

	<b>Community Asset Transfer Application Form</b>
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## **Stage 2: Full Application**

**This is an Asset Transfer Request in terms of Section 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.**

**Before completing this application please ensure you have read:**

- **Scottish Government Guidance for Community Bodies; and**
- **Fife Council Guidance for Community Bodies**

### **About the Property**

**Property Name and Address** (see section 5 in the Guidance Notes)

Site to rear of Station Road, Anstruther. Also known as the site to the west of the Old Mill Anstruther. The site is on the north bank of the Dreel burn and extends from the allotment site owned by Mr Reekie and leased by Anstruther Allotments to the old railway bridge; it is south of the light industrial estate.

The site will be referred to as Dreelside Woods (DW)

A location plan from Fife Council Estates Dept is appended.

Please provide details of the purchase price proposed for the asset by the applicant. It is expected that the applicant will have obtained an independent valuation of the asset. Please provide the estimated value and the source of this valuation - including submission of the valuation document - and how this relates to the proposed purchase price.

Dreelside Woods is an area of 0.4842ha of land which has been described as having “never been of operational benefit or use and is now surplus”.

There is public access with paths running through it. There is no vehicular access to the site, pedestrian only, so uses and value are limited to possible amenity uses, some slight extension of adjoining industrial sites or private allotment gardens. The land is zoned for Open Space in the current local plan. Fife Council Allotments Officer has considered this site, but ruled it out for allotments as it has no access for deliveries. (email of 20 July 2021) Parts of the site slope steeply to the Dreel Burn.

The site has no financial value, except what the community would pay to stop it being developed.

**As development of this site has been ruled out because there is no vehicular access and parts slope steeply to the burn, Dreelside Woods should be transferred for the nominal sum of £1.**

An independent valuation has not been sought, the valuation information derives from ----- Fife Council’s Estate Surveyor’s email of 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

## **Section A – About the Proposal**

(see Section A in the Scoring Matrix)

Please provide a brief outline of your proposed initiative (maximum 500 words - see section 2 in the Guidance Notes).

We intend to consolidate and enhance the wildlife value of this piece of land, currently owned by Fife Council, between the allotment site and the Dreelside Meadows Nature reserve. This will protect and enhance this part of the northern bank of the Dreelside burn. We wish to take over the ownership and responsibility for this site to manage it as a wildlife habitat and area for natural recreation in perpetuity as part of the Dreel restoration project. We will work with experts to restore wildlife habitats, in particular seek to reintroduce kingfishers to this site.

A1.	Please describe the aims and objectives of your proposal.
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide part of a thriving wildlife corridor along the Dreel burn. To create a wildlife friendly space, providing an enhanced public amenity for Anstruther people and tourists. Where achievable, to grow fruit or similar crops for local people.</li> <li>2. To remove the uncertainty hanging over the future use and maintenance of the site.</li> <li>3. Pass ownership of the land back to the community to be managed as a public accessible nature reserve and park area.</li> <li>4. To enhance the habitat and promote local diversity by recreating natural habitat.</li> <li>5. Retain and enhance the current pathway access which links to the multi-use pathway and towards Anstruther's centre.</li> <li>6. Provide a local resource that promotes environmental education, awareness and responsibility</li> <li>7. To protect the Dreel burn from pollution and invasive species as far as possible.</li> </ol>
A2.	Please describe the service and community benefit that you propose to deliver.
	<p>The local community has identified the need to protect, maintain, improve and create wildlife habitats along the Dreel burn in Anstruther. This will maintain and enhance the natural environment that makes the East Neuk such a good place to live and visit.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Enhance community greenspace The site currently is a somewhat neglected area of grassland and woods with the Dreel burn running along the southern edge. It also has planting as part of the edible walkway. It is adjacent to Queens Gardens and Dreelside Meadows Nature reserve. The trees have not been proactively managed for some years and other maintenance has been partial. The proposal is to tackle the neglect and enhance the greenspace.</li> <li>2. Develop active routes A public footpath runs through the site. This links to the multi-use footpath across the old railway bridge. It will be part of the route linking Pittenweem to Anstruther, Crail and on to St Andrews. The path is currently well used by dog walkers and locally for access to</li> </ol>

	<p>the Coop. The proposal is to improve the footpath, increase signage and improve maintenance.</p> <p>3. Improve access to nature The site is popular with birdwatchers and lepidopterists. Kingfishers and dippers have been regular visitors, the former nesting here up until recently. Tree creepers, black caps, long tailed tits, bullfinches, goldfinches and herons are frequently seen. Butterflies seen include comma, orange tip and 'the blue ones'. The proposal is to maintain and develop the biodiversity and habitats for wildlife.</p> <p>4. Restore and protect a section of the Dreel burn - 'the silver thread that binds the beggar's mantle to the golden fringe of the East Neuk coast'. There is a storm water drain that runs across the site from the light industrial estate and a pollution incident of concern was recorded a few years ago. The proposal would be to work with the Dreel Burn restoration project and others to seek to protect the burn. There is also litter, Himalayan balsam and giant hogweed that we would seek to address.</p> <p>5. End the uncertainty blighting the site .The northern edge is a light industrial estate. For several years there have been rumours about one of the adjacent site users acquiring the site. This has led to concern in the local community about encroachment onto the site. The asset transfer would clarify the position and also introduce a management plan for the site.</p>
A3.	What is the demand/need for the services you will provide and how does acquiring the asset enhance your proposals?
	<p>The DW is a small area of neglected rough grassland and trees abutting a light industrial estate. It has a footpath used mostly by local people and dog walkers. It forms part of a potential wildlife corridor along the Dreel Burn.</p> <p>There have been problems maintaining the site because of restricted access (no vehicular access). It could be argued that it faces possible gradual degradation or potential destruction through development. An adjoining light industrial use has expressed an interest to acquire part of the site which has caused concern amongst the local community and several site neighbours. Such a land use could have a negative impact on the biodiversity of the site and on the watercourse,</p>

