



Community Council of the Royal Burgh of Peebles & District

28 April 2024

David Robertson
Chief Executive Officer
Scottish Borders Council
Newtown St Boswells
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By email

Dear David

Observations on Integrated Impact Assessments

Historically, PCC and the Parent Council had concerns over the lack of an upfront Equality Impact Assessment for the new Peebles High School. Finally, one was conducted, and we note that a new procedure relating to Integrated Impact Assessments was produced in December 2023, possibly because of the concerns previously raised. This is now water under the bridge, and we can move on. However, at the last PCC meeting I took an action to pass on some observations that were made, some positive and some you may find helpful. PCC, in common with many other community councils, has a range of skills, both current and retired and in this case the IIA system has been reviewed by both legal and executive HSEQ audit experienced professionals.

We consider that the new SBC, IIA procedures are excellent. However, we were informed by Iain Davidson via Robin Tatler that there is no single person responsible for oversight, and that department heads are all individually responsible. We suggest that this may lead to a lack of identifying training needs, a possible lack of targeted internal audit and consequential nonconformance monitoring and thus possible lapses in following procedures. We hope this is useful feedback.

Yours Faithfully

Peter Maudsley
Chair

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