

# Community Ownership

New Rights under the Community Empowerment Act  
Linda Gillespie



# Community Ownership Support Service

- COSS is part of the **Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS)**
- COSS is a Scottish Government funded programme, adviser led across all 32 LA areas, set up to :
  - help community-based groups take ownership of assets for community benefit – asset transfer
  - support local authorities and other public agencies (relevant authorities) to transfer assets into community ownership.

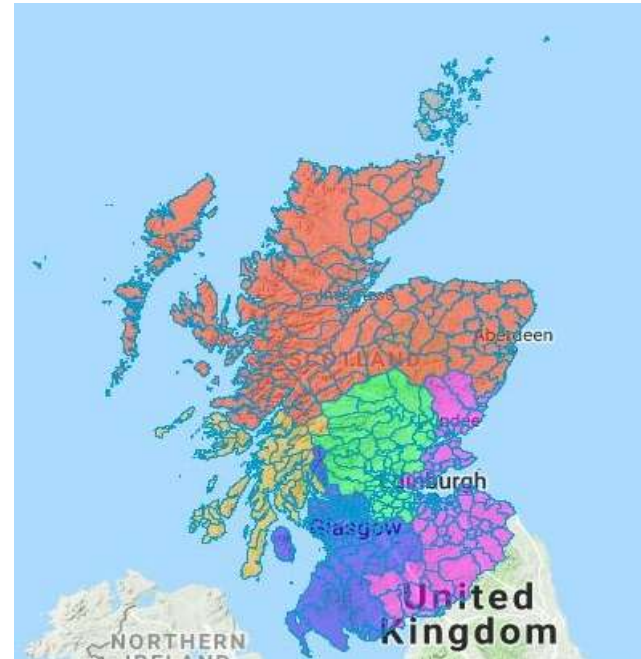
# Support

## One to One

- Whole of Scotland
- Advisors on the phone, via email and face to face support for groups

## Training Events

- Awareness raising
- Relevant topics and themes



[www.dtascommunityownership.org.uk](http://www.dtascommunityownership.org.uk)



**Development Trusts Association Scotland**

0131 225 2080

Any questions? [Contact us:](#)

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Email](#) [Phone](#) 0131 225 2080

[Home](#)

[Community](#) ▾

[Public Bodies](#)

[Resources](#)

[Events](#)

[Case Studies](#)

[About COSS](#)

[Contact Us](#)

## Community Asset Transfer

**Taking on an Asset - a step by step guide to an Asset Transfer Request**

[Find Out More](#) →

## Community Place Plans

**Grassroots, whole community, plans that make a difference.**

[Find Out More](#) →

## Community Rights

**Community Rights under Scottish Government legislation**

[Find Out More](#) →

## Public Bodies

**Transferring Assets - a guide to developing an asset transfer policy and processes**

[Find Out More](#) →



# Community Ownership is not new

- > 564,000 acres in community ownership
- 75,891 assets (**2,740 community assets**)
- Most common uses: housing, community halls/centres, amenity space (e.g. parks), business lets, cafes/restaurants
- Two thirds in remote rural (excluding housing)
- 1 in 20 in urban areas (38.9% of population)

