

Scottish Borders Community Councils'  
Network

[REDACTED]  
KELSO  
[REDACTED]

**Please**

**ask for:**

**Our Ref:**

**Your Ref:**

**E-Mail:**

**Date:**

Clare Malster  
JC/CM/AW

communityengagement@scotborders.  
gov.uk

27 March 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

**PARTICIPATION REQUEST UNDER THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT  
2015  
DECISION NOTICE - REFUSED**

This Decision Notice relates to the participation request made by Scottish Borders Community Councils' Network on 1 March 2019 in relation to the outcome to ensure that all worthwhile applications are taken forward to the Localities Bid Fund public vote and participation is embedded throughout the process.

Scottish Borders Council has decided to refuse the request. The reason for this decision is as follows:

- Scottish Borders Council agreed at its meeting on 28 September 2017 that the pre-assessment check will comprise the Communities & Partnership Team ensuring that the application forms have been completed satisfactorily, meet the priorities and outcomes of the SBC Corporate Plan and the CPP Community Plan and are appropriate for the Localities Bid Fund, or if there are other, more appropriate funding streams. All applications will be presented to the Borders Assessment Panel with a recommendation for the Panel's consideration.
- Scottish Borders Council agreed at its meeting on 28 June 2018 that the membership of the Borders Assessment Panel to be all Area Partnership Chairs, Vice Chairs and key SBC officers, and to be chaired by the Executive Member for Neighbourhoods and Locality Services.

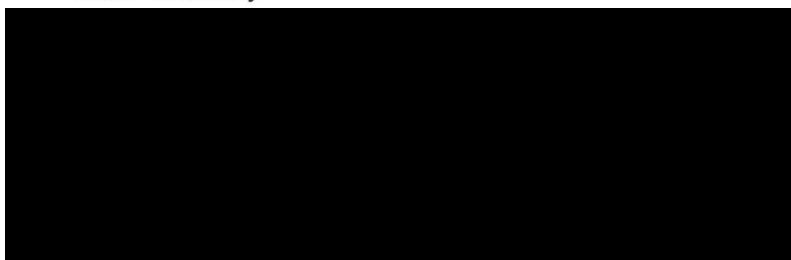
The role of the Assessment Panel is to confirm that applications meet the necessary criteria before they go forward to a public vote. The Panel does not decide on the merits or otherwise of any application. Any changes to the above process, or to the membership or remit of the Borders Assessment Panel, must be approved at a meeting of Scottish Borders Council. The next meeting of Scottish Borders Council will take place on 28 March 2019 and the Assessment Panel has already met.

At its meeting on 28 February 2019, Scottish Borders Council agreed to combine the Localities Bid Fund monies along with other grant funding into a Community Fund to be devolved to each Area Partnership. A further report on the interim governance arrangements for this new Fund is to be considered at the next Council meeting on 28 March.

As discussed at our meeting on 14 March 2019, and subject to Council agreement, we will carry out a wide ranging consultation on future arrangements. The Scottish Borders Community Councils' Network, as well as individual Community Councils, are key stakeholders who will be involved in this consultation.

If you have any questions about the participation request process please contact the Communities & Partnership Team at [communityengagement@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@scotborders.gov.uk) or by telephone on 01835 826626

Yours sincerely



**JENNI CRAIG**  
**SERVICE DIRECTOR CUSTOMER & COMMUNITIES**