



Dundee City Council Community Empowerment Report

2025/26



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 2025 – 31st March 2026.

These figures give a snapshot of formal requests under the statutory framework but currently do not give a full account of community ownership across Dundee. Many council assets are used or managed by community groups through leases and other arrangements, and some transfers have happened through alternative voluntary routes.

There are currently eight community organisations at different stages of the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) process, showing movement from initial enquiries through to application.

The Scottish Government's revised approach to annual reporting this year will help address this by including the disposal of land and assets to community groups through voluntary processes, outwith the statutory CAT route. It will give a more complete and accurate picture of community ownership across Dundee.

In January 2026 the Community Asset Transfer of Mid-Lin Day Care Centre saw the building and land transferred to the community organisation for £1, placing the asset into local ownership following committee approval. Mid-Lin has operated from the building since 2003, delivering vital support to adults and older people experiencing disability, ill health and social isolation. This represents an example of a community asset transfer progressed outwith the statutory framework, instead delivered through the Council's voluntary Community Asset Transfer scheme. The transfer represents best value, securing continued service delivery while enabling expanded community use in an area of high deprivation and supporting future plans for a purpose-built, more accessible facility.

Another example of community ownership which has moved forward this year is the Kirkton Community Centre SCIO who continue to progress plans for a new community-owned facility on the existing community centre site, following Dundee City Council approval of a 99-year ground lease. Around £3 million in funding has been secured towards the project, supporting delivery of a new community hub. This development reflects strong partnership working between Dundee City Council and Kirkton Community Centre SCIO, with both parties collaborating to secure a long-term lease, funding and supporting the delivery of a community-owned facility that responds directly to locally identified need.

In February 2026, Dundee City Council's "Idea to Asset" event at Drumgeith Community Campus brought together around 70 participants from community groups to explore community ownership. The event was supported by partners including Dundee Volunteer and Voluntary Action, the Scottish Land Fund, the Community Ownership Support Service, NHS Community Benefit Gateway and Business Gateway. Feedback from attendees showed a clear increase in understanding of Community Asset Transfer, with 68% rating their knowledge as high after the event, compared with 32% beforehand.



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.

During the 2025/26 period, Dundee City Council supported 156 community organisations and projects in engaging with community improvement initiatives. Furthermore, 1012 unique individuals were assisted in contributing to Local Community Planning outcomes within their communities.

Local Community Planning Partnerships (LCPP's) Café Conversations were introduced in 2025/26 to create a more accessible and inclusive approach to community engagement, moving away from formal meetings towards informal, small-group discussions in local venues. This format has made it easier for residents to take part and share their views alongside partners.

Attendance data shows a clear increase in engagement. In August 2024, total attendance across LCPP activity was 86, including 20 community members. By August 2025, this rose significantly to 206 attendees, with 61 community members participating.

Overall, the café-style approach has broadened participation, particularly among residents who may not engage in traditional settings. It has strengthened the quality and diversity of community input while providing a stronger evidence base to inform local priorities and planning.

Alan Gunn, CLD Manager, Community Empowerment

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2. Data Tables

Community Asset Transfer	
Reporting period - start	1 st April 2025
Reporting period - end	31 st March 2026
Total number of asset transfer requests received under the Community Empowerment Act 2015	1 (received in 2025-26, agreed in 2026-27)
Number agreed	0
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	0
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

Participation Requests	
Reporting Period Start	1 st April 2025
Reporting period - end	31 st March 2026
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

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