The site is used by several birds - an estimated 50 species would be seen on a January day (Prof. Will Cresswell) and the kingfisher was a regular until very recently, also dippers, treecreepers and grey heron. Many studies have evidenced the importance of wildlife corridors especially in areas of intensive agriculture like the East Neuk. Acquiring the site would allow Footprint to manage and maintain the site for wildlife and the community. With community ownership we can invest in and manage the area longterm to create a permanent high biodiversity nature reserve as part of the Dreel burn corridor, to be enjoyed by all local stakeholders. We can organise volunteer training and work parties to enhance the area and ensure the site remains a green space (which is the local plan allocation). We can develop management plans and seek grant funding to implement them and we can provide events in nature such as the Big Garden Birdwatch. If the site was under the management of the local community rather than a remote organisation with limited resources and no real stake in it, it could be transformed into an attractive wildlife friendly open space. This would provide long term security for the continuation of the site's amenity value.

There is a pressing need to pass areas such as Dreel Woods into local community ownership so that an apparently minor bit of green space in Council ownership is not sold off for development, because its value to local people as natural environment is not yet fully appreciated. The long term view that will come from community ownership will enable the full potential of the land for the community, woodland and wildlife be realised. Fife Council has other priorities and limited resources so the area is largely neglected, but run by an enthusiastic community keen to improve the environment it will be properly valued.

Environmental improvements can take several years to achieve and a clear long term plan and future for the site makes it easier to keep people motivated. Continuity of volunteer effort sustained through many years is crucial to the success of this work and security of tenure makes it easier to maintain such effort. It is impossible to secure funding for transformative environmental improvements without security of tenure. Financial costs are not large or essential for much of the regeneration that we envisage, but securing such funds is easier with security of ownership of the land by a registered charity (Footprint SCIO)

The demand is evidenced by the public consultation at two local events and throughout the local area; and the door to door surveys locally. We have the support of the Community Council and the local councillors. The socio-economic and environmental importance of local green spaces is recognised in Fife's Community Plan Thriving Places theme and National Strategies such as 2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity.

	<p>The creation and enhancement of connected wildlife habitat along the Dreel Burn fits in with the aspirations within Climate Fife; Fife Biodiversity Action Plan; and Fife Forestry and Woodland Strategy.</p> <p>For example the aims of the Fife Local Biodiversity Action Plan are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintain and increase the extent, distribution and connectivity of ecosystems</li> <li>2. Maintain and where possible improve ecosystem health</li> <li>3. Involve local people in conservation actions and thereby raise awareness and enjoyment of ecosystems</li> </ol> <p>In short, we need community ownership of the land to transform this locally valued area into a community environmental asset for generations to come.</p>
A4.	<p>If your project or service is already being delivered explain what additional activity you will provide if you acquire this building.</p>
	<p>DW is already a green space for local residents and people using the footpath on the Dreel burn; it also provides a minimally maintained area for wildlife. We wish to maintain and enhance that function by protecting and developing it as part of a wildlife corridor along the Dreel burn. We would be coordinating monitoring, fund raising, volunteer days, expert advice, planning, focussed interventions and networking with community supports.</p> <p>We plan to improve biodiversity by improving the management of the different habitats - grassland, riparian areas and wooded areas and undertaking focussed planting. This will play a small part in improving the natural environment of Anstruther with impacts on quality of life, environmental awareness, biodiversity, nature tourism, carbon capture, mental wellbeing, etc.</p> <p>In particular:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Increased involvement of volunteers in community projects and environmental management is beneficial for social cohesion and responsibility.</li> <li>-By increasing biodiversity: increasing the species richness of breeding birds; butterflies; moths; insects; flowering plants; small mammals; fungi etc. All helping meet Fife's environmental aims.</li> <li>- focussed proactive management for people and environment</li> </ul>
A5.	<p>Please provide details of your experience in delivering the services to be offered.</p>

	<p>East Neuk Footprint are developing woodlands in East Neuk, and are actively engaged in planting native tree species, including on nearby sites. They have a wide climate action remit.</p> <p>Footprint Trustees include Anstruther Allotment Members who have been maintaining and improving the adjacent site for over ten years. This included site identification, lease negotiation, fundraising for fencing, polytunnels, communal tools and sheds, and successfully managing the plots and communal maintenance. In addition Anstruther Allotments has planted and maintained the edible routeway in negotiation with Fife Council on the DW site. Several local people harvest the fruit.</p> <p>Among current allotment members are ----- who leads Transition St Andrews; ----- who holds a policy role with the Joint Nature Conservation Committee; ---- a member of The Children's Wood community-owned greenspace; ---- who is part of the multi use pathways project; and --- a former Area Manager for Fife.</p>
A6.	<p>Are there similar projects or services available in the area?</p>
	<p>There are several local projects that, like DW, seek to develop opportunities for wildlife and to connect people with nature, so that they feel that they live in an area with a good quality of life.</p> <p>These projects include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dreelside Meadows, which is adjacent on the Dreel burn and is a low maintenance private nature reserve, Anstruther Improvements Association have had a role in maintaining this reserve, which is owned by Willie Wilson. It has very limited use.</li> <li>- the edible route way- tree planting to benefit the wider community.</li> <li>- Kilrenny Woods (beyond Anstruther to the east) is a managed woodland that is positively used by the local community. I believe this is private trust, part of the Innergellie estate.</li> <li>- Anstruther Improvements Association has a Dreel Burn Restoration project which this site would sit within. Major funding bids have yet to be successful, but an intern from Fife Coast and Countryside Trust is developing a Strategic plan for the burn</li> <li>- RSPB manage a corn bunting project including the fields just beyond Anstruther's western boundary that has successfully helped boost the local corn bunting population.</li> </ul> <p>None of these projects have quite the same aims and ethos of the Dreel Woods proposal, but we would seek to work with all of them to maximise what the Woods could achieve for biodiversity and the community.</p>

## Section B – Wider Support & Wider Public Support

(see Section B in the Scoring Matrix)

**Community Consultation** (see section 3 in the Guidance Notes) – The Community Empowerment Act requires that the local community be consulted before an asset transfer application is submitted.

