

# Jedderfield

A community space for growing, learning and living sustainably

This is still a working document

and as such is **not** complete.

It is an outline of our vision, plans and the work that members

of Tweedgreen have compiled since Oct.2019.

Jedderfield Group (Tweedgreen)

4 March 2021

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## Executive Summary

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## Vision

### What is the Jedderfield project?

Tweedgreen wants put our vision of low-carbon sustainable living into practice on a 56 acre site called Jedderfield Farm.

It will offer the people of Peebles-shire examples of good ecological and sustainable practice. These will aim to inspire and be replicated on a smaller scale at home or in other locations. People are actively encouraged to come on site and so be involved in the project. This could simply be sight seeing and enjoying the country side to being a volunteer member.

We aim to mix the sustainable stewardship of community land and property with the community's full use of the site: be it agricultural, leisure, low impact commercial, social benefit, et cetera.

Jedderfield is currently owned by Peebles Common Good (PCG) and has been leased privately as a farm for the last century.

Tweedgreen want to fully involve the local community to bring this property back to life as a true community asset. We want to maximise the social, environmental and community benefit as well as maintaining its year on year financial viability.

Schools, young people and other community groups will be actively asked to participate. The adjoining primary school have already wished to use the site on a weekly basis.

As well as our sustainable agricultural projects we also have other community, heritage and like minded small scale commercial groups showing a strong interest in on-site involvement.

We have been researching this Jedderfield project since late 2019. We have a core group of seven members looking into this with assistance from many more. Our Jedderfield webpage:

<https://www.tweedgreen.org.uk/jedderfield>

We see Jedderfield as an opportunity to put our values and aims into practice, for the benefit of the wider community. Our vision is for a community space for living, learning and working sustainably.

## Who are Tweedgreen?

Tweedgreen's aim is to raise awareness and understanding of ways in which we can respond positively to the climate crisis through discussion, activity and campaigning. Our purposes are central to the operation of Jedderfield Farm and as such are woven into the fabric of the business/project plan.

Tweedgreen's purpose as listed in its articles of association (section 4):

To raise awareness and understanding of climate change and its impact on the planet and the natural systems which sustain us:

- a) To raise in particular issues relating to:
  - a. Dependency on fossil fuels
  - b. Degradation of natural resources
  - c. Resilience and adaptation of local communities to change.
- b) Pursue measures which reduce harmful emissions and degradation of the natural environment which relate to Tweeddale.
- c) Strive for a sustainable future for Tweeddale.
- d) Collaborate with other organisations and individuals to achieve our objectives.

To advance the provision of educational opportunities in the Community, increasing awareness of the environment, culture and heritage and to advance environmental protection or improvement, including:

- a) Preservation, sustainable development and conservation of the natural environment;
- b) Maintenance, improvement or provision of environmental amenities for the Community; and/or
- c) The preservation of buildings or sites of architectural, historic or other importance to the Community.

## Why now?

The recent COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted our vulnerability and fragility as a society, and made us all ask questions about the basic things we used to take for granted. This includes things like:

- Sourcing locally grown vegetables or fruit;
- Considering ways of generating renewable energy;
- More creative ways of recycling or making use of waste;
- Finding safe places to socialise and learn. This time of change could also be a time for positive community action, focusing on sustainability.

Tweedgreen has identified an opportunity to become involved in a real-life site where we can put our vision into practice. Jedderfield Farm, a Peebles Common Good property on the edge of Peebles, is coming available for lease or possibly purchase. Our project is just a proposal at this stage and would be subject to full consultation with the wider community.

We would like to transform it into a place for community growing, tree planting, shared learning and low-carbon energy. Most importantly, we want to involve the local community – to bring this property back to life as a true Common Good asset. The main aims would be social, environmental and community benefit, with any profits going back into the project for the benefit of the community.

In common with our values and aims, and also meeting wider regional and national objectives around reducing carbon in the light of the recognised climate emergency, we would like to transform Jedderfield into a:

- Sustainable and resilient community space;
- Place to plant trees and establish a local woodfuel supply;
- Showcase for renewable energy;
- Showcase for local heritage and history;
- Low-impact, low-carbon place to stay and work or volunteer;
- Place to grow, and learn about growing, vegetables and fruit;
- Place which is accessible and open to all ages and abilities.

