

## CITATION

**KERSHOPE BRIDGE  
SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST**  
Scottish Borders

Site code: 839

NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE: NY 499834

OS 1:50,000 SHEET NO: Landranger Series 79  
1:25,000 SHEET NO: Explorer Series 324

AREA in Scotland: 5.33 ha.

## NOTIFIED NATURAL FEATURES

**Geological: Igneous Petrology: Carboniferous - Permian Igneous**

## DESCRIPTION:

Kershope Bridge SSSI is located 3 km east of the village of Kershopefoot in Liddesdale, and occurs on and alongside the Kershope Burn.

At this point, the border between Scotland and England is the mid-line of the Kershope Burn, and so whilst the bulk of the geological interest feature of this SSSI lies in Scotland, a small area of the feature is present along the south side of the Kershope Burn and is located in England. This land is also designated as SSSI, under English legislation.

In the Langholm area, the stratigraphy of the Lower Carboniferous is characterised by the occurrence of three groups of volcanic (igneous) rocks intercalated with sediments of the Northumberland Basin. The stream section and disused quarry at Kershope Bridge furnish the best sections of the series of igneous rocks collectively known as the Kershopefoot Basalt, as well as the sediments almost directly above and below. The weight of evidence supports an extrusive origin for the Kershopefoot Basalt at this locality. The rock is known to occupy more or less the same stratigraphic horizon over all of its outcrop, but may be locally more than one lava flow. The Kershopefoot Basalt is important in any geochemical or detailed mineralogical study of comparable volcanic rocks in the Midland Valley outcrops of Lower Carboniferous volcanics and, because of its position within the developing Northumberland Basin, it may be considered important in any reconstruction of the crustal evolution and palaeogeography of this part of northern Britain during Permo-Carboniferous times.

## NOTIFICATION HISTORY

First notified under the 1981 Act: 17 October 1983 covering land in Scotland and England.

Notification reviewed under the 2004 Act, covering land in Scotland only.  
29 March 2010

## REMARKS

Measured area of site corrected, and divided between Scotland and England (from 6.7 ha overall to 5.33 ha in Scotland, with 0.42 ha in England).

When formerly notified, this SSSI included land in England and Scotland. Different legislation and procedures now apply in each country.