



Scottish Borders Construction Forum



Are you a Trusted Trader?

Be one of the first 25 applicants for the new Scottish Borders scheme and get 50% off! - see page 3 for all the details

Boost your business profile



Become a Scottish Borders Trusted Trader:

- ✓ Members vetted by Trading Standards
- ✓ Scheme backed and promoted by the Council
- ✓ Scheme supported by Police Scotland

To learn more visit: www.trustedtrader.scot

Tel: 0333 444 1283 or email: info@trustedtrader.scot



Background to SBCF

The Scottish Borders Construction Forum has been set up to discover how best to help and assist Borders Trades People, Local Businesses and Trade Suppliers (as individuals or collectively) to make more of the opportunities that the transition into energy efficiency and net zero will offer. Such a forum existed before, and its loss has left a noticeable vacuum.

In 2021 a wide range of likeminded individuals, organisations and agencies came together to set up Scottish Borders Construction Forum.

The Forum aims to provide a central point for all construction sector businesses, organisations, sole traders and associated bodies to share information, provide training opportunities and keep the sector informed on market changes.

There is an urgent need to look ahead and establish how to best prepare for future opportunities, especially with regard to the impacts of climate change on the construction sector and through PAS 2030/35

To date the Forum has held 9 Steering Group Meetings, produced a series of 12 Webinars, circulated over 3500 information fliers through trade outlets, events and direct to tradespeople and provides regular industry news through its Facebook Page.

Planned for 2023 are training opportunities and Steering Group Meetings. Like our Facebook page to stay informed.

Our aim is to support local people to work locally and to benefit from the opportunities that energy efficiency will bring.

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SCOTTISH
BORDERS TRUSTED
TRADER**

**SBHA
OPPORTUNITIES
FOR LOCAL
TRADESPEOPLE**

**GREEN SKILLS
TRAINING AT
BORDERS COLLEGE**

**REGISTER WITH
CITB FOR MEMBER
BENEFITS**

**DOWNLOAD OUR
FREE TRAINING
AND
ACCREDITATION
GUIDES**

Member benefits from CITB

The Skills and Training Fund SME gives employers up to £10k of Funding for Construction Related Training (depending on company size), their Advisers can provide support and guidance for any employers looking to access the Funding, the application process is straightforward and payment (depending on credit check) can be made upfront.

Employers with CIS only (no PAYE) can receive up to £2500. The Skills and Training Fund Medium gives employers up to £25k. There's also Apprenticeship Grants up to £14.5k for relevant Scottish Construction Apprenticeships.

Qualification Grants are available for the achievement of VQ's, Short Period (up to 1 Year) and Longer period (Over 1 Year) qualifications such as HNC/HND and Degree's.

CITB have a team of Advisers who would be more than happy to engage with employers to ensure they are benefitting from the full CITB offering. Contact Barry Dawson barry.dawson@citb.co.uk to see how CITB can help your business

Become a Scottish Borders Trusted Trader!

50% off for first 25 applicants

(annual fee will be reduced by 50% to £100 + VAT (£120) on a first come first served basis.)

As construction regulations and guidelines change, businesses that are part of a quality assurance scheme could well be ahead of the game. Scottish Borders has just joined a growing number of Local Authorities across Scotland by endorsing a local Trusted Trader scheme. Business that wish to be a part of the scheme go through a vetting process to ensure quality and consistency. To find out more and get your business on the list call 0333 444 1283 or email info@trustedtrader.scot

The scheme has an annual membership fee of £200 + VAT (£240). This covers the vetting process, administration and promotion of the Trusted Trader scheme.

Web links:

www.trustedtrader.scot

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20004/business/1284/scottish_borders_trusted_trader

Scottish Borders Trusted Trader

..promoting and supporting businesses like yours

Roofer



Joiner

Plumber



Gardener

Tiler



Stonemason

Plasterer

Mechanic

Builder

Electrician

Locksmith

Kitchen Designer

Handyman

www.trustedtrader.scot



SBHA Opportunities for Local Tradespeople



Julia Mulloy CE SBHA

Scottish Borders Housing Association (SBHA) is committed to the Community Wealth Building outcomes for the whole of the Scottish Borders area, this includes supporting all sectors and awarding where possible local contracts.

SBHA's most recent opportunity in construction is The Provision of Supply and Installation of External Doors. With a total of 600 doors split into a possible 3 lots, covering LOT 1 Denholm, Hawick and Newmill, LOT 2 – Jedburgh and Lot 3 – Ancrum,

Bonchester, Lilliesleaf, Newcastleton and Southdean, although SBHA retain the right to award contracts combining lots or groups of lots.

Additionally, SBHA is also seeking to award a contract for the provision of tree surgery and related maintenance works within its housing developments across the region. SBHA welcomes all local contractors to download, free of charge from www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk the related Tender documentation.

Demonstrating the Association's specific commitment to the local construction sector, in 2022-23 SBHA awarded a total of 10 Contracts, of varying duration, at an annual value of £1,407,745 inc. VAT to 7 local businesses based in the Scottish Borders.

SBHA will continue to support our local businesses through regular contact outlining our opportunities and understanding local capacity.



Green Skills Training from Borders College. The courses on offer cover key areas and combine online learning with onsite practical elements on a college campus near you, to ensure you gain the skills and qualifications employers really value.

We're here to help your business develop. With so many options for training and funding available we want to make it easy for you to find the package that suits your business. You can browse our information to find out about the learning opportunities available, and when you're ready - get in touch with us.