Source: Community Ownership in Scotland: a baseline study, DTAS, 2012

: Scottish Government 1M Acres Research



# What do they do?

Provide childcare, make benches, manage office space, teach ICT, support small businesses, cook healthy food, recycle paper, support other community organisations, manage community centres, run cinemas, build, sell and rent out houses, undertake youth work, repair and sell bicycles, provide home help schemes for older people, run community transport schemes, lobby Councils for improvements on behalf of local people, undertake consultancy work, run schools for excluded young people, manage parks and play areas, own restaurants and cafes and pizzerias, have festivals & fun days & Dickensian Christmas Fairs, run credit unions, support neighbourhood management and other local initiatives, prisoner of war camps and Scottish government nuclear bunker development, set up social enterprises, homework clubs, DJ Workshops, run community energy projects, five a side football, manage Healthy Living Centres, district heating systems, support local artists, swimming pools and gyms, provide wedding and conference facilities, create web-sites, regenerate town centres, teach basic skills English and Maths, run bed and breakfasts, lend money, employ local people, run play schemes, sports days, teach construction skills, manage sports facilities, provide a refuge for women, publish community newsletters, teach catering skills, support community radio, make soap and bath stuff, run community arts projects, build footpaths and cycleways, manage renewable energy schemes, build green and affordable homes, manage grant funding, manage local markets and market halls, run community cohesion projects, manage street ranger schemes, install CCTV, own and manage shops, leisure centres, benefit advice and debt counselling, promote tourism, manage heritage sites, skills training, undertake social audits, own and run pubs and bars, build and manage BMX tracks, run Archaeology survey companies, provide sets for film and television productions, manage allotments, make chocolate (and sell it to Selfridges!), make jam (and sell it to the Co-op) from orchards providing jobs for people with learning disabilities, own hostels, build boats, run Tourist Information Centres, sheltered and special need housing, own abattoirs, provide ferry services, own cinemas and theatres and museums, event management, own a security company, run a taxi service, grow and sell food, support people to find work, own and manage harbours and pontoons, deliver high speed broadband, smokehouses, airports, doula services, make widgets for central heating, own castles and former Bishop's palaces, crofts and farms, run the Post Office, have a photography company which creates jobs for young people, employ people with special needs, community bulk-buying schemes, make films, own camping and caravan sites, run a nightclub, refurbish playparks, run cemeteries...

# The Kyle Centre







# Campbeltown



Tea and a blether

For more information visit [www.visitcampbeltown.com](http://www.visitcampbeltown.com)

Campbeltown Christmas Lights Group Presents a

*Winter Ball*

Saturday 19th November 2016 from 6.30pm, venue:

*Campbeltown Town Hall*






Tickets £50 available from The Treshouse. Limited Availability



£1 PER SHEET - WIN £20 CASH + TOWN HALL POTTERY GIFT

Help us to raise funds for the repair, restoration and maintenance of the

# Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>PART 1</b>   | <b>PART 2</b>   | <b>PART 3</b>   | <b>PART 4</b>   | <b>PART 5</b>   |
| NATIONAL OUTCOMES   | COMMUNITY PLANNING  | PARTICIPATION REQUESTS  | COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUY TO BUY LAND  | ASSET TRANSFER REQUESTS   |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>PART 6</b>   | <b>PART 7</b>   | <b>PART 8</b>   | <b>PART 9</b>   | <b>PART 10</b>  | <b>PART 11</b>  |
| DELEGATION OF FORESTRY COMMISSIONERS FUNCTIONS                                    | FOOTBALL CLUBS  | COMMON GOOD PROPERTY  | ALLOTMENTS  | PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC DECISION MAKING   | NON DOMESTIC RATES  |

## Relevant Authorities

- Local authorities
- Scottish Ministers (including agencies such as Forest Enterprise Scotland and Transport Scotland)
- Crofting Commission
- Further Education colleges which are “incorporated colleges”
- Health Boards, both regional and Special Health Boards
- Highlands and Islands Enterprise
- Historic Environment Scotland
- National Park Authorities (Cairngorms and Loch Lomond and Trossachs)
- Regional Transport Partnerships
- Scottish Canals
- Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service
- Scottish Enterprise
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Scottish Police Authority (who own all land and buildings used by Police Scotland)
- Scottish Water

# Key rights in CEA for asset transfer

---

- Communities have the right to request to **purchase, lease, manage or use** land and buildings belonging to local authorities and other Scottish public bodies (**Relevant Authorities**) – at **less than best financial consideration**, based on the **added economic, social, health, environmental** benefits the community can bring



## More key points in CEA for asset transfer

---

- The assets **do not** have to be on a “surplus to requirements” list
- Asset Registers produced
- **Presumption of agreement** to requests unless reasonable grounds for refusal
- Clear timeframes for responses
- Appeals procedure

# Characteristics of success

---

- Based on genuine community need –Action Plans/ Place Plans
- The right asset sought to meet those needs
- Being realistic about the condition of the building/land (contaminated, beyond reasonable repair)
- Learning from others who have done it already
- The business plan shows how the asset can ‘wash its face’ (grants, revenue, SLAs)
- Making good use of free help and support ( COSS, local support - TSIs, Business Gateway, Funders, SE networks)

# Rockfield Centre

[www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk](http://www.obancommunitiestrust.org.uk)





# Portpartrick Harbour

[www.portpatrickharbour.org](http://www.portpatrickharbour.org)



**A community-owned asset**



**Linda Gillespie**  
**Community Support Service**

**0131 225 2080**

**[linda@dtascot.org.uk](mailto:linda@dtascot.org.uk)**