B1.	Please demonstrate there is sufficient support from the local community. You may want to check with the Area Community Development Team about to how to engage and consult with a wide range of the community including 'hard to reach' groups.
	<p>Footprint took on the lead for the proposed Community Asset Transfer of DW from Anstruther and District Allotment Association (ADAA), so the majority of the public consultation was undertaken by ADAA and the DW working group, of which Footprint was a founding member.</p> <p>We have undertaken various consultations, including stakeholder mapping, to identify key partners, local organisations and people with an interest in Dreelside Woods (DW).</p> <p>Following this, ADAA carried out a number of different consultations, including door-to-door surveys, public meetings, events, engagement via social media and meetings with other interested and allied groups and individuals.</p> <p>Covid restrictions were in place for much of this period .</p> <p>The Report of consultation is appended.</p> <p>In summary:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-QR code publicised in local shops and door to door leafleting, enabling people to show support and comment online.</li><li>-posters, including QR code at local shops (eg Co op, Ardross, AnA, Cambo, Smoke fired) and on site</li><li>-posters, including QR code on local info boards and at East Neuk Centre and Dreeel Halls</li><li>- social media - ADAA facebook page, DW Instagram account, DW blog</li><li>- Public launch event at Green film night, Dreeel Halls</li><li>- Public event with RSPB Great Garden Bird Watch at Dreeel Halls and in DW</li></ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Item in Crail Matters, circulation 550</li> <li>- Community Council meeting</li> <li>- one to one meetings with adjacent industrial site owners</li> <li>- in person surveys with adjacent residents, an estimated 80% of occupied properties were contacted.</li> <li>- shared stall with East Neuk Market Gardens at Bowhouse market, estimated footfall 4000</li> </ul> <p>Of all the contacts made, only one landowner wanted to purchase part of the site for his own uses. He was supportive of the remainder of the site being taken on by the community. All the others consulted or contacted were supportive of the area being taken through a community asset transfer and managed for nature but with public access.</p>
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B2.	Have other stakeholders (e.g. community council, local councillors) been consulted about the proposals? Please provide evidence of any such consultation.
	<p>The local councillors were informed about the proposal in December 2021 by email. They were also present at the Community Council meeting of Feb 14th 2022, at which a presentation was made on the proposal. (See appendix). This was well received by all present.</p> <p>Cllr Corps, Cllr Dillon and Cllr, Hayes the new local councillors following the May 2022 elections, were notified of the proposal by e-mail in May 2022 and a progress update was submitted to the Community Council on 13 th June 2022.</p> <p>Cllr Hayes and Cllr Dillon arranged site meetings in May/June 2022 and were positive in their support for the proposal.</p>
B3.	Please detail any partnership arrangements and state if these are required to deliver the project successfully.
	<p>Footprint have been working in partnership with ADAA to take on the asset transfer proposal and ADAA members continue to support the DW working group and volunteer days. ADAA maintain the edible routeway on the site. This partnership is helpful, Footprint have a tool shed on the allotments site, for example.</p>

	<p>We have also worked with Anstruther Improvement Association, especially in the context of the Dreelside Restoration project which they take the lead on; and during the consultation process. The DW working group had free use of the Dreel Halls for their main consultation event (the RSPB Big bird watch. The launch event at The Green Film Night also took place at Dreel Halls. Both organisations are working together on nature education projects in DW and on getting control of the spread of giant hogweed. Again this partnership is helpful.</p> <p>Dreel Tavern have been helpful in supporting the project, e.g. kindly sponsoring hot chocolate for the volunteer days.</p> <p>East Neuk Market Gardens are a member of the DW working group and have contributed to the consultation at Bowhouse Market events, where the footfall is an estimated 4,000.</p> <p>--- is also on the working group and contributes in particular to water quality issues. She also hopes to plant trees locally that will contribute to a wildlife corridor which will include Dreel Woods.</p> <p>The asset transfer could go ahead without these partnerships, but is very much strengthened by having them.</p>
B4.	<p>Advice and support received (see section 4 in the Guidance Notes) – Provide details of any organisation, including the Council, you have approached to seek assistance in developing your project and application.</p>
	<p>Footprint took on the lead for the proposed Community Asset Transfer of DW from Anstruther and District Allotment Association (ADAA), so the much advice was sought by ADAA and the DW working group, of which Footprint was a founding member.</p> <p>At Fife Council contact was made with the Policy Co-ordinator and Community Manager (North East Fife), both of whom were very helpful in giving advice on the process. ---- advised on the footpath's status. Several people kindly tried to establish ownership of the footbridges and adjacent sites, which are not included in the asset transfer.</p> <p>The Adviser from Community ownership Support Scotland was exceedingly helpful and patient guiding ADAA through the SCIO tier 2 Constitution process and handed us over to her colleague on her retirement.</p> <p>Crail Community Partnership gave helpful advice on the process as did Fife Voluntary Action.</p> <p>On the Biodiversity side we have had advice from:-</p> <p>Fife Coast and Countryside Trust.</p>

	<p>Scottish Wildlife Trust.</p> <p>Fife Council Ground maintenance service, have been very helpful in maintaining the site in a manner that provides safe public access, whilst promoting wildlife diversity. They have also engaged with the giant hogweed issue.</p> <p>--- Fife Council approved tree planting on DW site early 2022, when 107 native trees were planted by volunteers.</p> <p>Project Manager Scottish Invasive Species Initiative, NatureScot has been supportive, offering advice and training.</p> <p>Murray Library Trustees have given us funding for tools to safely tackle the giant hogweed.</p> <p>Buglife provided guidance reports.</p> <p>Outreach Adviser Scottish Woodlands Trust.</p> <p>Conservation Advisor RSPB provided some contact advice and we secured kingfisher badges for our Birdwatching event</p> <p>Peatland Conservation Officer at Buglife pointed us in the direction of useful resources for grassland and woodland management.</p> <p>St Andrews University and Crail Community Partnership.</p>
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### Section C – Impacts / Benefits

