy\\_-\\_housing\\_issues\\_papers](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/download/1489/local_housing_strategy_-_housing_issues_papers)

Survey closes 11 September

<https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/housing/local-housing-strategy-2023-28-resident-survey/>

---

### **Passenger Transport PINGO Update**

Pingo is an innovative new demand responsive transport service which has been operating in the Berwickshire locality since the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2022.

Demand Responsive Transport is a flexible way of linking communities that don't have access to fixed route bus services into the wider public transport network.

The Pingo service is designed to support public transport movements in a localities with very limited or no regular bus services providing transport opportunities, through interchange with other scheduled bus routes and/or rail services as well as improved access to local facilities including employment and education services.

Pingo operates 7 days a week between the hours of 07:00 and 21:00 and is operated by two top of the range accessible Mercedes minibuses which have the capability to carry bikes.

Since the service commenced in May the feedback from users has been excellent and the service has been very well received by passengers and local businesses who have benefited from improved links into public transport. We are already seeing new travel patterns being established as the service grows.

There are now over 1800 members on a dedicated Facebook page "Pingo for Berwickshire" and usage continues to grow particularly amongst young people who now have access to free public transport through the Scottish Governments under 22 free travel scheme, who now account for over 45% of the trips being made.

The data gathered from the Pingo pilot over the 11 months of operation will feed into a wider review of the local transport network, providing a valuable insight into how demand responsive transport works, particularly in a rural context.

### **Usage Figures**

### Breakdown by Passenger Type

	May	June	July
<b>Non Concessionary</b>	414 39%	370 32%	338 30%
<b>Concessions</b>	306 29%	397 34%	286 25%
<b>Under 22</b>	333 32%	395 34%	508 45%

The councils transport team will continue to work in partnership with the community and key stakeholders including the Workforce Mobility Project, to develop the service over the duration of the pilot.

If anyone has any feedback regarding the service, we would be keen to hear your views, please email any comments you have to [Gordon.Grant@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:Gordon.Grant@scotborders.gov.uk)

---

### Food Conversation

BAVs has been working with A Heart for Duns and Abundant Borders to deliver Cook on a Budget sessions which has been so well attended they are planning a second programme.

Conversations to set up a Low and Slow programme in Berwickshire are ongoing. There are also plans to look at providing breakfast mornings in Duns for people of all ages to provide a warm and welcoming space for people to socialise and with access to share fare food as part of a partnership with food banks and community larders. The plan is to bring services, third sector support and food provision but most of all provide a warm space (without the stigma) for anyone, particularly those struggling with heating, food costs.

Following a successful summer programme in Eyemouth with NHS Borders Joint Health Improvement Team, SBC Early Years team and LINKS Eyemouth, planning is underway to provide activities during the autumn / winter to increase food knowledge and the provision for balanced meals and healthier options. This is based on feedback received during the Whole Systems Approach workshops and community activities.

---

### Community Choices

The e-learning module is now available for SBC staff to complete. It is designed to increase knowledge, understanding and awareness of how departments within SBC can work with the community to make decisions on budget spend.

---

### Community Empowerment:

Currently, there are no formal Participation Requests being considered within the Berwickshire area. SBC is currently working with and advising groups on requests for 5 asset transfer requests.

For information about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015: [Parts of the Act | Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Place Making**

A place based approach is about understanding the potential of a place and coordinating action to improve outcomes, with community participation at the heart of the process. For information, tools and resources on place based approaches visit [Our Place](#)

### **Area Partnerships' information pack:**

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

[Community engagement, planning and ownership | Area Partnership information pack | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

### **Community Councils:**

Scottish Community Councils Latest News, including information about funding opportunities and national consultations:

[Community Council News](#)

### **Scottish Borders Council Meetings**

[Browse meetings - Scottish Borders Council - Scottish Borders Council \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

### **Heating & energy:**

[www.scotborders.gov.uk/affordablewarmth](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/affordablewarmth)

### **Debt Advice:**

[Citizens Advice Bureau](#)



Download the NHS  
Borders Money Worries  
App here

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

### **Covid-19 vaccination programme**

[www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/covid-19-vaccination-programme/](http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/covid-19-vaccination-programme/)

**NHS Borders website for current updates:**

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

**Business support**

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/covid19business>

<https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/>

**General Funding:**

<https://fundingscotland.com/>

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

[Community grants and funding | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[SBC Community Fund](#)

[SBC Enhancement & Welfare Trust](#)

**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](http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint)

<https://www.rcot.co.uk/conserving-energy>

This includes pacing, fatigue management and some ideas about restarting gentle exercise

<https://www.yourcovidrecovery.nhs.uk/>

This covers most aspects, including information from physiotherapy and occupational therapy websites

<https://www.chss.org.uk/advice-line-nurses/>

Phone or email to access their support/advice