

1. **Introduction**

The Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015 requires local authorities to report on asset transfer and participation requests each year. The tables on the following pages provide information on the number of asset transfer and participation requests received by Dundee City Council in the year 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025.

These figures offer a snapshot of formal requests under the statutory framework, yet they capture only part of the broader story of community empowerment in Dundee. Beyond the data, a diverse landscape of collaboration exists: many council assets are leased to community groups at preferential rates, and property transfers have taken place through alternative legal mechanisms—significant activity that often escapes the annual reporting.

For example, Dundee City Council is currently supporting five community groups in advancing Community Asset Transfer applications following initial enquiries made during 2024-25. Additionally, three community groups have successfully secured long-term leases of council-owned land and assets in 2024/25, while a further three are in ongoing negotiations to obtain long-term leases.

Dundee City Council is developing a Community Wealth Building Land & Assets Policy aimed at increasing the number of council assets leased or sold to community groups and charities. The new policy will align with our Community Wealth Building objectives, helping applicants find the most suitable route to lease or own a property, including options under the Community Asset Transfer as per the Community Empowerment Act.

Dundee City Council is currently developing revised guidance and application documentation for Asset Transfer, which will be published in 2025. The goal of this initiative is to streamline the asset transfer process, making it more transparent for community groups and easier to navigate. Additionally, an online option for completing the asset transfer application will be introduced.

In 2025-26, links with Development Trust Association Scotland will be strengthened to connect more community groups with extra support for community development and enterprise.

The number of Participation Requests received should be viewed in the context of the extensive community involvement efforts already undertaken by Dundee City Council under Local Community Planning arrangements, as outlined in Part 2 of the Community Empowerment Act. In collaboration with What Matters To You, Dundee City Council is piloting a “Cafe Conversation” approach within Local Community Planning Partnerships, aiming to increase participation from community members and groups and to facilitate enhanced collaboration between communities and public services. Preliminary evidence from this initiative has demonstrated an increase in community engagement in local planning activities, granting communities a stronger voice in the Local Community Planning processes.

During the 2024/25 period, Dundee City Council supported 166 community organisations and projects in engaging with community improvement initiatives. Furthermore, 609 unique individuals were assisted in contributing to Local Community Planning outcomes within their communities, marking an increase of 103 participants from the previous year.

Dundee City Council has a webpage that provides information on Community Asset Transfer and Participation Requests. Applicants for either an Asset Transfer or Participation Request are supported by Community Learning & Development Workers within Dundee City Council’s Communities service. The Communities team works in areas of the city experiencing significant disadvantage, aiming to reduce inequalities through targeted efforts.

**Alan Gunn, CLD Manager, Community Empowerment Team June 2025**

1. **Data Tables**

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| **Community Asset Transfer** |
| Reporting period - start | 1st April 2024 |
| Reporting period - end | 31st March 2025 |
| Total number of asset transfer requests received under the Community Empowerment Act 2015 | 1 |
| Number agreed | 1 |
| Number refused | 0 |
| Number resulting in:  |  |
| a transfer of ownership of land to a community transfer body | 0 |
| a lease of land to such a body | 1 |
| rights in respect of land being conferred on such a body | 0 |
| Number of appeals under section 85 relating to such requests made to the relevant authority: |  |
| Allowed | 0 |
| Dismissed | 0 |
| Resulted in any part of the decision of the authority being varied or reversed | 0 |
| In relation to a decision of the relevant authority reviewed under section 86 or 87, the number of such decisions that have been: |  |
| Confirmed | 0 |
| Modified | 0 |
| Substituted by a different decision | 0 |
| Total Area Transferred (ha) | 0 |

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| **Participation Requests** |
| Reporting Period Start  | 1st April 2024 |
| Reporting period - end | 31st March 2025 |
| Total number of participation requests received | 0 |
| Number resulting in:  |  |
| A participation request being agreed to | 0 |
| A participation request being refused | 0 |
| Number of appeals under section 30 relating to such requests made to the relevant authority: |  |
| Allowed | 0 |
| Dismissed | 0 |
| Resulted in any part of the decision of the authority being varied or reversed | 0 |
| In relation to a decision of the relevant authority reviewed under section 30, the number of such decisions that have been: |  |
| Confirmed | 0 |
| Modified | 0 |
| Substituted by a different decision | 0 |
| Total Number of such requests which resulted in changes to public services | 0 |

**Alan, Gunn Community Learning & Development Manager, Community Empowerment Team**

**1 Shore Terrace, Dundee, DD1 3AQ**

**01382 435822**

Alan.gunn@dundeecity.gov.uk

