



# Eildon Locality Plan 2020

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# Eildon Area Partnership

The Eildon Area Partnership<sup>1</sup> is about creating a space where the aspirations and ideas of the community can be heard and community planning can be strengthened through communities and public bodies working together.

The Locality Plan is part of this process. It outlines the priorities of the Eildon area with a focus on reducing inequalities to improve the area for those who live, work and visit the area.

<sup>1</sup> Area Partnership – brings together organisations, groups, individuals and businesses from across the locality to collectively work together

# Introduction

## Welcome to the Eildon Locality Plan



This plan builds on the Scottish Borders Community Plan and sets out:

- The priorities for improving the area over the next five years
- The commitment to work in partnership and use our shared resources <sup>2</sup> in the most effective way to reduce inequality

In bringing together this plan we have asked, and will continue to ask, local people across Eildon what would make the area better.

<sup>2</sup> Resources – this could be funding (e.g. budget or grants), people (e.g. staff of volunteers) or assets (e.g. land, buildings or equipment)

This plan is structured around four themes:



“How do we build and improve our economy, skills and learning?”

“How do we promote and improve our health, care and wellbeing?”

“How do we protect and improve our quality of life?”

“How do we develop and improve our environment & place?”

Comments and feedback gathered at Area Partnership meetings to date have been prioritised to reflect what actions need to be undertaken in the Locality to make a difference.

Communities, community planning partners<sup>3</sup> and local service providers<sup>4</sup> will need to work together in partnership to plan and deliver better services that meet the needs of the people who use them.

At a Borders-wide level this is done through the Scottish Borders Community Plan and the Community Planning Partnership.

At an area level this is done through the Eildon Area Partnership, the Eildon Locality Plan and associated Action Plan. We expect to continue to evolve these plans to reflect the developments within the area. The most up to date action plan is available on Scottish Borders Council's Website [www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships).

At a local level, services and communities continue to respond to their local community needs. Local plans, including local community action plans demonstrate this and are referenced at the end of this plan.

<sup>3</sup> Community planning partners – those organisations who are taking forward the Scottish Borders Community Plan

<sup>4</sup> Local service providers – those organisations who are providing services locally (e.g. GPs, Community Nurses, Business Advisors, etc.)

# What we know about Eildon

## Key Facts and Figures

A selection of key facts and figures relating to the issues highlighted by our communities have been identified and detailed on this page. These present what data we have and what is known about the area, as well as a reflection against the Scottish Borders and national averages where possible.

A more comprehensive Eildon Area Profile is available detailing all the key information for the area. This is available to download from [www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships)



### POPULATION

National Records of Scotland (NRS) estimates the population of **Eildon** to be

**35,330** population  
(30.7% of the Scottish Borders (SB))

**16.5%** aged 0-15  
(SB = 16.3%; SCOT = 17.0%)

**61.2%** aged 16-64  
(SB = 59.2%; SCOT = 64.7%)

**22.3%** aged 65+  
(SB = 24.5%; SCOT = 18.3%)

(NRS 2017)



### TOWN CENTRE FOOTFALL 2012-2016

down **4%** Galashiels

down **2%** Melrose

up **2%** Selkirk  
(SB = down 6%)

(SBC-PR)

### HEALTH

**395** per 100,000 people were discharged from hospital with **Coronary Heart Disease**, 2015-18  
(SB = 343; SCOT = 381)

(ScotPHO)

### WELLBEING

**75%** of survey respondents say they take part in moderate physical 30-minute exercise at least twice a week.  
(Scottish Borders = 78%)

**73.8%** of Primary 7 pupils took part in "Active Schools" extra-curricular sports in 2017-18  
(SB = 79.5%)

(SBHS 2018/ScotPHO/ SEEMIS)



### NEIGHBOURHOOD

**41%** of the people in Eildon live within the 10% most access deprived in all of Scotland  
(SB = 27%)

(SIMD 2016)



### BROADBAND

**2.8%** of premises were unable to receive 2Mb/S Broadband in 2016  
(SB = 4.2%)

This ranged within Eildon from 0% in the least-affected neighbourhood to 32.0% in the most-affected.

(OfCom)

Eildon had lower than average levels of digital exclusion of the 5 localities in 2017, but higher in parts of Galashiels, Selkirk and Newtown St Boswells

(SBHS 2018/ Scottish Borders Digital Inclusion Index 2017)

### UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMANT RATE ALL PEOPLE AGED 16-64

**2.3%** Galashiels and District

**0.9%** Leaderdale and Melrose

**1.4%** Selkirkshire  
(SB = 1.4%; SCOT = 1.8%)

(ONS - NOV 18)

# Eildon Wards



**GALASHIELS & DISTRICT** 

**14,957** Population

**12,603** Galashiels

**711** Stow

**LEADERDALE & MELROSE** 

**10,746** Population

**2,464** Melrose      **1,790** Lauder

**2,022** Tweedbank      **1,728** Earlston

**SELKIRKSHIRE** 

**9,627** Population

**5,560** Selkirk

**1,331** Newtown St Boswells

# Engaging with our Communities

It is the intention of the Area Partnership to involve as wide a group of people as possible. This helps to make sure our plans reflect the needs of our communities. We will create more opportunities for people to attend the Area Partnership and talk to us in person, take part in surveys or contact us online. As further information and understanding of the needs and ambitions of our communities is gathered, the Area Partnership will continue to build on this plan. We welcome your views and suggestions.

There are many other ways of being involved in your local community, key contacts are provided below:

To give us your views or to get involved with Area Partnerships please contact:

Communities and Partnerships Team  
Email: [communityplanning@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@scotborders.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 0300 100 1800

More information on Community Councils:

[www.scotborders.gov.uk/communitycouncils](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communitycouncils)  
Telephone: 01835 825005.

Many Community Council's now have their own website and social media pages and will also be contactable directly through these means.

More information on volunteering, community support or advice:

Volunteer Centre Borders  
[www.vcborders.org.uk](http://www.vcborders.org.uk)  
Telephone: 01896 754041  
Email: [enquiries@vcborders.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@vcborders.org.uk)

The Bridge (Central Office)  
[www.the-bridge.uk.net](http://www.the-bridge.uk.net)  
Telephone: 01896 755370  
Email: [central@the-bridge.uk.net](mailto:central@the-bridge.uk.net)

## Our Economy, Skills & Learning

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Eildon is:

- Improve rural digital connectivity, accessibility and use of technology
- Improve the accessibility and reliability of transport services

### Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Enhance career advice and career opportunities by promoting modern apprenticeships and vocational training
- Increase learning opportunities and skills development across a wide range of subjects and vocations and ages
- Invest in local, sustainable employment opportunities
- Develop a business / community hub model for tech start ups, small businesses etc and encourage new businesses to set up the Locality
- Encourage intergenerational activity and creation of learning hubs in schools, Borders College and community spaces
- Promote Eildon as a visitor destination, highlighting the heritage and unique selling points of the area networks/roads

## Our Health, Care & Wellbeing

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Eildon is:

- Increase the range and accessibility of community activities to encourage a reduction in drug and alcohol use in the Eildon locality

### Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Increase the range of care and support options across the locality to enable people to remain in their own homes and communities
- Increase the availability of locally based rehabilitation services
- Improve the availability and accessibility of services for people living in rural areas
- Increase the range of housing options available across the locality and plan for future housing needs
- Reduce the number of people admitted to hospital with drug and alcohol related problems
- Reduce the number of people attending the Borders General Hospital on multiple occasions
- Support people to make informed health and lifestyle choices

## Our Quality of Life

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Eildon is:

- Create safe areas for young people within local communities and provide leisure facilities that are accessible and affordable

Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Revise transport provision to improve connectivity and reduce rural isolation
- Strengthen partnership working between local services
- Improve communication of social and leisure opportunities to local residents
- Carry out more community mapping and consultations to identify what people want in their area
- Improve older people's quality of life by increasing their sense of safety within the community

## Our Environment & Place

Through the Area Partnership you told us your key priority for Eildon is:

- Create appropriately placed, affordable & socially inclusive housing in the countryside
- Develop attractions within the countryside to encourage visitors to the area

Other priorities that are important to the Eildon community:

- Housing stock should reflect need in the local community, be affordable and be accessible for local services
- Reduce fuel poverty across the Locality. All housing developments to incorporate eco infrastructures into builds
- Development of town / village centres and housing must consider the environment and health and wellbeing of people who will live there

# How we will measure success

The priorities identified in this plan have been used as the basis for the Eildon Locality Action Plan. This action plan will help to track action and activities and to drive change in Eildon. As this will be an ever changing document the action plan is available to download from Scottish Borders Council's website, [www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnership](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnership) or in hard copy from the Community & Partnerships Team.

The Eildon Area Partnership will feedback every year on the progress made in delivering the priorities within this plan. By monitoring the progress we make, we can measure the difference made to local people and communities. Progress and achievements will be shared with the Community Planning Partnership and other public bodies as well as being shared and celebrated with the wider community.

We will continue to ask the community their views and encourage more people to participate in the Area Partnership. As the needs of the locality change, we will ensure the priorities and actions within the plan reflect these changes.

## Other Local Plans for Eildon

- Earlston Community Action Plan
- Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Plan
- Heriot Plan (draft)
- Earlston Learning Community Partnership Plan
- Galashiels Learning Community Partnership Plan
- Selkirk Learning Community Partnership Plan



You can get this document on audio CD, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

**COMMUNITIES & PARTNERSHIPS TEAM**

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[www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/areapartnerships)