This would help meet longer-term objectives including:

- A reduced carbon footprint for Tweeddale;
- Better physical and mental wellbeing;
- Better social connections, less social isolation;
- A stronger and more resilient community;
- A chance to spend meaningful time in safe outdoor spaces;
- Sustainable, local sources of food, fuel and compost.

### The services we propose to deliver

**Education:** experiential learning for all ages and abilities through volunteering or group visits, to cover all our proposed activities plus additional skills training in traditional crafts or nature connection activities. This would increase local skills base and employability, strengthening the local economy. The focus would be on inclusion of disadvantaged or marginalised groups, as well as local schoolchildren.

**Tree planting:** as flooding mitigation and to reduce carbon footprint, also to encourage biodiversity, public amenity and eventually to provide a source of local woodfuel.

**Garden waste recycling and compost:** filling a gap in local services. Reducing carbon footprint.

**Woodfuel:** providing a much needed base and processing area for Tweeddale Community Woodfuel group (part of Tweedgreen), a group which is open to the community on a 'logs for labour' basis.

**Renewables:** installation of a large solar array with electricity to power all activities. Retrofitting and renovating the farmhouse using sustainable materials and methods. Exploring additional potential renewables. Sharing the learning with other communities. People will be able to replicate low-carbon good practice on smaller scale at home.

**History and heritage:** activities including renovation of the old waterwheel, growing heritage barley and agricultural museum. Learning activities based around these, for example foraging and outdoor cooking.

**Potential low-cost, low-impact accommodation:** for volunteers or eco-tourists, e.g. horseriders or hikers on the Old Drove Road. Potential to engage with eg British Horse Society 'Horses Welcome' accreditation.

**Vegetables, fruit and flowers:** depending on local demand, possibly in partnership with others.

**Spaces for community groups and local businesses:** partnership working to provide a broad range of initiatives (in keeping with our values – emphasis on low-impact, low-carbon). Strengthening local connections and economy.

**Community engagement:** this will be a true community space; the local community will be involved at all stages, not just in consultation but in decision-making, through the opportunity to be actively involved on the Steering Group, in working groups and focus groups, or as volunteers. We will use all possible channels to keep the community fully informed about the project. We will also work with other local businesses or groups, eg the neighbouring Golf Club.

## Projects (what we plan to do)

### Projects to start immediately

- Publicity launch and call for volunteers
- Clean up of site, make safe and access
- Formal contact with schools and other local groups
- Initial governance policies
- Shelter and basic facilities
- Waterwheel set up (will take 2-3 years)
- Tied accommodation for onsite managers
- Tree planting
- Blackcurrants

### Projects starting from 6 – 12 months (but completion may be beyond a year)

- Outdoor learning - Forest school and more
- Staffing
- Woodfuel

### Projects starting after 12 months OR LATER

- Bees
- Composting
- Eco tourism
- Food growing
- Recycling skills
- Secret garden
- Tree nurturing skills
- Waterwheel in use (will take 2-3 years)
- Electricity generation PV (year 2)
- Bunkhouse / low impact accommodation (year 2+)
- Electricity generation Hydro (year 3+ non-priority)

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## **Operation and Management**

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## Issues

### General public

The people of Peebles are our central concern. We have to plan for inviting the general public onto and at some time into Jedderfield.

### Under 16 year olds

Necessary safeguarding would be necessary to ensure safety for under 16s. As well as PVG and Child Protection policy, it would be made clear who was responsible for young people visiting the site, eg teachers with groups etc.

### Those with mobility issues

We do not want to encourage free flow of fossil-fuel powered vehicles. At the same time we are considering practical ways of making the site accessible for people of all abilities.

Electric powered buggies (as used on golf courses) could be a practical way to transport those with mobility issues. We are also in discussion with neighbouring landowners to consider alternative, easier access routes.

### Key players

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### Staffing

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### Access

SBC officers have advised that the access track is not identified as part of the property title but the tenant does have access rights.

## Governance

The vision, policy and practice of how Jedderfield operates.

