

## **Additional Information**

### **SBC Papers for Scottish Borders Council meeting - Thursday, 25th January, 2024 10.00 am**

[Agenda for Scottish Borders Council on Thursday, 25th January, 2024, 10.00 am - Scottish Borders Council \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

### **SBC Current Consultations**

#### **Have Your Say - Placemaking and Community Engagement Sign Up - Closes 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

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

[Have Your Say - Placemaking and Community Engagement Sign Up](#)

#### **Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2023 - Closes 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

In line with the requirements of Section 18C of the Representation of the People Act 1983, Scottish Borders Council is undertaking a review of polling districts and polling places for use in parliamentary and local elections.

The aim of the Review is to ensure:

1. all electors in the Scottish Borders have as reasonable facilities for voting as are possible in the circumstances; and
2. so far as is reasonable and possible every polling place which the Council is responsible for is accessible to electors who are disabled.

The Council would like to hear from electors on these issues, in particular your comments on the suitability of current polling stations and suggestions for possible alternatives would be appreciated. The Council would also welcome comments from anyone, or group, with expertise in access for persons with any type of disability.

[Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2023](#)

#### **Website survey - Closes 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

We have recently refreshed our website and would welcome the feedback of users.

[Website survey](#)

## **Provision of Early Learning & Childcare (ELC) Parent Consultation 2023 - Closes 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

Local Authorities in Scotland are required to consult with parents every 2 years, to support their planning for the delivery of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC). This questionnaire is aimed at parents/carers whose children will access ELC provision in the future and those currently accessing ELC provision. It is also useful for the Council to consult with parents /carers whose children are now at Primary School. If you are responding as a parent/carer who previously accessed ELC provision, please respond to the questions based on your experience.

[Provision of Early Learning & Childcare \(ELC\) Parent Consultation 2023](#)

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## **Scottish Government Current Consultations**

### **Democracy Matters – Closes 28 Feb 2024**

Somebody, somewhere is making decisions on your behalf. Democracy Matters conversations have already started to explore whether far more of these decisions could be made by communities themselves. This is a key and connected part of the wider Local Governance Review which is looking across all of Scotland's vital public services to consider how power and resources should be shared between national and local government.

Read more: [Democracy Matters - Scottish Government consultations - Citizen Space](#)

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## **Energy Efficiency Schemes**

### **Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) scheme.**

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO4) is a government energy-efficiency scheme in Great Britain, designed to tackle fuel poverty and help reduce carbon emissions. ECO is an obligation placed on energy companies to deliver energy efficiency measures to domestic premises.

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-and-social-schemes/energy-company-obligation-eco/homeowners-and-tenants/faqs-domestic-consumers-and-landlords>

### **The Great British Insulation Scheme**

Similar to ECO 4, but focusses on insulation only

[Great British Insulation Scheme | Ofgem](#)

### **Home Energy Scotland**

Home Energy Scotland can offer bespoke advice to householders that best fit their circumstances and this could include the ECO 4 scheme or other grants and schemes such as the EES:ABS scheme or Warmer Homes Scotland.

<https://www.homeenergyscotland.org/funding/Useful>

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## **Food Conversations**

Food Conversations: The latest Food Conversation meeting took place on 17 November where a number of items were discussed. One of the items discussed was a food consultation to access up information on how people are accessing food and identify any challenges they are experiencing. The consultation will shortly be circulated and will be promoted to local organisations and groups.

The Food Conversation meetings are open to any community group or organisation who has an interest in the delivery of food support and long-term food access in Scottish Borders. If you are interested in joining these meetings, please let us know by emailing us at [communitygrants@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:communitygrants@scotborders.gov.uk)

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## **Community Choices**

**There are no updates for Community Choices.** Should this change, an update on the latest meeting will be provided at the Area Partnership.

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## **Community Empowerment**

**Currently, there are no formal Participation Requests being considered within the Berwickshire area. SBC is currently working with and advising groups 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 \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

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## **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](#)

For details on existing Borderlands Towns Place Making progress visit [Place Programme \(arctis.com\)](#)

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## **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 \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

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### **Community Councils:**

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

[Community Council News](#)

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### **Scottish Borders Council Meetings**

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

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### **Cost of Living Support**

[Financial support and advice | Cost of Living Crisis support | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

### **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**

<https://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/>

[Grants Online](#)

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

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

[Neighbourhood Support Fund | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[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