

Introduction of Byelaws to

prohibit the consumption of alcohol in designated public places

in the Scottish Borders

ENGAGEMENT BOOKLET AND QUESTIONNAIRE

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BACKGROUND ENGAGEMENT BOOKLET AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Scottish Borders Council is asking members of the public to submit their views on proposed Byelaws Prohibiting the Consumption of Alcohol in Designated Public Places.

The public engagement process is open until **midnight on 17 January 2014**.

WHAT DO THE BYELAWS MEAN?

The Byelaws would:

- provide an additional tool for the police to reduce anti-social behaviour through early intervention.
- allow the Council and its partners to meet the top priority of the Borders public, as identified in the 2008, 2009 and 2010 Scottish Borders Household Surveys, 'Making the Borders a safer place in which to live, work and visit'.
- help the Council and its partners to support the following five Licensing Objectives:
 - preventing crime and disorder
 - securing public safety
 - preventing public nuisance
 - protecting and improving public health
 - protecting children from harm.

DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACES

SO DOES THIS MEAN THERE WOULD BE A PENALTY FOR DRINKING IN PUBLIC?

If Byelaws were implemented in certain areas of the Borders, the police would have the power to issue a fine of up to £500 if an individual was found to be consuming alcohol in a designated public place.

WHAT ABOUT DRINKING DURING COMMON RIDINGS OR IN MY OWN BACK GARDEN?

The proposed Byelaws would NOT apply for:

- the Border Common Ridings and local Summer Festivals
- Hogmanay - New Year's Eve
- licensed establishments e.g. beer gardens
- private homes e.g. back garden barbeques etc.

DO OTHER AREAS OF SCOTLAND HAVE BYELAWS?

Scottish Borders Council is the only council in Scotland not to have such Byelaws in place. The Byelaws already apply in 480 towns and villages across Scotland.

IN WHICH AREAS OF THE BORDERS WILL THE BYELAWS BE IMPLEMENTED?

The designated areas have not yet been determined. The Council is asking for your views on whether you think the Byelaws should only be applied to certain towns.

INVOLVEMENT

WHO WAS INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING THE BYELAWS?

The proposed Byelaws are based on the National Model Byelaws. Officers from Scottish Borders Council, Alcohol and Drugs Partnership and Police Scotland have considered and developed these proposals.

WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE AND/OR GET INVOLVED IN DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE BYELAWS?

The proposed Byelaws will be discussed at the following Area Forums and members of the public are welcome to attend:

- **CHEVIOT** - Wednesday 6 November 2013
- **EILDON** - Wednesday 13 November 2013
- **TEVIOT & LIDDESDALE** - Tuesday 19 November 2013
- **TWEEDDALE** - Wednesday 27 November 2013
- **BERWICKSHIRE** - Thursday 5 December 2013

Venues and times will be confirmed nearer the time, so please check www.scotborders.gov.uk/areaforums or call 0300 100 1800 for details.

You can also consult your local Community Council. They will be considering this between now and the time of your local Area Forum meeting.

VIEWS

WE ARE KEEN TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS

HOW CAN I SUBMIT MY VIEWS?

BY HAND

Complete the attached questionnaire and hand it into any SBC office or venue.

BY POST

Complete the attached questionnaire and post it to the address below:

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Scottish Borders Council | Council Headquarters | Newtown St Boswells
MELROSE | TD6 0SA

ONLINE

visit www.scotborders.gov.uk/consultations and complete the online survey.

Please remember you can visit any one of our libraries to use the internet free-of-charge.

GOT A QUESTION?

If you have a query about the Byelaws you can:

email: legal@scotborders.gov.uk | tel: 01835 825002 or 01835 825006

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I SUBMIT MY VIEWS?

Once this engagement process closes at midnight on **17 January 2014**, all the responses received will be analysed by SBC and will inform a report to Council scheduled for early part of 2014. This report will contain recommendations for the development of the Byelaws. There will then be a formal Statutory Consultation process. The Byelaws will then need the approval of Scottish Ministers to allow them to be implemented.

ENGAGEMENT

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF ALCOHOL BYELAWS IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS

Please tick relevant box

1. **Do you think Byelaws prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in designated public places in the Scottish Borders should exist?** (These Byelaws do not apply to private spaces like a back garden or any outdoor licensed area like a licensed beer garden)

 YES NO MAYBE

Do you have any comments about having the Byelaws in place?

2. **The proposed exemptions to the Byelaws are 1) Border Common Ridings and local Summer Festivals, 2) Hogmanay - New Year's Eve.**

 YES NO MAYBE

Do these exemptions make sense?

3. **Should the Byelaws apply to towns with 1500 people or more?** (Hawick, Galashiels, Peebles, Kelso, Selkirk, Jedburgh, Innerleithen, Eyemouth, Duns, Tweedbank, Melrose, Coldstream, Earlston)

 YES NO MAYBE

4. **Should the Byelaws also apply to towns with 500 to 1500 people?** (West Linton, Lauder, Newtown St. Boswells, Chirnside, St. Boswells, Newcastleton, Yetholm, Coldingham, Walkerburn, Clovenfords, Eddleston, Stow, Greenlaw, Ayton, Cardrona)

 YES NO MAYBE

5. Do you have any comments regarding where the Byelaws should be applied?

6. Do you have any other comments regarding the potential Byelaws?

7. **What area of the Scottish Borders do you live in?**

Please tick relevant box

Berwickshire (Towns - Eyemouth, Duns, Coldstream)

Cheviot (Towns - Kelso, Jedburgh, Yetholm)

Eildon (Towns - Galashiels, Selkirk, Lauder, Melrose)

Teviot and Liddesdale (Towns - Hawick, Denholm, Newcastleton)

Tweeddale (Towns - Peebles, Innerleithen, West Linton, Walkerburn)

Outwith the Scottish Borders

8. **Are you happy for your comments to be publicly available?**

YES

NO

If you would like your name to be attributed to the comments please give your details below.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS
COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MIDNIGHT
ON 17 JANUARY 2014