Inclusivity: inc. dementia. Funding applications.

(to be expanded)

## Record keeping

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## Quality assurance - evaluation

This is about discovering whether we are doing what we think we are doing.

There is always going to be informal feedback. We will collect both quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative data will focus on numbers and demographics engaged with, and how often. It will also count our carbon footprint and specifics such as no. of acres of wildflowers, no of trees planted, vegetables or other food produced, amount of compost processed, etc.

Qualitative data will focus on capturing case studies, informal feedback from those involved, using photography and ethnographic studies.

This data would be of interest to the Jedderfield/Tweedgreen Committees, Peebles Common Good Committee, funders and the local authority. It would also be of interest to those taking part, to find out to what extent those involved benefit (whether volunteers, schoolchildren or local enterprises). It will also serve for demonstration to those from further afield, who may be considering embarking on similar projects.

We will learn by doing – experientially – and ‘plan, do, review’ so that our project is constantly evolving and adapting as new circumstances and opportunities arise.

## Funding

### Funders contacted so far:

Organisation	Name of contact	Potential amount	Notes	Address	Tel/email
Wm Grant fund via Architectural Heritage Fund		£6-7K	Architectural fund. this funds costs of feasibility studies re sustainable renovation etc, incl legal costs business plan development and architectural survey plus community engagement., etc.		
Rural Payment Schemes			Various options		
Planting trees - grant		£33,700	For tree planting (+£2,600pa for 5 years maintenance)		
Carbon offset		£9000	Carbon offset (trees) over 5 years		
CARES funding		£45,000 (part funding?)	For solar PV		
CCF Development Fund		£449	<b>Received</b> (Aug 2020) for community engagement costs		
Tudor Trust		c. £15,000	Proposal being finalised, we have spoken with this funder and they encourage applying even before we have sight of the lease  (would cover some capital and core costs)		

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Pledges/Crowdfunding /Community shares	Speaking to other models eg C'path		Under investigation	CARES funding	
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### Other potential funding options

Organisation	Name of contact	Potential amount	Notes	Address	Tel/email
Heritage Lottery		Up to £250k	In contact 1/3. Working on E of I. For waterwheel, possibly house, staff costs, other		
Fallago		£37000 x 3 yrs	Potential environmental project funding		
Land Trust		£30k	Landfill fund, our project fits but 'come back when we have lease'	Cost of solar installation	
Other sources of advice/potential funding					
South of Scotland Enterprise			Contacts for business plan, support, advice, networking opps	South of Scotland Enterprise	
COSS			Advice re CAT process		
SBC			Community engagement dept at SBC, support re application etc		
Social Farms & Gardens			Advice, resources and training		

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Corporate Social Responsibility			In-kind volunteers, sponsorship, equipment etc		

## Public consultation

(see <https://www.tweedgreen.org.uk/jedderfield>)

### Tweedgreen: Jedderfield Community Engagement Plan

Tweedgreen undertake to fully engage with the community at all stages, not only because this is a legal requirement, but because we want the Jedderfield project to be a community space for community benefit.

In order for our proposed project to be successful it is essential that we have support from both the Peebles and wider communities. In order to establish the level of support we plan to undertake community engagement in three phases:

1. Pre-project engagement undertaken remotely.
2. Pre-project/project initialisation via face to face engagement (the timing of this will be dependent on the current Covid 19 situation).
3. Throughout the life of the project. *We will continue to engage with partners, stakeholders and the wider community, reacting to feedback and evolving the project as necessary to reflect what we are hearing, and involving the community in decision-making. We will include ways of reaching those who are not engaging or who are hard to reach.*
4. Pre-project engagement, to find out:
  - a. *Do people support the idea in principle?*
  - b. *Would they like to be involved (as individuals/volunteers/on focus group or with their own group)*
  - c. *What gaps do they see that we could fill?*

(with time constraints) before submission of outline plans to Common Good on 1/10/20

1. 20/9 Mailchimp sent to Tweedgreen mailing list (305 mainly local people) – directing them to website with new Jedderfield page, including slideshow, drone footage and link to feedback survey – see data on website for engagement numbers
2. 22/9 Announcement on Tweedgreen Facebook page – data available
3. Contact with similar community project in Huntly (Greenmyres Farm).

