



Peter Maudsley
Chair
Peebles and District Community Council
By email:
Peter-mariner@hotmail.co.uk

Please ask for: David Robertson
Our Ref: DR/FC
Your Ref:
E-Mail: David.Robertson@scotborders.gov.uk
Date: 15 September 2025

Dear Peter

Thank you for copying me into your latest Chair's report to Peebles Community Council. I note this contains reference to our meeting at Council Headquarters. I am glad you found this helpful, as I certainly did, and it was nice to be able to meet you in person. Thank you also for the information you provided, in particular the report on the usage of the Drill Hall and its future plans, this will be hugely helpful in informing our thinking and advice to Elected Members.

I must admit, however, that I was not under the impression that a further response from me was required following this meeting, beyond the wording you asked me to provide with regard to the Integratis report which I have provided previously.

I have reflected on your comments, Peter, about the relationship between Scottish Borders Council and local Community Councils and our previous discussions on this matter. Scottish Borders Council wish to have a good working relationship with all our Community Councils and greatly value the contribution you make. We are keen to ensure more effective communication between ourselves and all of the Community Councils across the region. Communication is however a two-way process and cannot be based on Community Council's waiting to receive information from SBC and then complaining when it does not meet with expectations.

In order to try and improve matters, there are several dedicated Community Conversations being set up. Community Council Chairs will be invited to take part in a dedicated meeting with Scottish Borders Council on 21 October on Microsoft Teams. This is an opportunity for CC chairs to feedback on what matters to you and your community as we plan for the budget 26/27 and also help us to find effective ways to work collaboratively together. Wider Community Conversations will commence in the 5 localities during September and October, Community Council members will be welcome to attend these sessions, which again we hope will be widely attended and to which all are welcome. Details of these events will be issued shortly with information going on our website imminently and further email communication with posters to be circulated.

Our Community Engagmeent Officers are always willing to discuss any community needs and to help bridge any gap between communities and the Council.

I hope this update is helpful and I wish you well in your operation and a speedy and full recovery.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Robertson", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

DAVID ROBERTSON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE