PARTICIPATION REQUEST UNDER
THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2015
DECISION NOTICE - AGREED

This Decision Notice relates to the participation request made by Eyemouth Community Council on 10 January 2018 in relation to maintenance of grassed areas in Eyemouth. Scottish Borders Council has decided to agree to the request.

We propose that the outcome improvement process will operate as follows:

Scottish Borders Council’s Neighbourhood Services Team will work with Eyemouth Community Council (ECC) to identify grassed areas, currently cut by SBC (Neighbourhood Services), that ECC can take over the cutting of.

Subject to the competing priorities of the Service at any given time, and its need to provide services throughout the Scottish Borders. Where resources are available SBC will deploy staff to undertake additional grass maintenance within Eyemouth, as agreed with the Community Council. Factors such as weather/growing conditions, machinery break downs, staff training and providing cover for services elsewhere may impact on the ability to deliver increased grass maintenance, however assuming normal conditions and resources prevail then the Service is confident it could increase maintenance at selected and agreed sites, especially where the Community Council have organised themselves to undertake grass maintenance at other selected sites, resulting in an efficiency gain to the Council.

ECC will provide the equipment necessary to undertake the grass cutting and ensure that the necessary insurance is in place.

The outcome improvement process will be reviewed on an annual basis. Outcomes must reflect the constraints that both parties to this agreement operate within. It is suggested that a key outcome must include the number of grass cuts undertaken throughout the year at the agreed sites, and the time between cuts. With the Council aiming to reduce the time between cuts from its current 20 working day regime. The Community Council must similarly commit to similar arrangements at the agreed sites, at which it will undertake grass maintenance. Quality measures may be consider however these would be secondary considerations, and not the basis on which outcome improvement is measured.
Indicators of achievement will be agreed between Scottish Borders Council and Eyemouth Community Council.

Your group is entitled to make written submissions in relation to modifying the proposed outcome improvement process. Any such submissions must be made within 28 days of the date of this decision notice. If you suggest any modifications to the process we will contact you within 56 days of the date of this decision notice with details of the outcome improvement process that will be established.

We will publish a copy of this decision notice (excluding your name and address), and information about the outcome improvement process, on Scottish Borders Council’s website at www.scotborders.gov.uk/participationrequests. We will also publish information about the outcome improvement process that will take place.

If you have any questions about the participation request process please contact the Communities & Partnership Team at communityengagement@scotborders.gov.uk or by telephone on 01835 826626

Yours sincerely

MARTIN JOYCE
SERVICE DIRECTOR ASSETS & INFRASTRUCTURE