(see Section C in the Scoring Matrix)

C1.	<p>Demonstrate whether and (if applicable) how the proposal will promote or improve:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Economic development</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 20%;">Regeneration</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 5%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Public health</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Social well-being</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environmental well-being</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Reduce inequalities</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Please tick which of the areas above have been considered as part of the proposal and provide more detail.</p>	Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regeneration	<input type="checkbox"/>		Public health	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>		Environmental well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduce inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regeneration	<input type="checkbox"/>													
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Environmental well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduce inequalities	<input type="checkbox"/>													

Economic development - Footprint do not anticipate any immediate economic benefits of the acquisition. There could be some impact on tourism as people are able to walk through the area, maybe as an alternative route to the coastal path which here runs along the main road (a bit of a detour) or as a link from the multi-use pathway into central Anstruther. The economic value of the mental and physical health benefits of being in nature as it impacts on the reduced need for health services is hard to quantify. Similarly the benefit to the economy of local people of volunteering to help manage and improve the area and participate in community activities is hard to assess.

Regeneration - The Woods is a small area of largely neglected rough grassland and trees with minimal management by Fife Council. It is hoped that positive management by Footprint and the local community will help regenerate the area. Managing different parts of the site to create different types of habitat - meadow, woodland, riparian - will regenerate the area with the help of volunteers, coupled with ongoing stewardship. There are several species including the kingfisher that we would like to see as regular visitors and are heartened by the sighting of otters at Cambo that might be a possibility longer term.

Public Health - Creating and enhancing natural areas will enhance well being by supporting regular contact with the natural environment. Dog walkers and bird watchers already use the area for leisure time and relaxation, with regular exercise recognised as a major contributor to mental health. We anticipate that the enhanced management of the area will continue to support these benefits and forest bathing could become an activity in the Woods. We will seek to protect the edible walkway with the access this provides to locally grown fruit for local people. The use of the area for nature based education and play will also benefit peoples' well being.

Social well being - Footprint will continue to work with AIA to support access to the Woods for play and community activities, such as the Big Garden Bird watch, which we hope will become an annual event. We want to involve local groups in base-line surveys of the flora, insects, bats and birds as well as small mammals and to support them to help us monitor developments. The Waid school has been involved with the allotments association in the past, who have also worked with volunteers from the East Neuk Centre. We would plan to develop this; and volunteers have already helped with the tree planting that the Council approved for the Woods in winter 2021/2. This would help develop social well-being by engendering a sense of environmental responsibility and engagement as well as being fun.

Environmental well being - Core to environmental well-being is conservation of biodiversity. The proposed asset transfer will enable us

	<p>to increase biodiversity on the site, increase the number of trees and species and help foster a positive community attitude. As we face the climate emergency, communities need to be inspired to do positive things and the proposals for Dreelside Woods are designed to inspire and increase positive human contact with the environment.</p> <p>Reduce inequalities - as a community Anstruther will benefit from improved access by all social groups to the natural environment. By having a SCIO manage this small site there are opportunities for the local community to be involved for example in habitat creation, management and monitoring as well as having fun, This could help promote cohesion, intergenerational contact, a sense of belonging and to promote equality by identifying issues and seeking solutions working together,</p>
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C2.	<p>Please demonstrate how you will take into account the different needs of the community, including addressing inequalities e.g. health inequalities, accessibility of building.</p>
	<p><b>Physical access</b>  The site currently is accessible down a green route at the western end, there are steps down from the multi-use pathway and steep cobbled steps down at the east end. We would expect those with a physical disability to access from the green route and in the longer term would investigate whether this could be upgraded. The steps from the multi-use pathway could be made buggy accessible. The western footbridge onto the site is level with the footpath. The site is wheelchair and buggy accessible from there.</p> <p><b>Ethnic minority access</b>  Access to open space for people from minority communities is a national issue and Footprint will be alert to any initiatives which we could work alongside to improve access for everyone.</p> <p><b>Older people</b>  The proposed volunteering events will provide opportunities for older people to engage, share skills, perhaps gain confidence and work on intergenerational projects. The people signed up to support the asset transfer include a decent number of people who have retired but still want to share their time and skills.</p> <p><b>economic access</b>  There are no obvious financial barriers to accessing the open space or to taking part in volunteer activities. We would aim to provide tools and training. One attraction of the benefits of nature is that it is free to all to enjoy.</p>

	<p>Information sharing</p> <p>Not being able to access info on social media can prove a barrier for some. The Dreel Tavern have offered to sponsor a noticeboard for the site that can be used for sharing information and seeking people's views. We have also been using local shops and the Dreel Halls noticeboard to share information and we will continue to do this. We will leaflet neighbours when appropriate.</p>
C3.	<p>In relation to the services to be provided, how will that reduce public sector costs of providing the same or similar services?</p>
	<p>The upkeep and maintenance of the site will be undertaken by volunteers at no cost to the Council. We will seek grant funding for tools and training; and we will also raise funds to provide insurance. We will monitor the site for invasive species and seek to intervene before they can take hold. We will manage biodiversity with public access, so we will not seek to keep the area like a public park but we will maintain the footpath to provide safe access. We will ensure that trees are inspected regularly to minimise any potential dangers, We will adopt a planting plan that is mindful of climate change to the same end.</p> <p>We would anticipate that a more diverse, attractive, managed open space will be provided at no cost to the public sector.</p>

## Section D – Organisational Viability

(see Section D in the Scoring Matrix)

