

Please ask for:

Declan Hall – Elections

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Date:

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Dear Community Members,

Following on from our recent correspondence about improving accessibility at elections, I would like to invite you to attend an **Accessibility at Elections Workshop** on **Monday 6 April at 1pm**, taking place at **Council Headquarters**.

These sessions are designed to be **listening-focused**, with the purpose of hearing directly from attendees about their experiences and the barriers they or the people they support face when participating in elections. We want to understand what we can do better, what is currently difficult, and what improvements would make a meaningful difference.

We also want to make it clear that this workshop is intended to be the start of an ongoing journey of working together. Your continued involvement and partnership are key to shaping a more inclusive and accessible voting experience—not just for the upcoming Scottish Parliament election in May, but as part of our wider, long-term commitment to improving accessibility at all future elections in the Scottish Borders.

We recognise that attending in person at our headquarters may not be possible or convenient for everyone. If it is easier for you or your group, we are very happy to **travel to meet people in their own communities** or attend sessions hosted by local organisations. Our aim is to make engagement as accessible as possible, and we will adapt to whatever format works best.

The workshop on 6 April will include:

- **Open group discussions**
- **Break-out conversations** on specific themes
- A **collaborative, workshop-style approach** where all contributions are welcomed and valued

If you are able to attend, please let us know by replying to this email. If you have any specific access requirements, please mention these so we can make appropriate arrangements.

We look forward to beginning this shared journey with you and greatly appreciate your support in helping us make elections fair, inclusive, and accessible for everyone.

Warm regards,

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