

**Asset Transfer Request**

**Reporting Template 2021/22 for Relevant Authorities**

Section 95 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires relevant authorities to produce an annual report on Asset Transfer Request activity and publish this no later than 30 June each year.

Following stakeholder feedback and in response to asset transfer evaluations, this template has been created to help gather asset transfer data for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022. Information provided will help inform policy and practice at local and national level as the data will be collated and shared by the Scottish Government’s Community Empowerment Team. However, it will be for each relevant authority to make their own annual report publicly available by 30 June 2022, whether using this template or not.

**Please provide information in the sections below and email the completed template by 30 June 2022 to** **community.empowerment@gov.scot** **.**

**Section One – Relevant Authority Information**

Organisation: Fife Council Address: Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes, KY7 5LT

Completed by: Zahida Ramzan Role: Policy Co-ordinator

Email: Zahida.ramzan@fife.gov.uk Telephone: 03451 555 555 ext 441242

Date of completion: 30th June 2022

Are you the Asset Transfer Lead Contact for the organisation: **Yes**/No

If not please provide the name, job title and email address for the lead contact for any queries:

**Section 2: Asset Transfer Data in 2021/22**

2.1 Please complete the following table for the 2021/22 reporting period :

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total Applications Received  | Number of successful applications determined | Number of unsuccessful applicationsdetermined | Number received and yet to be determined | Number received prior to 2019/20 and yet to be determined |
| 0 |  0 | 0 | 0 |  1 |

2.2 Please provide details of Asset Transfer Requests received which resulted in transfer of ownership, lease, or rights from your relevant authority to a community transfer body in 2021/22:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Community Transfer Body, or community group that will take ownership, lease, or management of the asset. | Date request was validated | Date decision was agreed to transfer the asset  | Date transfer completed | Please provide further details, such as: description of the asset / area transferred / amount paid / discount given/ type of ownership / purpose of the transfer. |
| Crail Community Partnership  | 18 March 2020 |  20 August 2020 | 20 May 2021 | Kilminning Nature Reserve, CrailKilminning South is a semi-derelict area comprising a former airfield, It is currently being regenerated into coastal woodland and scrub, which is a very rare habitat in the East Neuk. It retains natural vegetation around its edges and the potential for further regeneration into a more biodiverse natural area, providing ecosystem services such as biodiversity, recreation, noise and wind screening, soil retention, nutrient cycling, carbon storage and flood management. The organisation sought community ownership to create a community nature reserve and extend the adjacent Scottish Wildlife Trust managed reserve (Kilminning Coast) to encompass the area of land to the North which is currently being used as an unofficial recreational park and area in which to view wildlife by the local community and visitors. Asset was valued at £37k but was transferred for a nominal £1.  |
| Newburgh Community Trust  | 30 January 2020 | 15 May 2020 | 3 June 2021 | East Shore Park, Coach Road, NewburghEast Shore Park was leased to the group and has been used as a sporting and recreational facility within Newburgh for many years and the group wished to develop the asset in line with community aspiration. East Shore Park is within the residential area of the town and is walled so provides a safe and secure venue for sporting opportunities to be provided for young people across a variety of sport. There is also an opportunity to introduce walking football and a Men's Shed. The asset was valued at £10k and the organisation offered to pay the full market value. |
| Forgan Arts Centre | 1 April 2020 | 15 May 2020 | 20 December 2021 | Leng Home, Newport-on-TayForgan Arts Centre was established forty-two years ago and has been successful in providing a range of arts and crafts activities in the Tay Bridgehead area. The acquisition of Leng Home will enable FAC to be more inclusive and provide opportunities for all through providing a wider range of classes and activities; improve health and wellbeing; increasing the quality of life of older people; reducing inequality particularly for low income families by offering discount schemes and free places to access training and work experience.   The asset was valued at £440,000 and the organisation offered £200,000 which was accepted.  |
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2.3 Please provide details of Asset Transfer Requests that went to a relevant authority appeal or review which were concluded in 2021/22:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Community Transfer Body | Was the Asset Transfer Appeal/Review accepted? (Y/N) | Why was the Appeal/Review accepted/refused? *Please provide details of the asset transfer request and reasons for your decision.*  |
| St Andrews Environmental Network | N | Through asset transfer, the organisation wished to address the following: * Advance health and wellbeing by tackling the causes of fuel poverty and reducing energy bills for residents and businesses;
* Advance environmental protection by promoting and supporting the reduction of the carbon footprint of the community and the surrounding area;
* Advance education on environmental issues and energy efficiency, particularly among the residents and businesses of the community.

The request was refused on the basis that: * the organisation did not supply enough evidence of the funding and ongoing operation of the proposal
* the projected benefits did not demonstrate enough community benefit relative to the value forgone and adverse impact on the delivery of Council Services;
* Lack of evidence of consultation and support for loss of existing services.

The request was refused by the Assets, Finance & Corporate Services Sub-Committee on 20th August 2020. An internal review was undertaken which upheld the Committee decision. The organisation appealed to Scottish Ministers where the Council decision was upheld (decision report dated 9th September 2021).  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

2.4 Please use this space to provide any further comments relating to the above data:

**Section Three – Promotion and Equality**

3.1 Please provide information on any action you have taken to promote the benefits of asset transfer or any support provided for communities to engage with the Asset Transfer Request process.

During the pandemic there were very few enquiries and requests for asset transfer but enquiries have picked up since. The Council continues to support any organisation wishing to apply asset transfer including referring to Fife Voluntary Action and DTAS/COSS. All guidance, application forms and previous applications and decisions are published online.

3.2 In particular what action has been taken to support disadvantaged communities to engage with the asset transfer process?

Staff in localities will support organisations with the asset transfer process and/or referring to relevant organisations as appropriate.

**Section Four – Additional Information**

4.1 Please use this space to provide any further feedback not covered in the above sections.

**Section 5 – Community Empowerment Act Review**

*The following questions relate to the Scottish Government review of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. We would value your feedback as a relevant authority concerned with part 5 (asset transfers) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.*

5.1 Has the legislation made things easier or more difficult to access? Please provide some comments on your experiences as a relevant authority engaging with this legislation.

The legislation has formalised the process of asset transfer and from an organisation’s point of view it is helpful to have a timescale within which they will receive a response.

5.2 Where can things be further improved, and what needs to change?

Organisations can still feel frustrated as the process of transfer can sometimes be lengthy. That can be anything from negotiating the final terms and conditions of transfer to the organisation having to ensure their constitution is suitable for asset transfer. Without necessarily changing the legislation, it is perhaps more about making organisations aware of these types of issues before they start the process of asset transfer.

5.3 Are you aware of what support is available to you when engaging with this legislation, and how you can access this? Please provide comments where possible.

Yes – have a nominated contact within COSS

5.4 What would you like to see now, to further empower Scotland’s communities?

**Please email the completed template by 30 June 2022 to** **community.empowerment@gov.scot**

If you have any queries please contact Malcolm Cowie, Asset Transfer Policy Manager at Malcolm.cowie@gov.scot

Thank you!

Community Empowerment Team

Scottish Government