



Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal

Progress Update - November 2018



The Story So Far

The Borderlands Partnership brings together the five cross-border local authorities: Carlisle City Council; Cumbria County Council; Dumfries and Galloway Council; Northumberland County Council and Scottish Borders Council.

Collectively we have drawn together the Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal proposal which was submitted to the UK and Scottish Governments at the end of September. Its strategy-led approach reflects the unique characteristics of the Borderlands and provides clarity on how we will deliver transformational economic development.

It includes four place-based projects: the redevelopment of Chapelcross former power station in Dumfries and Galloway; Mountain Bike Innovation Centre in the Scottish Borders; Berwick Theatre and Conference Centre in Northumberland and Carlisle Station Gateway in Cumbria.

In addition, we have developed six Borderlands wide programmes: Digital Borderlands; Borderlands Energy Investment Company; Destination Borderlands; Quality of Place; Knowledge Exchange Network and Business Infrastructure Programme. We believe, that collectively, these will deliver benefits across the wider Borderlands geography. The document submitted to the Governments also highlights areas where the Borderlands partners are seeking to work jointly with the UK and Scottish Governments going forward, linked to strategic transport schemes and land and marine management.

The key strategic cross-border project, to carry out feasibility work for extending the Borders Railway from Carlisle to Tweedbank, will benefit the whole region and is also included in the Borderlands proposal.

Positive Progress

Following the submission of a Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal proposal to the UK and Scottish Governments at the end of September, progress continues to be made with a view to agreeing 'Heads of Terms' for the Deal early in 2019.

Positive meetings have taken place with key government ministers following submission of the proposal. The local authority leaders met with David Mundell MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, and Jake Berry MP, Northern Powerhouse Minister, at Westminster; and with Michael Matheson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity in Edinburgh. Ministers' expressed their ongoing support for a future Borderlands Deal.



Budget Support

The Chancellor also reiterated the UK Government's support in his recent budget statement for a future Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, with ongoing discussions taking place between the partnership and both Governments.

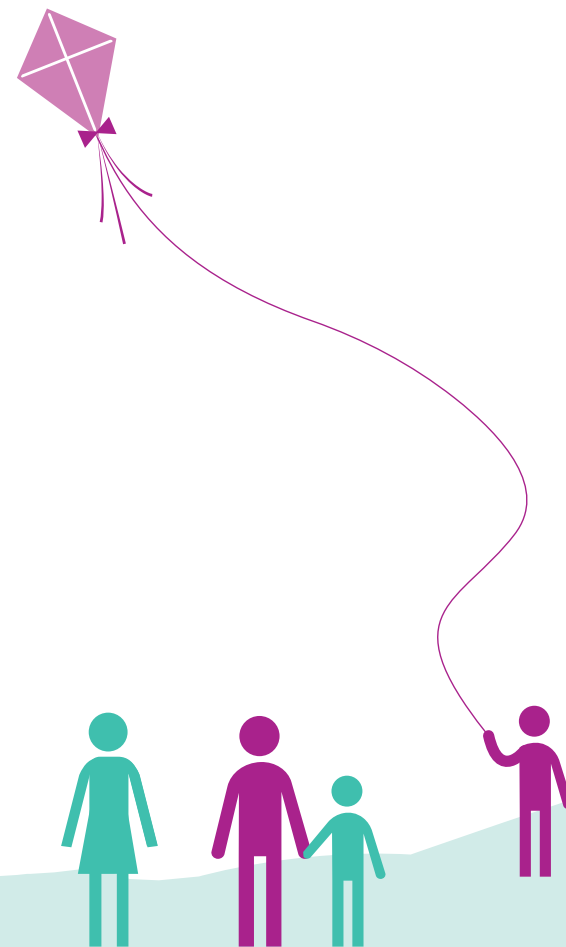
Some significant work is still required to reach Heads of Terms, which will be the foundation of a final Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal, but discussions are progressing well and there is a collective will from both Governments and the Partnership to see it done.

Other announcements in the budget will also benefit Borderlands towns, such as the allocation of £200million to pilot innovative approaches to rolling out full fibre broadband in rural locations, and vouchers for nearby homes and businesses. There are also possible opportunities for some of our towns in England to be supported by the Future High Streets Fund. The Scottish Government is already committed to delivering superfast broadband to 100 per cent of properties and to supporting community led regeneration through a range of activities. Its budget announcement is due in December.

Next steps

We continue to work closely with both Governments on the next steps to deliver on our ambitions for the whole of the Borderlands region. We will let you know the outcome.

We will also provide updates at www.Borderlandsgrowth.com or email us at info@borderlandsgrowth.com



The Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal is being delivered by the following partners:

