

## Equality Assessment

1.	<b>Title of the event:</b>	Peebles March Riding and Beltane Queen Festival
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*(Please enter the name of the event)*

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*(Please enter your name, postal address – including post code and telephone number(s) landline and mobile (if applicable))*

3.	<b>Description:</b>	<p>List here all <i>the event(s) that the Festival Committee play a role in. Describe the overall aim of the entire event(s).</i> <i>(Please continue on a separate sheet if required)</i></p> <p>3 Bridges Race - This takes place in May. It is an Athletics event aimed mainly at local primary school children. There are a couple of races for adult entrants. All adult races are open to both male and female competitors with staggered starts.</p> <p>Beltane Week</p> <p>Sunday Night: Cross Kirk Ceremony - The ceremony takes place in the Cross Kirk in Peebles. It is an open-air Church service conducted by the Warden of the Cross Kirk. The role of Warden rotates each year amongst the local Peebles Clergy. The role has undertaken by all the local ministers and priests over the decades.</p>
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	<p>Monday Evening – Children’s Disco. This is open to all primary school children.</p> <p>Tuesday Evening - Children’s Sports. There are races for all pre-primary and primary school age children. There is also a race for members of the local pipe band.</p> <p>Wednesday Evening - This is one of the main events of the week. It starts with the installation of the Cornet and Lass in the High Street before they lead the horses around the town boundaries. There is also a reading at one of the town boundaries by are Boundary Reader. The Boundary Reader is a local member of the legal profession. We then install the Warden of Neidpath at Neidpath Castle before viewing the fording of the Tweed by the horse cavalcade. There are then a number of horse races held at the Golf Course. The race participants are both male and female. The evening ends with the dancing of the reel in the High Street.</p> <p>Thursday Night - The evening starts with a led ride through the streets of Peebles with an assisted fording. All horses must be led by someone walking. This is a relatively recent event. We faced issues on the Wednesday night ride with a small number of mainly ponies being led on foot taking part along with the ridden horses. They didn’t complete the full ride and were dropping off at different point causing issues for traffic. It was also felt not to be safe to have people walking amongst the main body of horses. We therefore introduced a new event specifically for led horses. This has proven to be very popular. It allows less experienced riders, young riders and people with additional needs to experience the Beltane on horseback which has also solved the safety issues on the Wednesday evening. Later we hold a concert in the Burgh Hall.</p> <p>Friday evening - This is our fancy dress night we many hundreds of participants take part in our fancy dress.</p> <p>Saturday - This is our Red Letter Day. The day starts with the proclamation by our Boundary Reader from the Mercat Cross. All primary three and above pupils then walk to the High Street and stand on the Parish Church Steps where we have the crowning of the Beltane Queen. This event was started in 1899 as a recreation of the crowning of Queen Victoria and continues today very much as it was then. We have a Queens court who perform the ceremony. There are four “top roles”, two boys and girls along with an equal number of boys/girls in other roles. After the ceremony the children then go on lorries round the town.</p> <p>We hold a remembrance ceremony at the Peebles War Memorial around lunchtime. In the evening we beat retreat in the High Street.</p>
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		Sunday - On the Sunday afternoon Open Sports are held in a local park. A number of races are run open to both men and women with staggered starts.
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4.	<p><b>The Equality Duty 2010 and funding Community Events</b></p> <p>When granting funding SBC must be certain that events meet the requirements of the general duties under the Equality Act 2010. These duties are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminate discrimination (both direct &amp; indirect), victimisation and harassment on the identified groups.</li> <li>• Promote equality of opportunity between the identified groups.</li> <li>• Foster Good relations between the identified groups</li> </ul> <p>The identified groups are people who share one of the following characteristics:</p> <p>Age Disability Gender Reassignment Marriage/ Civil Partnership Race Religion/ belief Sex Sexual Orientation</p> <p>Put simply this means that funding is allocated fairly and everyone has the opportunity to participate in events that are safe from unacceptable behaviour and free from discrimination, and non - justified restrictions on participation.</p>
5.	<b>Relevance to the Equality Duty.</b>

<p><b>To demonstrate that your event meets the above requirements you are asked to complete the following questions. Where relevant please submit evidence to support the statements that you are making. (Please continue on a separate sheet if required)</b></p>		
	<p><b>Yes/No</b></p>	
<p>(a) Will people from any of the specified groups be prevented from taking part in or attending any of your event(s)</p> <p>(b) Will people from any of the specified groups be restricted in what they can do at any of your event(s)</p>	<p><b>We do not believe we have any restrictions on any of the specified groups from taking part in any of our events.</b></p> <p><b>We do not impose any restrictions to overall events to any of the specified groups.</b></p> <p><b>Over the years we have altered what we do in order to be as open as we can possibly be. We go out of our way to assist our participants to be able to take part.</b></p> <p><b>I can point to recent years where relatives of our principles have been wheel-chair users and we have provided transport to ensure they are able to attend all events.</b></p> <p><b>Last year as the parent of one of our Court is deaf, we provided a sign language interpreter at a number of events.</b></p> <p><b>We have had children who are wheel chair users and we ensure</b></p>	<p>If the answer is yes to either or both of (a) or (b) , please provide the following details:</p>

		<p>they are able to participate fully along with their classmates.</p> <p>We have had a Court member with dyslexia whose role it was to read our telegrams to the crowds and we have ensured we had the correct aids in place for them to carry out that role.</p> <p>We will always do our utmost to ensure that everyone is able to play as full a role as they can in our festival.</p>	
	Event	What is the Restriction?	Do you believe there is a justification for this restriction? If so what?

6	In order to encourage people to fully participate there needs to be a reassurance that those who choose to participate will not be subjected to unacceptable behaviours from others.		
	What steps do you take to encourage participation from people in all the specified groups?	As previously highlighted we will endeavour to adapt what we do to meet the needs of those taking part where ever practical. We have committee members and volunteers who themselves have additional needs or are wheelchair users.	



Completed By			
Name	Keith Brunton	Organisation	Peebles March Riding and Beltane Queen Festival
Position	Chair	Date	25.4.19

For SBC use only:

Checked by:

Approved by:

Date: