

APPENDICES DOCUMENT



Hobkirk Local Place Plan

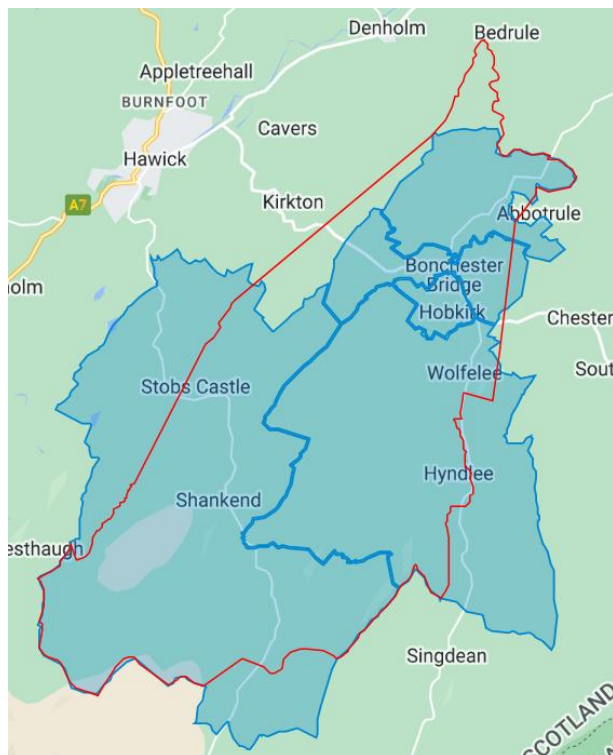
2025 to 2035

Introduction

This document provides the appendices to support the Hobkirk Local Place Plan 2025-2025.

Demographics

This demographic report provides a summary of key data on the community in Hobkirk and the surrounding area.



Notes on boundaries and availability of data

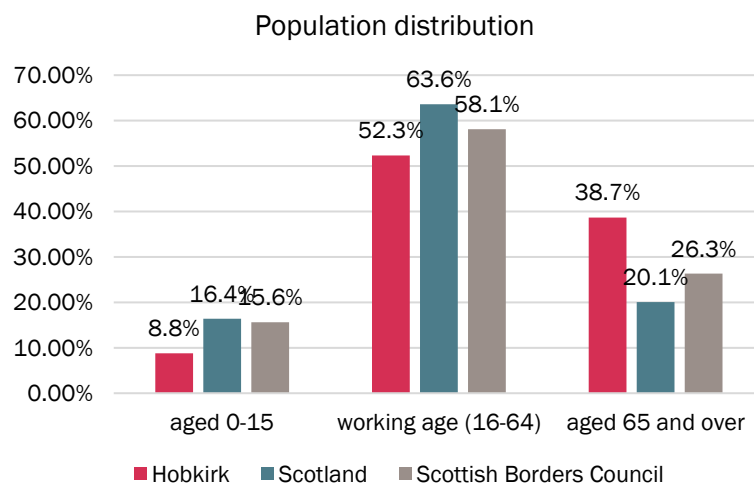
The community council area for Hobkirk is situated in Scottish Borders and is a hamlet. The red outline in the image below shows the Hobkirk Community Council boundary. As Census data is not published for community council areas, we have gathered data from the closest fitting Output Areas.

Output Areas are the smallest area for which Census data is published. Each one consists of several postcodes with a maximum population of 60.