D1.	<p>Demonstrate any previous experience your organisation has in managing an asset, including awareness of relevant legislation.</p>
	<p>Several of the trustees and members involved in this proposal have direct previous experience of managing assets:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- responsibility for planned and programmed maintenance at Leicester City Housing; responsibility for the Housing Capital programme at Liverpool City Council; and was a commissioning manager at Grampian Health Board</li> <li>- Anstruther Harbour Festival Trustees with responsibility for fund-raising and a sizeable budget.</li> <li>- ran the East Neuk Centre</li> <li>- ran a small holding of 40 acres including a vineyard; a business analyst</li> <li>- establishing a seaweed farm (offshore)</li> </ul>

	<p>We have wide experience of managing assets, risk assessment, liability insurance, public access, land management, research, policy and legislative frameworks as well as strategy and community involvement.</p>
D2.	<p>Describe any previous experience your organisation has in delivering the community benefit and provide examples as appropriate.</p>
	<p>Trustees of Footprint are actively involved in the Multi-Use Pathway, taking the lead on the Pittenweem to Earlsferry section. Footprint has played an active part in tree-planting in East Neuk, receiving grant aid to do this. Sites include Kilminning Coast Wildlife Reserve, Dreelside Park and Woods where volunteers have been supported to participate. Our Trustees are aware of, and compliant with, relevant legislation in relation to its actions.</p> <p>ADAA have delivered training and workshops for the Waid and the local community, the Big Garden bird-watch and the edible routeway. They remain closely involved with the CAT proposal: as do AIA who deliver several popular community events and use the Woods as a venue for nature based education. Footprint, ADAA and AIA are working together on the Dreel Restoration project and the East Neuk Woodland project to deliver community benefit.</p> <p>Footprint also run an annual science and nature festival in the East Neuk.</p>

D3.	<p>Please state the names, skills and experience of the individuals who intend to take forward the proposal and subsequently manage the asset.</p>
	<p>Retired Strategy Manager with experience delivering major capital programmes and hospital closure programmes, managing large bonus and maintenance programmes and working with people with disability to deliver improved quality of services.</p> <p>She is a Master in both Public Health and Public and Social Administration with professional qualifications in Town and Country Planning and a BDesign. She has thirteen years experience in the Children's Hearing System and Treasurer of a local Arts organisation. She has taken the lead in identifying and securing funding for new allotment sites and is part of the planning group for Gallery 495, Cellardyke.</p> <p>Retired academic with a specialism in climate change and also a former local government manager who set up and ran various schemes including a rent deposit scheme and a 'prescription for health' scheme in which GPs 'prescribed' exercise and time in nature, often instead of</p>

antidepressants. Has a PhD in the social sciences and a Masters Degree in Counselling. Formerly a Minute Secretary for the Scottish Fisheries Museum Board, and also a volunteer for The Cellardyke Tidal Pool Project.

The Project Consultant of various Shared Path Projects in East Neuk and St Andrews and Co-Founder of Footprint East Neuk. She has a keen interest in restoring the Earth ever since she can remember: at the age of 6, she organized cleanup activities of ponds and ditches, and led nature walks for school friends. Born and raised in The Netherlands, she moved to the UK and USA because of its vibrant community of changemakers. She gained extensive experience in volunteer management, environmental campaigning, and educating and empowering youth to think globally. In the USA, she has managed teams from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds from across the world on three programmes: 1) Community Environmental Projects; 2) Research & Writing; 3) Operations. In East Neuk she organizes tree planting activities, nature workshops and an annual Science & Nature Festival and manages the Shared Path project from Pittenweem to Earlsferry.

qualified from the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, Edinburgh in 2001 and in 2005 gained an MSc in Wild Animal Health from the Royal Veterinary College, London. In 2011 she completed an MSc in Infectious disease at the University of Edinburgh, before undertaking a PhD at the Sea Mammal Research Unit, University of St Andrews investigating viral and genetic risk factors contributing to the development of urogenital carcinoma in the California sea lion, completing in 2014. She now works in small animal general practice in Fife.

Co-Founder, Footprint East Neuk

Associate Lecturer in Biology at the Open University.

--- studied Marine Biology at Glasgow University graduating in 1998, followed by an MSc in 2002 and a PhD in seabird ecology, both at the University of London, completing her PhD in 2008. ---- has been lucky enough to work on seabird research projects in some amazing parts of the world, including Hawaii with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and Antarctica while working for British Antarctic Survey. Currently she teaches undergraduate biology at the Open University.

--- works at Transition St Andrews managing a team delivering environmentally informed projects to residents, staff and students. He has worked at [Solar Cities Scotland](#) delivering behaviour change projects and promoting sustainable energy. He was manager of a Development Trust based in Dundee seeking to build a sustainable urban community as part of an £85 million award winning regeneration scheme. He has a degree in Marine Biology and has worked for an Environmental charity, Greenpeace, City Farm and Groundwork. In his spare time he enjoys sailing, working in his allotment and running a local car club.

Retired Consultant Chartered Clinical Psychologist with 30 years working in the NHS. Considerable experience in service development



initiatives particularly involving multi-agency projects. This included research aimed at evaluating the implementation processes necessary to establish positive psychological interventions. For example, working closely with Third Sector partners to ascertain optimal therapeutic environments within the community such as woodland and horticultural settings. Presently a Trustee and Committee Member of Anstruther Harbour Festival Trust.

Retired Fife Council Community Officer in East Neuk and Levenmouth for 24 years. Prior to that worked as an Occupational Therapist in the community and mental health fields. Over 20 years' experience including senior management roles.

As a community officer I had considerable experience in practically supporting community-based groups achieve their aspirations by facilitating funding applications, gathering relevant research and networking and organising training events etc.

--- has been a member of the Anstruther & District Allotment Association since April 2020.

Darren has owned and run a smallholding (40 acres) that included a --- -acre vineyard. He has experience in the practical implementation of horticultural concepts, land management and farm equipment operation. He has been a member of mine rescue teams and volunteer fire services.

He has most recently worked as a brewer and distiller and is a past committee member (2020) of the Institute of Brewing and Distilling (Scotland). Prior to that, he has worked as a Business Analyst with experience in annual forecasting, budgeting, capital requests and monthly reporting. --- has a Bachelor of Engineering degree and a Graduate Diploma in Mineral Economics.

