

community engagement toolbox

SCOTTISH BORDERS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP
2015 - 2018

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOOLBOX?

Sometimes also referred to as a toolkit, a community engagement toolbox contains information to help plan and undertake community engagement.

ARE THERE ANY TOOLBOXES THAT I CAN USE?

Scottish Borders Community Planning Partnership (CPP) has developed a framework for community engagement. This is supported by a CPP, and a separate SBC specific, toolkit. Both are available on the Council's website.

www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityengagement

www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityplanning

Toolboxes have been developed by a number of other organisations which could be used to further support the community engagement of Scottish Borders Council and partners. Two of the most comprehensive are produced by the Forestry Commission and the Scottish Health Council.

The Forestry Commission toolbox includes 58 different engagement tools ranging from displays to Planning for Real and from newsletters to shared decision making.

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/toolbox>

The Participation Toolkit from the Scottish Health Council includes 32 tools; some, but not all, are covered by the Forestry Commission toolbox. It also includes checklists and suggested icebreakers to help get discussion started.

http://www.scottishhealthcouncil.org/patient_public_participation/participation_toolkit/the_participation_toolkit.aspx#

When undertaking community engagement it is essential to plan properly what will be done, by who and when, whilst being mindful that 'one size does not fit all'. Different projects will require different engagement methods which will in turn require different levels of financial and/or staff resource. The level, methods and resources required should be identified at the planning stage.

To assist with selecting the most appropriate community engagement methods an online, free to use, tool has been developed by Dialogue by Design:

<http://www.dialoguebydesign.net>

The list of methods isn't exhaustive but will give users ideas that can then be built on.



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