One of our Learning Consultants will then arrange to meet with you, either in person or online, and help you to build a package of learning to allow you, and your company develop. As part of this process, we will advise on any funding opportunities that are available to you.

Energy Efficiency and Microgeneration Systems

The National Energy Efficiency Transition Support and Heat Pump Training Fund, supported by ESP has been put in place by the Scottish Government to support those in the energy, engineering and construction sectors whose careers have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Green Skills Training Opportunities

- Sustainable Construction Awareness
- Introduction to airtight construction and testing
- An Introduction to thermal imaging for construction and engineering

- Mechanical ventilation heat recovery systems
- Renewable technology awareness
- BPEC Heat pump systems
- BPEC Solar hot water systems
- BPEC Unvented hot water systems
- Water bylaws
- Battery storage systems
- EV charge point installation
- Smart Home Control systems
- Electric / Hybrid Vehicle Awareness
- External wall insulation systems

Funding

You could be eligible for funding through the Flexible Workforce Development Fund (FWDF)

Supported by the Energy Saving Trust

Energy Saving Trust is an independent organisation dedicated to promoting energy efficiency, low carbon transport and sustainable energy use. We aim to address the climate emergency and deliver the wider benefits of clean energy as we transition to net zero.

In association with Energy Skills Partnership
ESP is a collaboration of Scotland's colleges and industry partners established to increase Scotland's capability and capacity to deliver the right skills for the energy, engineering and construction sectors to meet industry demand.
Find out more

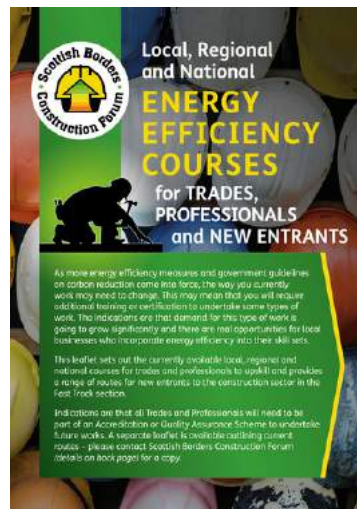
To find out more about the courses or funding available, for any of the courses listed above, please contact debi@borderscollege.ac.uk or visit the Green Skills pages at the link below:

Download our FREE Guides

As part of our Community Renewal Fund work we have compiled information on all Energy Efficiency courses for trades, professionals and new entrants to help you find the right one.

Our Local, Regional and National Energy Efficiency Courses for Trades, Professionals and New Entrants leaflet sets out the currently available local, regional and national courses for trades and professionals to upskill and provides a range of routes for new entrants to the construction sector in the Fast Track section. The leaflet highlights courses that have access to training funds and if the course is a route to accreditation through MCS.

Download: <https://bit.ly/3pnPPYe>



Finding the right accreditation scheme can be challenging so we have compiled the most requested information into a useful leaflet Accreditation, Competent Persons and Quality Assurance Schemes.

The leaflet provides information on MCS, Trustmark, OVEZ (electric vehicle charging), DEA (energy assessors) and a range of Competent Person Schemes for all technologies and construction sector roles.

Download: <https://bit.ly/3SWdgWf>

Retrofitting Older Properties?

A new article from from Joe Martin of BCIS as featured in PBC Today explores the challenges around retrofitting older properties

Read the full article here: <https://www.pbctoday.co.uk/news/energy-news/great-british-retrofit-challenges-to-retrofitting-older-properties/127622>

Are you on the Renewables Installer List?

Energy Savings Trust have a really useful tool for homeowners and businesses to find a qualified installer.

If you are registered with MCS it's easy to add your details to the directory here: <https://rif.est.org.uk/>

Catchup on the SBCF Webinar Series...

We have recorded 12 webinars for you to watch on YouTube or Facebook

- Retrofitting Traditional Buildings for Energy Efficiency, Roger Curtis, Historic Environment Scotland
- Scotland's Insulation Challenge, George Donaldson and Wilson Shaw, National Insulation Association of Scotland
- Retrofit Roles, PAS 2035 - An Overview and Opportunity, Jonathon Bourke, Elmhurst Energy
- Integrating Renewable Energy into Buildings, Ranald Boydell
- Green Construction, Greg Steel, Borders College
- Funding, Training and Apprenticeship information for Sole Traders and Small Businesses, Borders College, Skills Development Scotland, Construction Industry Training Board and Energy Skills Partnership.
- Understanding EPC's (Energy Performance Certificates), Kevin Andison, Borders College
- Digital Skills for Small Construction Businesses, Saffron Grant, Digital Construction Skills.
- Air Tightness and Heat Recovery - Considerations for Domestic Ventilation Strategies in Scotland, Stefan Huber, PAUL Heat Recovery
- Borders College Apprenticeship Webinar, Richard Cook, Borders College
- Climate Literacy, Scott McAulay and Ranald Boydell
- A Practical Guide to Retrofitting, Andy Walker, SURE Insulation

Borders Construction Forum YouTube Channel

www.youtube.com/channel/BordersConstructionForum

Facebook www.facebook.com/BordersConstructionForum

Looking for a New Career in Construction?

This fantastic site set up by CITB allows you to browse through 182 job roles to find out what you could be earning, the qualifications you need and how you can progress. There's information on training and you can read real feedback from people already working in the construction sector.

www.goconstruct.org/construction-careers/browse-all-job-roles/

The next SBCF Newsletter is out in September.

If you have a news item you'd like to include please email

bordersconstructionforum@gmail.com



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