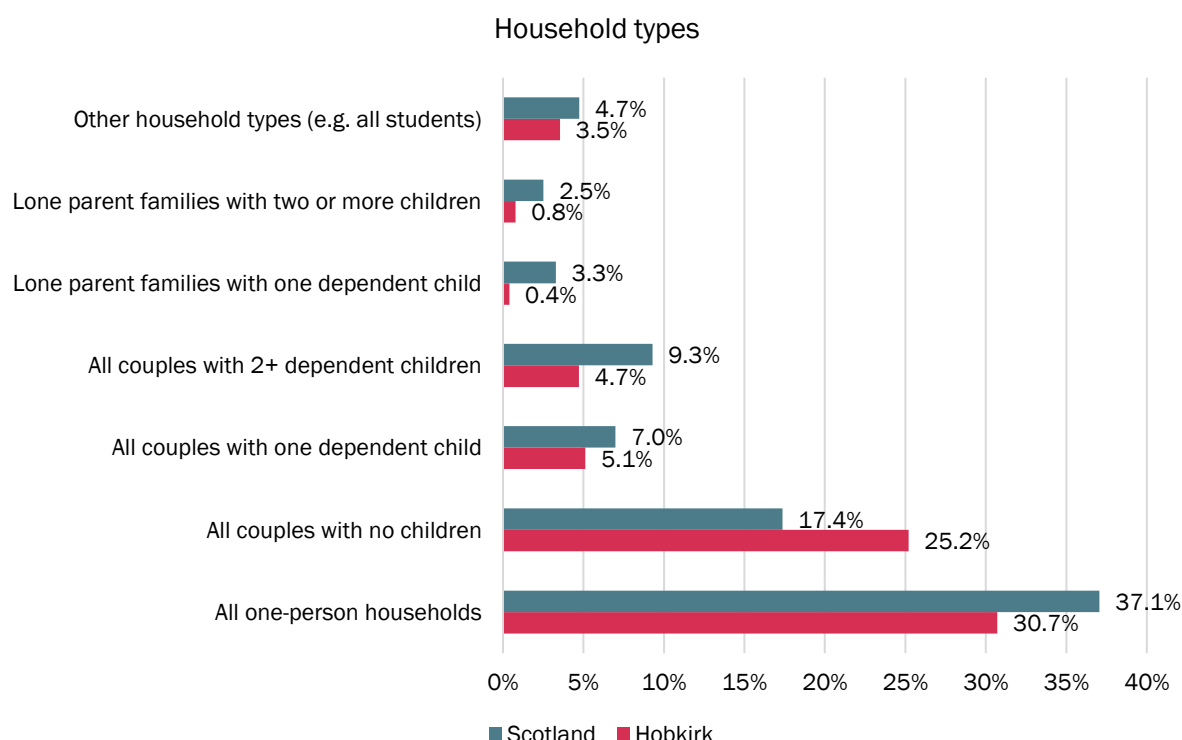
The areas highlighted in blue show the closest fitting Output Areas to the Hobkirk Community Council boundary. It is

important to note that some Output Areas have not been selected because although some of the households within them are within the community council boundary, they also contain many households outside the boundary.

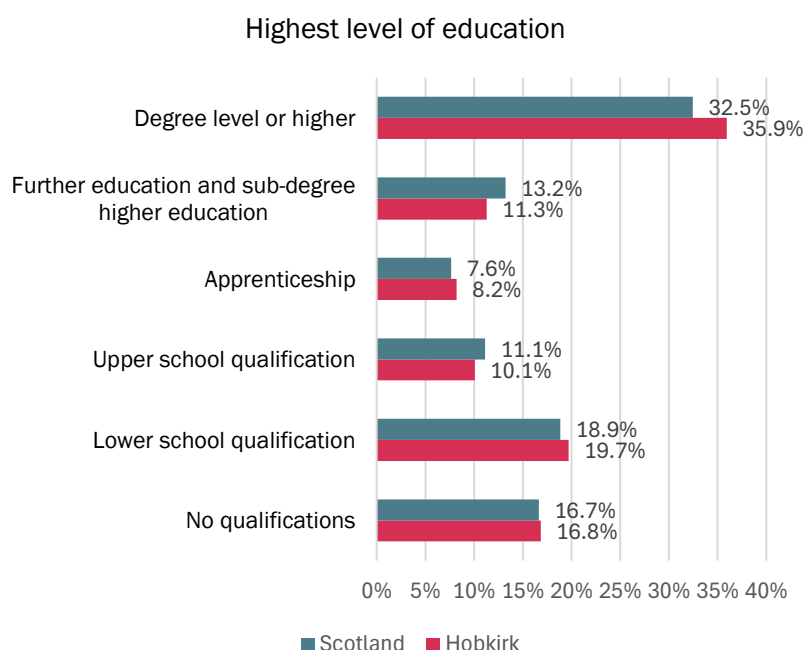
Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this report is from the 2022 Census. When referring to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Index, data is gathered from the closest fitting datazones. Datazones are small area geographies, designed to have roughly standard populations of 500 to 1000 residents and are composed of Output Areas.



