

SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL

A VILLAGE THAT CARES

Stakeholders Programme Update

Keep up to date with the latest care development plans for Tweedbank and Hawick.



SEPTEMBER 2025

Tweedbank Progress Update

After extensive behind-the-scenes collaboration, work will soon be underway to lay the groundwork to transform care provision in the Borders. The existing facilities at Waverley and Garden View are being replaced with a purpose-built, modern residential care home at Lowood—designed to meet the evolving needs of future residents.

Planning permission has been successfully secured following close partnership working with planning and heritage teams. The approved design is both sensitive to the surrounding landscape and tailored to provide a high-quality living environment. A thoughtfully designed garden space is also in development, making the most of the natural setting to offer residents a peaceful and enriching outdoor experience.

Specialist input from Stirling University's Dementia Services Development Centre has been central to the project, ensuring that both indoor and outdoor spaces are dementia-friendly and promote wellbeing, independence, and comfort.

This month will see **SBC Contracts begin essential groundwork**, including drainage installation, to prepare the site for the main construction phase. **Ogilvie Construction is scheduled to begin building in January 2026**, marking a major milestone in delivering this vital new facility.

Drop-In Session – Tweedbank Care Development

Join us at the **Inspire Academy in Tweedbank** on **Friday 26th September** for a special event celebrating the project as it moves into the groundworks phase at the Tweedbank Care Village site.

We will be capturing this exciting milestone with photographs, and we'd love for you to be part of it!

We're hosting a **drop-in session from 10am to 11:30am**, where **colleagues, residents and their families, and members of the public** are warmly welcomed to:

- Explore the newly approved plans
- Get a first look at the proposed colour scheme
- Experience some of the innovative technology that may be used to deliver care

Whether you're curious, excited, or simply want to learn more, come along and be part of the journey!

Shaping the Future of Care in Hawick: Deanfield to Be Transformed

Following the development of the Outline Business Case (OBC) in 2023, the Council took a proactive step to ensure that **future care in Hawick truly meets the needs of its people**. This involved extensive consultation, engagement, and a detailed needs assessment—and the findings were clear:

- Hawick currently has **enough standard residential care**. This is long term care for those who are unable to live independently at home, requiring support with personal care and daily living.

- There's a **shortage of enhanced residential care** for those with more complex needs and **nursing care** for those who do not need to be in hospital but do require a registered nurse to meet their medical needs.
- There is **no supported housing** available at all to meet the needs of people who want to live independently but still need some level of support with their daily life.
- Some individuals are living in care homes when **Extra Care Housing** would better suit their needs.

Since the OBC was completed, changes in social and economic conditions—as well as improvements in how services are delivered—mean our approach must evolve too.

As a first step in addressing these needs, the Council has committed to **keeping Deanfield open** and investing significantly in its transformation. The refurbishment will modernise the building, expand bedroom sizes, and enhance outdoor spaces—creating a welcoming, high-quality environment for residents who require 24/7 care. Once complete, Deanfield will offer **upgraded bedrooms**, tailored to support those with the most complex needs.

Staff and stakeholders have already been involved in shaping the initial design, and their insights will continue to guide the project as it develops. While Deanfield will care for residents with and without dementia, lessons learned from the Tweedbank Care Village are being applied to ensure Deanfield offers the **best possible environment for people living with dementia**.

Exploring the Future of Extra Care Housing in Hawick

Building on the recent needs assessment, further work is now underway to explore options for developing **Extra Care Housing** in Hawick, which is already in place in Peebles, Kelso and Galashiels, provided by Eildon Housing Association, and in Duns by Trust Housing Association. This type of accommodation is designed for people who require a range of support from low to high levels of care, but who want to maintain their independence and stay connected to their community within their own home.

Extra Care Housing offers the best of both worlds: residents have their **own apartments** which they rent from the housing association which also comes with full secure tenancy rights. Extra Care Housing has an on-site staff team who provide daily 24hr support, as well as offering shared communal spaces, meals, and encouraging social interaction and wellbeing.

This development will play a key role in filling the current gap in supported housing and ensuring that people in Hawick can access the right care, in the right place, at the right time, while promoting autonomy and dignity.

Hawick – Supported Living

Options to introduce Supported Living accommodation in Hawick are being explored. This initiative aims to help more adults with learning disabilities live closer to home, in a setting that's tailored to support both their physical and emotional needs. The vision is to create a nurturing, inclusive environment—right in the heart of the community—where individuals can thrive with the right care and support. The proposal includes the development of **11 purpose-built units**, offering a meaningful step forward in local, person-centred care.



We look forward to sharing more updates as we continue to progress with these exciting projects.

More information

If you have any questions or feedback on the update and progress, please email:

residentialcareprogramme@scotborders.gov.uk. Background information and updates are also available at:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/carevillageprogramme