Founding member and first Chair of the Anstruther & District Allotments Association (ADAA)

- i. Involved with setting up and running the school allotments
- ii. Health & Safety advice
- iii. Various positions such as Vice Chair and Secretary
- v. Allotments Beautiful Fife Rep for a number of years

Crewman on the Anstruther Lifeboat

Director of the Murray Library Trust - SCIO/OSCR Charity No SC509904

- i. Waid & Primary School Rep
- ii. Health & Safety advisor

Member of the Anstruther Shared Use Path initiative

- i. Project planning
- ii. Communications

Member the James and Mary Walker Lifeboat restoration group

Member of Dreelside Park Group

Member of the local Edible Routeway Group

Founding member of the Pittenweem Road Floral Group

Involved in grassroots organisations since 2003, allotmenteer for over ten years. Experience setting up systems and communications for a pioneering ecological project in New Zealand. Committee member of

	<p>The Childrens Wood, a community-owned greenspace in the North Kelvin Meadow Glasgow and Children's Garden in Glasgow Botanic Gardens. Diploma in social care and psychology. Years of experience and training in delivering children's activities; creative workshops; social permaculture, outdoor education, organic gardening and ecological design. Mother of three. Currently working for Sustainable Communities Initiatives (SCI) and Garden project coordinator for Fife Gingerbread.</p>
D4.	<p>Provide evidence of your governance and decision making processes in relation to the asset and delivery of the services including finance, book keeping, including room/hall bookings compliance and staff/volunteer training.</p>
	<p>Footprint is a SCIO and as such has a constitution agreed by OSCR that sets out clearly how the charity is managed. Annual accounts and an annual financial report are required in addition to a chair's report. The accounts are externally audited. The trustees have clearly defined duties and powers and the mechanisms for electing trustees, becoming a member, raising issues etc are clearly set out. A copy of the SCIO constitution is appended. This is the Tier 1 constitution, but Tier 2 is currently being sought and we will forward that constitution as soon as it is approved. (We understand that the asset transfer cannot proceed until this status is achieved)</p> <p>The SCIO requirements ensure that the organisation is properly governed.</p> <p>Footprint is aware of the need for risk assessments and insurance and can provide sample risk assessments if required.</p> <p>The founding trustees of Footprint meet every week to discuss projects, finance and volunteers.</p>
D5.	<p>Demonstrate that you understand what is required in relation to the management and maintenance of the asset e.g. insurances, ongoing maintenance, budgeting for major repairs, health &amp; safety, electrical testing, firefighting, legionella testing.</p>
	<p>Dreelside Woods is an existing semi-rural site with public access, including a path. The foot-bridges are not part of the proposed transfer. Unless conveyancing proves otherwise, there appears to be no maintenance requirement on the boundaries - the northern boundary is with the industrial uses who have fenced their sites (Metaflake have also planted leylandii along their boundary). The southern boundary is the Dreel Burn, the east is ADAA's fenced allotment site; and only the small western boundary under the old rail bridge is unclear. It is intended that the site management plan will address this.(see below)</p> <p>FCCT and Scottish Wildlife Trust are working with us on management plans for the site also.</p> <p>Fife Council are working with us on managing the invasive species on site and we will be addressing the condition of some of the trees with Fife Council and the existing Tree Preservation Orders prior to taking on the asset. We will continue to work with the Dreelside Restoration project to address the invasive species and assist where we can on improving water quality.</p>

	<p>We recognise that climate change is impacting on natural woodlands and we will need to manage and prepare for serious weather events, by assessing risk and planting resilient species.</p> <p>Footprint intend to manage the site for bio-diversity, enhancing the natural habitats. Once this is established, site management will be minimal and low key. Footprint will develop and implement an appropriate site management plan.</p> <p>The plan will be developed with the local community and will cover elements such as;- Vision and Purpose, Aims and Objectives, Legal Commitments and Obligations, Funding, Day to Day Management, Access and Visitor management, Volunteers, Interpretation and community education, Managing different uses.</p> <p>As established earlier, we have several agencies willing to help us, a track record in getting funding and in supporting volunteers and community backing.</p>
D6.	Provide evidence of your monitoring arrangements to monitor the success of the proposal and delivery of its likely objectives.
	<p>The Footprint founding trustees meet weekly and would require a quarterly report from the DW sub group responsible for the asset. This would include reporting on benchmarks and specific objectives in the management plan as well as progress on specific projects. The DW sub group will evaluate and propose changes to ongoing plans as required, for discussion by the full membership of Footprint as appropriate.</p> <p>Any projects that secure grant funding will be subject to the evaluation processes of the funding body as well.</p> <p>An annual summary would be prepared for inclusion in the Chair's annual report.</p> <p>The overall plan is to enhance bio-diversity and to support natural recreation and learning, working with the local community. All monitoring will be designed to evaluate progress in these fields. Some examples are as follows:-</p> <p>Scottish Wildlife Trust have agreed to help us establish a baseline of the current diversity - butterflies, moths and other insects, birds, small mammals and plants. Footprint trustees include academics who will be able to guide and inform this process.</p>

	<p>AIA are working with the Waid to establish regular monitoring of water quality, which is of particular importance to small mammals and to our hope of bringing back the kingfisher.</p> <p>Footprint have an established volunteer group and, in becoming a membership SCIO, will be in a position to establish regular visitor enjoyment surveys. These are most likely to be unstructured qualitative surveys, both face to face and online. We also anticipate user feedback using the noticeboard.</p> <p>Volunteer hours and event attendance will be another quantitative measure of success.</p>
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## Section E - Financial Information

(see Section E in the Scoring Matrix)

**You need to identify all the resources required to deliver and sustain the proposal.** If the organisation has a separate business plan, this can be attached to the application and a summary of the details provided here.

