

**Please ask for:** Donna Manson  
**Our Ref:** DM/AW  
**Your Ref:**  
**E-Mail:** donna.manson@scotborders.gcsx.gov.uk  
**Date:** 16 February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer/Staff Member/Community Member

### **Secondary School Estates Review Workshops**

In November 2017 Scottish Borders Council Executive Committee agreed next steps in reviewing the school estate. There are four secondary school communities which have not had a new build: Galashiels Academy, Hawick High School, Peebles High School and Selkirk High School.

In order to develop a priority order for future investment, the Executive Committee instructed that a deep assessment was carried out in each of the schools. The focus for this assessment is the suitability, condition and capacity of each school as well as the readiness and opportunities within each community to deliver an exciting vision in the Schools for the Future programme.

Work began on this in late 2017 and since this time, officers have met with Head teachers and Parent Council Chairs in each of the settings, have undertaken walk around visits of each campus, attended Parent Council meetings and undertaken physical survey activities. The next stage is for a workshop to be held in each secondary school which will involve pupils, parents and the community as well as officers from Scottish Borders Council. It will present information about the existing estate and potential opportunities for the future. There will also be an informal consultation where we are looking for as wide a range of views as possible.

The workshops will be held on –

6 March 2018 at Galashiels Academy – 11am-2pm Pupils and School Staff, 2.15-8pm Open to Community

20 March 2018 at Selkirk High School - 11am-2pm Pupils and School Staff, 2.15-8pm Open to Community

21 March 2018 at Hawick High School - 11am-2pm Pupils and School Staff, 2.15-8pm Open to Community

26 March 2018 at Peebles High School - 11am-2pm Pupils and School Staff, 2.15-8pm Open to Community

The consultation will run from 6 March until 6 April. Details of this will be circulated at the workshops, through each school, and through social media.

All of the information gathered from the process and the workshops is to be presented to Scottish Borders Council Executive in May 2018. This will enable them to consider next steps for each of the communities in taking forward proposals.

I very much encourage you to participate in this exciting opportunity as fully as possible for your school and community. I look forward to meeting you at the workshops.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donna Manson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

**Donna Manson**  
**Service Director Children & Young People**