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4. Targeted engagement with key groups/people (see list at end), asking for ideas/feedback and letters of support. Aim is to find out if there is general agreement to the idea, whether people are supportive of our plans (or have any other ideas) and whether they want to get involved.

Pre-project/project initialisation: (After Common Good meeting 7/10 until submission of CATS application and beyond)

1. Focus group of interested parties (Virtual meeting) 5/2 – see website for detail; more Focus Groups planned
2. Leaflets/posters/big photos for displays, articles in press (PN/PL) and on Radio Borders – due to Covid we could not have displays etc
3. Leaflets delivered subject to Covid safety to neighbouring households and public venues – leaflets with printer, ready to be printed and delivered when safe to do so
4. Wider contact with community groups (local and communities of interest further afield), small local enterprises and schools
5. 1:1 site visits – we now have permission for this, numbers will increase as restrictions ease

**Barriers/challenges** – due to Covid-19 – as much as possible will be done by email/social media, some socially-distanced one-to-one/small group meetings (in outdoors/on site), production of leaflet (CCF grant) for safe leaflet drop, asking other groups to propagate via their networks/social media.

**Lack of time/permission** – due to lack of time for Phase 1 (and awaiting Report/permissions etc) we only managed to undertake partial engagement before submission of CATs application, engagement is ongoing, subject to restrictions

*Groups engaged with so far:*

- Peebles CAN (Community Action Network) – letter of support received
- Tweeddale Woodfuel group – letter of support received
- Tweed Forum – letter of support received
- Peebleshire Beekeepers - letter of support received
- Tweed Ecology - letter of support received
- Peebles Civic Society – awaiting outcome of next meeting

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- Peebles Golf Club (as neighbours)
- Wemyss & March Estate (as neighbours)
- Grandison Plasterwork
- Northgate Flower shop
- Southern Upland Partnership – letter of support rec'd
- Mindful Pottery
- SB Community Learning & Development
- Tweed Togs
- Young people's groups
- Branching Upwards CIC ( [REDACTED] )
- Community Learning and Development ( [REDACTED] ) to engage 'hard to reach' young people
- Men's Shed
- Climate Beacons (environmental art initiative)
- Connecting Threads (tourism/culture initiative led by Tweed Forum/SUP)

*Other consultants/individuals engaged with so far:*

- [REDACTED] – re trees
- [REDACTED] – re trees
- [REDACTED] – Food History – see email
- [REDACTED] – History and Heritage – see email and Report on old mill wheel
- Ecologists – re wildlife/planting and biodiversity
- Renewable energy (solar) – see letter
- [REDACTED] – bike/metal recycling
- Forest School/Environmental education leaders
- Previous tenant's family
- Local chefs/caterers
- [REDACTED] – re social prescribing
- [REDACTED] – Ecotourism
- [REDACTED] – Ecotourism

Throughout the life of the project: ongoing co-production, collaboration and partnerships with community groups and local community, including full participation in wider decision-making and helping to shape the project's different strands. Communication through various channels (virtual and face to face).

Learning and volunteering opportunities for local community members – to take back home and replicate good practice, contribute to a healthy, sustainable and resilient community.

Networking and learning with wider communities of interest, for example offering learning visits to like-minded groups who wish to set up similar community projects.

## Jedderfield Group (Tweedgreen)

### Who are we?

The Jedderfield project has been put together by a group of Tweedgreen members who are all volunteers on the group. They are:

██████████: Forest School leader, environmental art creator, experience with various disabilities; social media experience (on behalf of various groups); website management skills.

██████████: co-founder of farmers' market (Sweden), established and ran organic vegetarian kitchen (Steiner school). Co-owned, renovated and managed a 20-bed hostel. Manages four self-catering properties (Peebles)

██████████: Tweedgreen steering group member and former treasurer. Médecins sans Frontières (MSF) UK board member and Chair for 2 years

- Coordinator MSF malaria working group, involving representing MSF at WHO and international research bodies
- Health adviser MSF (Holland) advising medical projects in many countries worldwide
- Country medical coordinator for MSF in remote areas
- Experience in writing guidelines and project proposals/planning

Currently

- Retired
- Tweeddale U3A groups coordinator
- Active member Global Justice Now (Edinburgh)
- Access issues in all activities

██████████: UHI Professor, 30 years' experience in community forestry, participatory environmental governance, land management decision-making; member of independent CATS application assessment panel for Forestry and Land Scotland; Co-author of a review of community tenure mechanisms for Scottish Land Commission (2018), Vice-chair, Community Woodland Association; co-leader of

Eshiels Community Wood buyout, member of Eshiels wood management subgroup, coordinating sustainable housing event (2020) on behalf of Tweedgreen

██████████: retired GP, chair and one of founder members of Tweedgreen, including project management during CCF project, strong interest in links between sustainability and health, previous member of Peebles Community Council and Peebles Community Trust

██████████: community development and engagement work (including Eshiels Community Wood, coordinating community tree planting), project management, Outdoors Environmental Sustainability Education (Masters) and Forest School leader, previous member of Peebles Community Council, community consultation on behalf of Peebles Community Trust, multigenerational growing projects, small-scale livestock management, managing self-catering accommodation. Extensive experience in fundraising via grant and trust fund applications, on behalf of environmental, wellbeing and community projects.

██████████: Tweedgreen secretary. Construction experience, agricultural engineering qualification, civil service and college experience (funding management), Steiner school working, large-scale vegetable growing. Co-owned, renovated and managed a 20-bed hostel. Manages four self-catering properties (Peebles)

██████████: member of Eshiels Wood sub-committee, chair of Tweeddale Community Woodfuel, co-founder of Tweedgreen. Experience of retrofitting old buildings sustainably.

██████████: Smallholder and small business owner with experience in animal husbandry/breeding/raising of swine, poultry and sheep. General farm work include fencing, maintenance and machinery operation. Skilled in property renovation and building maintenance. 20+ year experience in the field of quality and risk management across multiple sectors including nuclear, defence engineering and technology. Experience of carrying out CCTV surveillance system installations.

██████████ – (Food/farming history consultant) - writer and gardener with an MPhil in Museum Studies and a long-standing interest in the history of food. She

spent a year living the life of a late 19Cth ancestor, wrote about it each month for *The Herald*, and has written a book about the experience. She has been involved with both practical and management aspects of Carrifran Wildwood since its inception and is on the editorial board of Reforesting Scotland as well as writing for its journal.

**██████████** – (leading Heritage sub-group) has worked in the heritage sector for more than forty years, primarily in Scotland. He has:

- wide-ranging experience in heritage management and conservation issues having worked on hundreds of projects at archaeological sites and historic properties across Scotland
- an archaeological background having trained originally as an archaeologist, archaeological scientist, and artefact conservator. His work focusses on the care, protection and, when possible, preservation *in situ* of important historic and archaeological objects. He works enthusiastically together with others to attract and introduce new audiences to the many pleasures and benefits of Scotland's rich local heritage.
- worked previously for Historic Environment Scotland, Historic Scotland, Scottish Development Department (Ancient Monuments), National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland (now part of National Museums Scotland) and Wiltshire County Council's Library and Museum Service. Latterly, as Head of Collections at Historic Environment Scotland, his department was responsible for some 40,000+ historic and archaeological objects of national and international significance at over 170 historic properties across Scotland. Recently retired, he now continues to feed his curiosity about the past as a hobby and with the occasional consultancy!

## **Tweedgreen's other projects**

### **Secret Garden**

we have the lease of a growing area in Peebles which we coordinate in conjunction with other groups. This project received funding to make the garden dementia friendly. It is an inclusive community space.

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**Community Food Hub**

a temporary pilot project (Lottery funded) aimed at providing affordable food for the community, we managed premises and coordinated and delivered the project

**Woodfuel**

an ongoing self-sustaining group, based on a 'logs for labour' model, with drying and processing area, insurance, active membership etc

**Climate change funded project**

we managed 3 paid staff for 2 years based at the Bridge

**Other projects**

Ecoheroes with local schools, Carbon Conversations, 50:50 project and recipe book

## Jedderfield: supporting information and documents

### Scottish Government:

#### A. Community and wellbeing:

1) The National Performance Framework in Scotland (Scottish Government, 2018) initially came into being in 2007 and was relatively recently reviewed, as illustrated in this diagram. It is intended to reflect the values and aspirations of the people of Scotland, and the outcomes are aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Tackling inequality and increasing wellbeing are core to the purpose of the framework, and kindness, dignity and compassion are central values.