E1.	<p><b>Cash flow forecast</b> - Please provide a cash flow forecast for the next 5 years showing both capital and revenue income and expenditure. An example of <a href="#">cash flow</a> forecast is available here</p>
	<p>We are not proposing a business - in short, we propose keeping natural land in trust in perpetuity for locals and visitors to Anstruther.</p> <p>We intend to manage these areas to enhance biodiversity and to retain public access by maintaining the pedestrian footpath through the area.</p> <p>We recognise that there will be financial and management responsibilities for this. Footprint has experience of raising funds for environment enhancement projects and we would not commit to any projects until the necessary funding had been secured.</p> <p>Footprint have a bank of volunteers who are signed up to undertake the necessary maintenance works and to 'match-fund' in time any grants sought. We also have a tool bank and access to a local tool loan scheme.</p> <p>We have sought advice on liability insurance and are confident that, other than conveyancing fees, we are in a position to meet all costs.</p> <p>We have a funding application prepared for submission as soon as the Stage 2 application process is complete.</p>
E2.	<p><b>What funding has the organisation obtained so far?</b> Has the organisation discussed or received any funding for technical work e.g. for surveys, feasibility study, business plan etc. Please detail below the funding source(s), the amount awarded and the purpose which the funding will be used for.</p>
	<p>Murray Library Trust - £500 for tools for DW</p> <p>Footprint received £x for tree planting initiatives which included for trees on DW; we now have a bank of tree planting tools, including for children, available.</p> <p>Scottish Woodland Trust - native 'edible' trees for planting in DW.</p>

	<p>Tesco (Cupar) - for children's education activities on site, which will be undertaken in partnership with AIA, who have also secured monies.</p> <p>It is our view that we have the experience to secure funds (and volunteers) once the asset transfer and new SCIO is secure.</p>
E3.	<p>There is an expectation that applicants will have had discussions with potential funders about their proposal. Please provide details of potential funders approached and the outcome of discussions about what funding may be realistic from these sources.</p>
	<p>As we have no need for funding at this stage we have only had informal discussions with Fife Council officers on the likelihood of securing conveyancing and land registry fees. These discussions were positive. The two members with experience at the Harbour Festival will be of invaluable assistance when the time is right.</p>
E4.	<p>Other sources of funding the organisation has access to (e.g. voluntary donations, borrowing). Include information on e.g. fundraising events that will be undertaken; Just Giving; coffee mornings etc. Also include information about any reserves the organisation has (and what they will be used for) and if there is a reserves policy.</p>
	<p>(I am seeking to establish whether Footprint has reserves and a reserves policy)</p> <p>The following are local, active grant-giving bodies which have funded similar projects:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common Good Fund</li> <li>Community Kist</li> <li>Fife Environmental Trust</li> <li>Postcode Lottery</li> <li>Norah Webber</li> <li>Murray Library Trust</li> <li>Co-op Community Fund</li> <li>Tesco Community Fund</li> <li>Crowd funding</li> <li>Fife Council Local Community planning budget</li> <li>Membership fees</li> </ul>

E5.	<p>Identify resources already in place for long term sustainability of the proposal and the future maintenance of the asset eg future funding and self-financing arrangements. Explain if the organisation is generating an income from other sources.</p>
	<p>The organisation does not generate an income, but we do have a pool of volunteers and some skilled grant finders. As stated above, we do not anticipate undertaking work for which we haven't secured funding; and will have insurance for unexpected emergencies.</p> <p>There will be unallocated monies from membership fees when the Tier 2 SCIO is established.</p> <p>The following are other potential sources of funding:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate Action Fife/Crown Estate</li> </ul>

	<p>Fife Environmental Trust  British Ecological Society - outreach grant  National Lottery Community Fund  Esmee Fairbairn Foundation  Triodos crowd funding  East Scotland Butterflies  Scottish Natural Heritage Nature Scot  Greener Scotland Climate challenge  University of St Andrews Local community fund</p>
<b>E6.</b>	<p>Will the project have an overall benefit in relation to public sector costs? Applicants should attempt to quantify in financial terms the community benefit that will result from the asset transfer.</p>
	<p>Currently Fife Council have to maintain the site including the footpath and responding to emergencies, such as storm damage from Storm Arwen. The Council has a large portfolio and resources could be less spread if the transfer goes ahead.</p> <p>This season in particular the invasive species - giant hogweed, has become established requiring intensive, time specific interventions that in some areas are deemed unsafe for the Council's workforce to undertake. This has a cost to budgets if outside contractors are required. It is also clear that Himalayan balsam is becoming established.</p> <p>The level of maintenance in recent years has caused complaints from site neighbours which require resources to deal with.</p> <p>The tree preservation orders on site have not recently been reviewed, another area with resource implications.</p> <p>On a more positive note, the Woods would be a small site with an enthusiastic group of interested volunteers wanting to take it on and manage for biodiversity, enabling a much more focussed and volunteer led approach to management.</p> <p>The availability of this site with it's increased potential for green recreation and learning as part of a wildlife corridor along the Dreel Burn has immense potential for mental health, the climate, biodiversity (and kingfishers). It may not come with pound signs but it could be regarded as invaluable.</p>

## Section F – Property

(see Section F in the Scoring Matrix)

**Please specify if you wish to: Lease [ ] or Purchase [ X ] the asset.**

If lease, please go to F1, if Purchase please complete F2.

