

# TYNE ESK-SCOTTISH BORDERS ACCESS PROJECT: PHASE I

## APPLICANT

Midlothian Council

## TOTAL PROJECT COST

£29,795

£14,897.50

50%\*

£14,897.50

50%\*

Tyne Esk LEADER

Scottish Borders  
LEADER

## PROJECT AIMS

- Create better path links between the Scottish Borders and the East and Midlothian area
- Bring more people to these rural parts by connecting long distance routes in the south of the Scottish Borders to the John Muir Way
- Encourage more day-trip tourist to parts of the Scottish Borders and East and Midlothian
- Further develop the image of the Scottish Borders as a place with great access routes and bring East and Midlothian into the picture

\*Co-operation projects are funded to 100%

## PROJECT DETAIL

This project aimed to employ a consultant to plan and cost three long distance routes linking Tyne Esk and the Scottish Borders. The three routes were Dere Street, the Herring Road, and an off-road route across the Lammermuirs, all to be developed for walking and cycling.

Dere Street runs from Rochester in Kent to Soutra in Midlothian, and has historic significance as the main route between Scotland and England in the Middle Ages. Much of the route north of Soutra has been lost, so the project aimed to improve the existing route and design/cost work to continue it on this part. The Herring Road runs between Dunbar and Lauder and connects Scottish Borders to the John Muir Way. There was at the time of the project, no connection between Dunbar town centre and the start of the route, so the project also aimed to design and cost this out. The final job was to plan out cycling routes across the Lammermuirs based on existing wind farm tracks.

## RESULTS

Feasibility studies with options and detailed costings of the three routes were produced. These are being shared with community groups and interested parties who can take the routes forward. One such group is in Stow, Scottish Borders who are interested in the studies to inform their development of paths there and along the Borders Railway, into Midlothian. They have also engaged the consultant who with her knowledge and enthusiasm is maintaining momentum.