Key outcomes among the 11 in the framework include the following:

We respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination

We value, enjoy, protect and enhance our environment

We are healthy and active

We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe

2) <https://www.gov.scot/publications/towards-robust-resilient-wellbeing-economy-scotland-report-written-submissions-advisory-group-economic-recovery/>

#### B. Carbon reduction

1) <https://www.gov.scot/policies/renewable-and-low-carbon-energy/>

2) Also see references in SBC agenda (SBC 1, below)

#### C. SG Land use policy

**Scottish Government Update to the Climate Change Plan 2018-2032**

***Land-use, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)***

This will require us to move **appropriate** land out of farming as we currently understand it into forestry and peatland, and require those who manage our land for whatever purpose to embrace more sustainable practices (such as those set out in the agriculture chapter of this update).

Expanding the area of Scotland's forests and woodlands will contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and will also generate an important commercial natural resource, improve biodiversity and provide spaces for people to enjoy.

Working with the farming sector, we will boost our work on forestry and farming and develop models to increase woodland creation on both tenanted and owner-occupied farms, increasing the scale and scope of agro-forestry.

High value nature farming, including peatland restoration and agro-forestry will be considered and included in our policy and approach to future rural support, which will also include sustainable food production, emissions reduction, production of biofuel crops and appropriate land use change.

## **Agriculture**

We also believe that, with changes in farming practices, we have a sustainable future as one of the places in the world most suited to producing high quality meat, but with our farming approach altered so that this is done in accordance with best practice in emissions reduction. Moreover, were Scotland to cease to produce high quality food, and in particular meat, then that production would simply take place elsewhere, effectively resulting in no change to global emissions and with the potential that our carbon foot print would be higher.

We also recognise the need to maintain support for existing activities such as mixed livestock production, which promotes managed permanent grassland which can benefit biodiversity. Without that land use, land tends to revert to scrub, bracken, thistles, rushes and wasteland with negative visual appeal.

We will also open a discussion on optimum land uses beyond just farming and food production to multi-faceted land use.

A new policy proposal to explore options for land-use change to optimise uses beyond traditional farming and food production to multi-faceted land use

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Boosted existing support and agro forestry scheme through the launch of a new on farm and croft tree integration based demonstrator network and an additional £1.5 million to further support the integration of small woodlands on farmers and crofts across Scotland.

How best to incentivise and reward high value nature farming, including peatland restoration and agro-forestry will be considered and included in our policy and approach to future rural support, which will also include sustainable food production, emissions reduction, production of biofuel crops and appropriate land use change.

New on farm and croft tree integration demonstrator network launched and other opportunities to support increase planting of trees, hedgerows and agroforestry

Explore with the farming and forestry sectors how best to increase planting of trees and hedgerows which optimise carbon sequestration, including the role of agroforestry.

At the same time, we must optimise land use: we want farmers and crofters to produce food for people and livestock more sustainably, but we also want them to use appropriate land to support carbon sequestration and storage through planting trees and restoring peatland. We will also encourage them to farm products which can contribute to renewable energy ambitions, and to take a whole farm approach to their emissions.

## **Getting the best from our land A Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2016 - 2021**

### ***Principles for Sustainable Land Use***

Where land is highly suitable for a primary use (for example food production, flood management, water catchment management and carbon storage) this value should be recognised in decision-making. Land which is capable of producing the widest variety of crops (identified as being of Class 1, 2 or 3.1 in the land capability classification for agriculture, as developed by the Macaulay Land Use Research Institute).

Farmers combining food production with other land uses, including farm woodlands, renewables, flood management, etc. to make the best use of their land.