F1.	Annual Rental
	<p>Please state the:</p> <p>Proposed annual rental:</p> <p>Duration of the lease (see Subsidised Leases Policy):</p> <p>Any other special lease terms required:</p>
F2.	Please state the level of discount being requested and provide justification for this level of discount being applied.
	<p>Footprint are requesting that the asset be transferred for £1.</p> <p>The Dreelside Woods is an area of under half a hectare, with a public footpath, scheduled in the local plan for open space and with no means of vehicular access. Fife Council Estates manager has stated that the site has no financial value. Its maintenance is currently a drain on Council resources and a source of community complaints. The Woods should be transferred for a nominal value to a SCIO who wish to take on its management and the development of its habitat and community use.</p>

F3.	Has the organisation considered the ongoing costs that will be required to maintain the property – please detail how these will be met? Is funding available to cover initial overheads while services are developed (utilities, rates etc.)?
	<p>Yes, see E1. We anticipate securing insurance from members fees as an addition to our current policy; and undertaking targeted routine maintenance with the assistance of volunteers. There are no utilities on site</p>
F4.	Is the asset currently used or occupied by the Council or another party? Please state whether you have made any investigations and the outcome of any discussions regarding current use/occupation of the asset. This should be flagged up in any consultation process.
	<p>The site is not used or occupied by Fife Council or any other party except for recreational purposes by Anstruther residents or tourists walking through.</p> <p>There are storm water drains running under the property and Fife Council currently maintains two benches and a litter bin.</p> <p>No other use was identified in the consultation, but we would expect conveyancing to clarify this.</p>

## Section G - Local and National Outcomes

(see Section G in the Scoring Matrix)

G1.	How will the proposed benefits of the asset transfer request contribute to achieving the Council's outcomes? See Plan for Fife <a href="#">A new Plan for Fife   Our Fife - Community portal</a>
	<p>Elements of this proposal address all of the priority themes in A new Plan for Fife.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opportunities for All - By provision of an accessible natural green space where anyone can connect with nature.</li> <li>2. Thriving Places - Access to and involvement with the management of a biodiverse woodland area - whether by helping plant a tree or counting butterflies, will contribute to the development of a robust, happy community , through shared experience, a common purpose and a clearly achieved goal for residents and their children. The project will provide intergenerational support and activities, reflecting different needs of various sectors of the community.</li> <li>3. Inclusive growth and Jobs - Provision of further natural assets that encourage nature tourism will add to the income of Anstruther, through accommodation and provisioning services.</li> <li>4. Community Led Services - This project is a perfect example of a community leading in the management of its own environmental services and developing the bio diversity of the area. Local consultation and volunteer involvement are the lead mechanisms.</li> </ol> <p>Footprint believe that this acquisition would increase community confidence and add to the sense of place and of local ownership. We believe that we can be a part of developing a more supportive community, one that feels more empowered to influence decisions and take action.</p>
G2.	How will the proposal impact on the Council's own delivery of services?
	<p>The proposed asset transfer will give the community a chance to be more actively involved in looking after their local open space. They will learn and share skills and become more aware of the needs of the environment. We aspire to increase the number of initiatives that will actively involve both young and old people and seek to enhance both physical and mental well being. There may be things the Council can learn about community asset management and there will be the financial savings itemised in E6 above.</p>
G3.	Demonstrate how the proposal will contribute to national priorities (refer to National Priorities). <a href="#">National Outcomes   National Performance Framework</a>
	<p>An explicit aim of the Scottish Government is to empower communities ‘...to tackle, poverty, inequality and rural disadvantage on their own terms, in turn supporting inclusive growth ..’ and “...promote a more responsive, community-led, place-based approach”</p> <p>This initiative will meet Government objectives by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. building community capacity</li> <li>ii. increasing active inclusion and developing opportunities for enhanced engagement for a diverse range of groups - all ages and parts of the community respond positively to nature and the natural environment</li> <li>iii. the creation of local plans and proposals</li> <li>iv. developing local assets, services and projects that respond to the needs of the people in their communities</li> <li>v. delivering community-led solutions that tackle priorities that matter most locally</li> </ol>



	vi. developing local interventions which offer opportunities and pathways for social and community integration
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## Section H – Other Information

(see Section H in the Scoring Matrix)

<b>H1.</b>	<b>Additional information in support of your application</b> (see sections 6 & 7 in the Guidance Notes) – Include information on how you have kept the community updated about the proposal and other stakeholders who have been approached who could work in partnership with your organisation.
	<p>Footprint keep the Community Council up to date with developments on the asset transfer. Trustees have sought on site meetings with the local councillors to keep them up to date. We have social media accounts that are updated regularly to let people know what is going on - Insta, Facebook and a blog and Footprint have a website which will take over this role from The Allotments Association.</p> <p>The volunteer events - tree planting for example, are advertised on site and on the local info boards and in shops. The next event will be the baseline survey and the meadow cutting.</p> <p>Many of the experts who have been helping us are also local residents. We are also regularly on site talking to local people as we go about our work.</p>

## Submission Checklist

Before submission, make sure you have read the Council's Guidance on community asset transfer and the Scottish Government Guidance for Community Transfer Bodies.

Please tick that you have included the following accompanying documents:

- |                                                                                                                 |                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Full business plan for use of the asset                                                                      | na <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Most recent full year accounts including reserves policy                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> X  |
| 3. Constitution/governance document                                                                             | x <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| 4. Letters of support from community members and<br>copy of community consultation report / consultation survey | <input type="checkbox"/> X  |
| 5. 5 year cash flow forecast                                                                                    | na <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Signatures

The application is required to be signed by 2 members of your organisation:

Person submitting Date Signature 1 – Director/Charity

Trustee.....

Signature 2 - Director/Charity Trustee.....25 June 2022.

Signatories in signing the above assess that the information contained within the application form is accurate at the time of submission. In addition, should their request be successful, conditions of transfer will be the subject of separate legal agreement(s) with the Council.

Please note that applications are required to be published for any objections but personal information will be redacted in line with data protection principles.

***Further information on how your information is used and why can be found at [fifedirect.org.uk/privacy](https://fifedirect.org.uk/privacy). The Council's Data Protection Officer can be contacted at: [dataprotection@fife.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@fife.gov.uk).***

Please send completed application form to: [CommunityAsset.Transfer@fife.gov.uk](mailto:CommunityAsset.Transfer@fife.gov.uk) or post to Zahida Ramzan, Policy Co-ordinator, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Fife House (West), North Street, Glenrothes, Fife, KY7 5LT.