

## Stage 2 Evidence Gathering and Consultation

<b>A. Title of Proposal:</b>	Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028				
<b>B. Service Area: Department:</b>	Infrastructure & Environment Housing Strategy				
<b>C. Lead Officer: (Name and job title)</b>	Donna Bogdanovic – Lead Officer (Head of Housing Strategy and Development) Lindsey Renwick – Principal Officer - Housing Strategy, Policy and Development				
<b>D. Other Officers/Partners involved: (List names, job titles and organisations)</b>	<p>While Scottish Borders Council has statutory responsibility for the development of the strategy, its implementation is dependent on partnership working with a whole range of external organisations. Key partners include housing associations (RSLs), housing developers, private and voluntary sector service providers including information and advice providers, Care and Repair, housing support providers, estate agents, letting agents and private landlords. Through the development of the LHS a group has been established to oversee the development. Members of this group include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officers in the Housing Strategy, Policy and Development Team</li> <li>• Homelessness Team Manager and Officers</li> <li>• Planning</li> <li>• RSLs</li> <li>• Health and Social Care</li> <li>• Social Work</li> <li>• Community Safety Team</li> <li>• Place Making Team</li> <li>• Locality Team leaders</li> </ul> <p>The Borders Housing Alliance is overseeing the development of the LHS, this group includes senior officers at SBC and chief executives of the four local Registered Social Landlords (RSLs)</p>				
<b>E. Date(s) IIA completed:</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021</td> <td style="width: 50%;">27<sup>th</sup> February 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26<sup>th</sup> October 2022</td> <td>27<sup>th</sup> September 2023</td> </tr> </table>	22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021	27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	26 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	27 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
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## Section 1 Data and Information

### A. What evidence has been used to inform this proposal?

(Information can include, for example, surveys, databases, focus groups, in-depth interviews, pilot projects, reviews of complaints made, user feedback, academic publications and consultants' reports).

National and local data sources

National and local legislation and policy review

Stage Two of the development of the LHS was Early Engagement and Evidence Gathering. This included:

- Preparation of detailed Supporting Data analysis on issues that affect the region
- Alignment with other relevant strategies and policies
- Implement the engagement and consultation plan
- Prepare Housing Issues Reports which outlines the key issues and challenges

A full evidence report forms part of the appendices for the LHS – this includes all the data that has been used to inform the LHS. Appendix 2: LHS 2023-2028 Evidence Paper

### B. Describe any gaps in the available evidence, then record this within the improvement plan together with all of the actions you are taking in relation to this (e.g. new research, further analysis, and when this is planned)

Through engagement and the development of the LHS evidence a number of gaps in information have been resolved, for example:

- Young People and Wheelchair Study – work commissioned prior to the LHS but has been used to identify housing need in these groups and actions to take forward
- Gypsy Travellers – work with consultants was undertaken in the summer of 2022 and forms part of the LHS
- Key workers – a short survey was circulated to partners to identify if there was any evidence that housing is a barrier to recruiting key workers. This has been included in the LHS

## Section 2 Consultation and Involvement

### A. Which groups are involved in this process and describe their involvement

Early engagement survey – September – November 2021. An online survey that was open to everyone in the Scottish Borders.  
Meetings with officers within SBC and some RSL tenancy engagement work at the start of the LHS development process  
Early engagement from August – October 2022. This included a resident and stakeholder survey. There were 3 resident workshops and 4 stakeholder workshops.  
Gypsy traveller Engagement and Needs Study  
Private Landlord Survey – an online survey sent to approximately 3,800 private landlords operating in the Scottish Borders  
Key worker survey  
All information on the engagement and the findings can be found as appendix 3 of the LHS 2023-2028.

### B. Describe any planned involvement saying when this will take place and who is responsible for managing the process

Formal consultation – A three month consultation from 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 – 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023.  
Peer review – The draft LHS was submitted to Scottish Government for peer review. Feedback was received on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
All the engagement activity, feedback and how the feedback has been used to impact the draft LH can be found in appendix 4 of the LHS 2023-2028

### C. Describe the results of any involvement and how you have taken this into account.

A full report on the engagement and consultation is part of the LHS appendices – appendix 3 and appendix 4  
There is a full table of feedback and how this has helped inform the final LHS 2023-2028.

### D. Describe any events held and views obtained (if applicable). Add or remove as needed.

Section A describes the key surveys, meetings, studies and workshops which were undertaken to gather views. A description of the engagement is described in Appendix 3 which also includes all key findings and comments.

## Stage 3 Summary and Next Steps

### Section 1 Summary

**Summarise what you have learned then develop this further.**

(Describe the conclusion(s) you have reached from the evidence, and state where the information can be found.)

**Please consider the following:**

**What have you learned from the evidence you have and the involvement undertaken? Does the initial assessment remain valid? What new (if any) impacts have become evident?**

**Is the proposal not to proceed because of a disproportionate impact on equality or Fairer Scotland characteristics?**

All evidence and engagement has been used to inform the final LHS. this is outlined in appendix 4 of the LHS which provides a detail analysis of the feedback and how the feedback has been used to inform the final LHS 2023-2028.

#### A. Please indicate if the proposal will proceed

Yes, please see below section 3 for next steps

### Section 2 Sign Off

<b>Signed by Lead Officer:</b>	Lindsey Renwick and Donna Bogdanovic
<b>Designation:</b>	Principal Officer – Housing Strategy, Policy and Development Head of Housing Strategy and Development
<b>Date:</b>	03/03/2023      27/09/2023
<b>Counter Signature Director:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	

## Section 3 Monitoring and Review (complete if relevant, remove if not)

**B. State how the implementation and impact of the proposal will be monitored, including implementation of any amendments? For example what type of monitoring will there be? How frequent?**

An Outcomes and Action Plan will be published alongside the LHS (Appendix 1). This outlines strategic outcomes and specific actions for implementation of the strategy.  
A LHS Monitoring Tool will be produced annually to monitor the outcomes and actions, which will monitor progress and status of actions.  
Annual update reports for LHS progress are also developed and published to summarise progress against the LHS. These updates will go to Executive Committee for approval each year, these reports are also submitted to Scottish Government

**C. What are the practical arrangements for monitoring? For example who will put this in place? When will it start?**

The Housing Strategy Team will develop both the Monitoring Tools and Annual update reports. These are produced annually following the end of the financial year within the period of the LHS 2023-28, with the first reports being produced during the start of financial year 2024/25.

**D. When is the proposal due for review?**

2028

**E. Who is responsible for ensuring that this happens?**

The Housing Strategy Team.

**F. Please indicate if you have developed an Action Plan to take forward any remaining actions**

Yes – Appendix 1 of the LHS Appendices for the full Outcomes and Action Plan.