- Demographics:** The total population of Hobkirk community council area is 535. The demographic profile of Hobkirk community council is older than averages for the Scottish Borders and Scotland. In particular, the proportion of people aged 65 and over is approximately 18 percentage points higher than the national average of 20.1%. Those aged between 16-64 years make up 52.3% of the total population in Hobkirk which is lower than both the regional and national averages. There is also a smaller number of children and young people aged between 0-15 years, 8.8% which is lower than the national average by approximately 8 percentage points.
- Housing:** There are 254 households in the Hobkirk community council area, most of which are either a house or bungalow (94%) which is much higher than the national average of 65.5% and only 5.1% of dwellings are a flat, maisonette or apartment. The majority of dwellings in Hobkirk are owned (73.2%) rather than rented (22.4 % collectively). 5.9% of rented households are socially rented which is much lower than the national average of 22.5%. Household composition in Hobkirk reflects the small proportion of children aged between 0-15 years as there are more households without children and young people. For example, 30.7% of households in Hobkirk are one-person households and 25.2% are occupied by couples with no children. Whereas 5.1% of households in Hobkirk are occupied by couples with one dependent child and 4.7% of households, by couples with 2 or more dependent children. Both averages are lower than the national average.



- Economic Activity:** 50.7% of adults over 16 are economically active and 47.6% are economically inactive. Of those classed as economically active, 22% are full-time employees and 10% are part-time employees. 19.7% are self-employed and only 1.2% are unemployed and available for work. The majority of those classed as economically inactive are retired (36.3%). This figure is 13 percentage points higher than the national average of 23.3%.
- Health, disability and caring:** Generally, health is good in the Hobkirk area, although 25.8% of the population have a long-term health condition. For example, 8.8% of people are deaf or hearing impaired in Hobkirk which is just above the national average (7.1%). 11.2% of people have a physical disability and 3% are blind or vision impaired. The proportion of people with a mental health condition is lower in Hobkirk (5.2%) compared to the national average of 9.7%.
- Vehicle access:** Only 5.5% of households in Hobkirk do not own a car which is much lower than the national average of 26.4%. This could indicate an increased reliance on cars. Additionally, the SIMD (see below) shows high deprivation associated with the domain for geographic access to services which measures the mean travel time (in minutes) to key services by car or public transport, meaning that access to public transport is poor in the Hobkirk area.
- Education:** 35.9% in the Hobkirk area have a qualification at a degree level or higher, compared to 32.5% across Scotland.

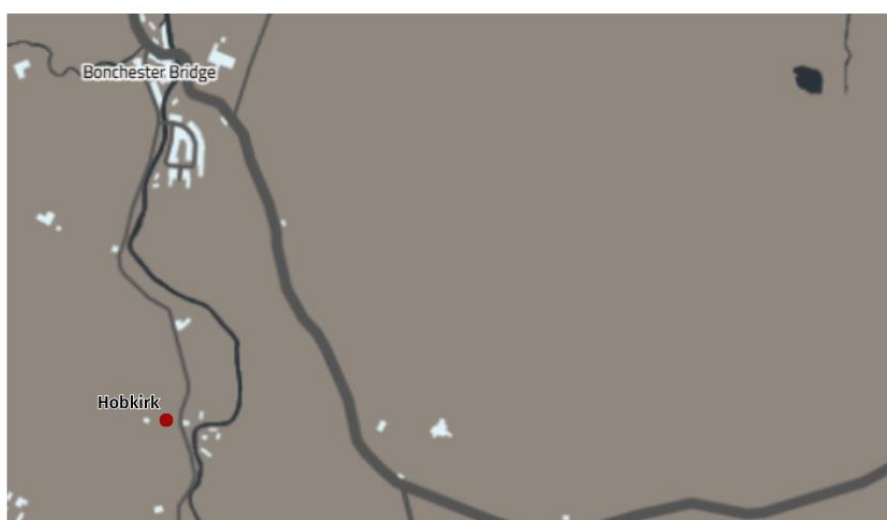
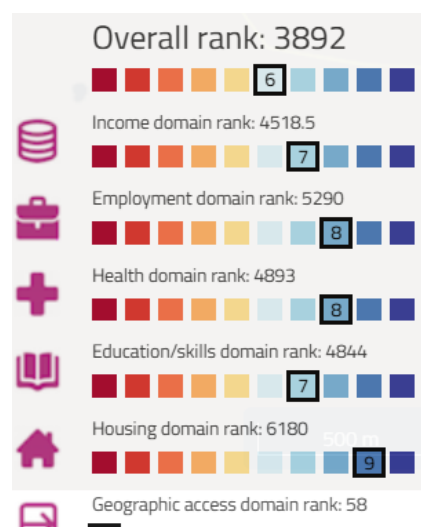


Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) measures the level of deprivation across 6,976 data zones in Scotland. The SIMD combines data across seven domains: income, employment, education, health, geographic access to services, housing and crime. Areas coloured red are ranked as most deprived, through to orange, blue and dark blue (least deprived).

There is 1 datazone that covers the Hobkirk area, which is S01012358. The index shows low levels of deprivation across the datazone within Hobkirk Community Council. Below is a summary of how the datazone ranks across the 6 different domains.

All domains show low levels of deprivation except for Geographic access to services, which falls within the top 10% most deprived in Scotland. As highlighted above, car ownership is high in the Hobkirk area, which indicates an increased reliance on cars rather than public transport for getting around and accessing services. For example, the average drive time to the nearest GP surgery is 16 minutes and the average public transport time is 49 minutes. The only bus service that operates in the area is the 910 that travels from Hawick to Hobkirk.



National and Local Planning Policy Context

Policy	Summary of key policy areas	Relevance to Local Place Plan
National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) ⁱ	Just transition - We will empower people to shape their places and ensure the transition to net zero is fair and inclusive.	Projects 2, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 24
	Conserving and recycling assets - We will make productive use of existing buildings, places, infrastructure and services, locking in carbon, minimising waste, and building a circular economy.	1, 2, 3, 8, 17, 18, 25, 30, 31
	Local living - We will support local liveability and improve community health and wellbeing by ensuring people can easily access services, greenspace, learning, work and leisure locally.	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19
	Compact urban growth - We will limit urban expansion so we can optimise the use of land to provide services and resources, including carbon storage, flood risk management, blue and green infrastructure and biodiversity.	8, 20, 21, 22, 24
	Rebalanced development - We will target development to create opportunities for communities and investment in areas of past decline, and manage development sustainably in areas of high demand.	2, 20
	Rural revitalisation - We will encourage sustainable development in rural areas, recognising the need to grow and support urban and rural communities together.	2, 4, 15, 17, 18, 20
Scottish Borders Council Local Development Plan (LDP2) ⁱⁱ	Communities (p.18) • Provide adequate land for mainstream and affordable housing • Build sustainable communities which are attractive and distinctive • Create places to live in accordance with good placemaking and design principles • Encourage better connectivity by transport and improve digital networks	5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13,
	Growing Economy • Provide an adequate range of sites and premises for business/industrial uses • Promote economic development opportunities along the railway corridor • Promote the regeneration of town centres to make them vibrant and viable focal points within our communities • Maximise and promote the Scottish Borders' tourism potential and build a strong visitor economy • Ensure the delivery of adequate infrastructure to satisfactorily serve developments	15, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
	Sustainability • Protect and enhance the built and natural environment • Promote development of brownfield sites • Make provision for waste management	8, 9, 18, 20, 21, 22