Principles for Sustainable Land Use:

Opportunities for land use to deliver multiple benefits should be encouraged

c) Where land is highly suitable for a primary use (for example food production, flood management, water catchment management and carbon storage) this value should be recognised in decision-making

d) Land use decisions should be informed by an understanding of the functioning of the ecosystems which they affect in order to maintain the benefits of the ecosystem services which they provide.

h) Outdoor recreation opportunities and public access to land should be encouraged, along with the provision of accessible green space close to where people live, given their importance for health and well-being.

i) People should have opportunities to contribute to debates and decisions about land use and management decisions which affect their lives and their future.

j) Opportunities to broaden our understanding of the links between land use and daily living should be encouraged.

**D. Community Asset Transfer**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/asset-transfer-under-community-empowerment-scotland-act-2015-guidance-community-9781786527509/>

We are committed to supporting our communities to do things for themselves, and to make their voices heard in the planning and delivery of services... making it easier for communities to take over land and buildings in public ownership through asset transfer... As part of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, local authorities have certain duties in relation to common good property. The purpose of these duties is to increase:

community involvement in decisions regarding them, including their identification and how they are used and disposed of

The Act dictates that local authorities must:

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publish details of any proposals to dispose of or change the use of common good assets, and open these proposals to community councils for consultation

From the Guidance: 1.2. Ownership or control of land and buildings is a powerful tool for communities to drive change and achieve their own goals. In the first place it provides a base for activities and services that might not otherwise be accessible to members of a particular community, and can provide jobs, training and bring income to the local area. More widely, it can provide stability and sustainability for the community organisation, allowing them to develop new initiatives and support other developing groups, and it can create a stronger sense of community identity, cohesion and involvement.

**E. Scottish Government Programme:**

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/protecting-scotland-renewing-scotland-governments-programme-scotland-2020-2021/>

Emphasis on lifelong health and wellbeing

Skills and young people

Reducing inequality

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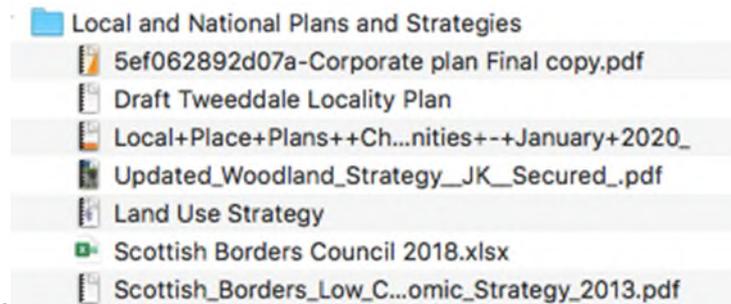
Scottish Borders Council position:

## A. Climate emergency

Report for discussion on 25.9.20 about declaring climate emergency;

<https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s45955/Item%20No.%209%20-%20Responding%20to%20the%20Climate%20Emergency%20report.pdf>

[https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/news/article/3930/council\\_to\\_build\\_upon\\_steps\\_already\\_taken\\_to\\_help\\_tackle\\_climate\\_change](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/news/article/3930/council_to_build_upon_steps_already_taken_to_help_tackle_climate_change)



## B. Other documents

### 1. Tweeddale Locality Plan 2020

‘The Tweeddale Area Partnership’ 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.’

Environmental, social, health, community and economy – our project fits with many of the outcomes: reduction of social isolation, access to green space, reducing inequalities, energy efficiency...

## C. Explanation of Common Good (Andy Wightman)

[http://www.andywightman.com/docs/commongoodguide\\_v6.pdf](http://www.andywightman.com/docs/commongoodguide_v6.pdf)

## **Specific project areas:**

### **A. Growing:**

SBC Food growing strategy consultation:

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

### **B. Biodiversity:**

a) Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)

[https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/928/local\\_biodiversity\\_action\\_plan](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/928/local_biodiversity_action_plan)

SBC duty delivery report on biodiversity

[https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/2211/biodiversity\\_duty\\_delivery\\_report](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/2211/biodiversity_duty_delivery_report)

### **C. Treeplanting:**

Committee on Climate Change report 2019 (UK)

<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/net-zero-the-uks-contribution-to-stopping-global-warming/>

Scottish Forestry - Scottish policy on linking climate change and forestry

<https://forestry.gov.scot/forests-environment/climate-change>