	• Deliver climate change mitigation while ensuring climate change adaptation • Protect key greenspaces within built up areas • Encourage better connectivity • Extend and improve green network opportunities and links	
Teviot and Liddesdale Locality Plan 2020 ⁱⁱⁱ	<u>Our Economy, Skills and Learning</u> <i>Key Priority: Learning and training which is accessible and affordable and which meets the needs of all individuals including local employers</i> • Fast, reliable broadband and mobile connectivity for all communities and businesses • Promote and support local and big business developments including Hawick's business incubator centre and offer support to businesses who need to diversify • Promote alternative routes into employment, including the Centre of Excellence in Textiles • Profile key areas for economic growth to inform business development and investigate opportunities for new industry • Improve transport and road connectivity and consider the potential economic growth from connecting with Carlisle airport and Border Railway • Increase the range of learning courses and qualifications available in the locality to reduce the need for people to travel / leave the area • Continue the development of a strong tourist offer and build on the profile created by Visit Scotland and Midlothian and Borders Tourism Action Group	5, 13, 14, 15, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31
	<u>Our Health, Care and Wellbeing</u> <i>Key Priority: To communicate more effectively what treatment and support health services offer and to improve access to services</i> • Improve the availability and accessibility of services for people living in rural areas across Teviot & Liddesdale and Hawick • Increase the availability of locally based rehabilitation services • Increase the range of care and supporting options across the locality to enable people to remain in their own homes and communities • Increase the range of housing options available across the locality • Develop robust preventative services and early intervention for long term conditions • Improve support for unpaid carers- including young carers • Increase the availability and accessibility of local activities and information, including grants available, to improve health and well-being	3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18,
	<u>Our Quality of Life</u>	3, 4, 6, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 26, 27

	Key Priority: Improve communication of activities and services available in the locality and make it easier for groups to share their news • Provide activities and learning opportunities which respond to the needs of children and young people with an emphasis on early intervention and education • Have a clearer understanding of what levels of anti-social behaviour exist and how services can efficiently promote community safety • Ensure leisure and culture services are accessible in rural and urban areas and are responsive to the needs of local users • Encourage people to look after their local area and take pride in where they live	
	Our Environment and Place Key Priorities: Regenerate Hawick town centre and villages Use vacant land and empty buildings for housing and business opportunities • A long term plan for environmentally friendly, sustainable housing and industrial building development and an increase in renewable energy projects • Increase affordable and specialist homes to meet need in the locality • Improve pathways around the locality to improve connectivity • Extension of the Borders Railway	2, 7, 9
Scottish Borders Community Plan 2023/33 ^{iv}	Poverty • Help mitigate against the financial challenges of day to day living for those who are most affected	3
	Learning, Skills and Economy • Children and young people from low-income households are supported to develop life skills to help them to succeed in life • More people have a clear route to progress into a greater variety of jobs, learning and training opportunities available within the Scottish Borders • More people, especially our older community, have the skills to benefit from digital and mobile connectivity. (Outcome shared with Theme 4) • Parents are supported to enter, remain, and progress in work	3, 4, 5
	Good Health and Wellbeing • Improved access to effective services, particularly for those who face greater challenges accessing services • Reduced health inequalities for those experiencing the greatest negative impact	12, 13, 19

	Fewer people experiencing domestic abuse	
	Place, Community and Connectivity - More people, especially our older community, have the skills to benefit from digital and mobile connectivity. (Outcome shared with Theme 2) - More people have access to a home that meets their needs and is part of a sustainable community - Our communities are supported and empowered to be strong, active, resilient and sustainable - People have access to better travel options across the Scottish Borders	2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19

ⁱ <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2023/02/national-planning-framework-4/documents/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/national-planning-framework-4-revised-draft/govscot%3Adocument/national-planning-framework-4.pdf>

ⁱⁱ Adopted on 22 August 2024: <https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/12939/adopted-ldp2-volume-1-policies>

ⁱⁱⁱ Priorities, as set out at pages 8-9: <https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/7595/teviot-and-liddesdale-locality-plan>

^{iv} Outcomes, as set out at page 12: <https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/12623/scottish-borders-community-plan-2023-33>