

ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE- 6 JUNE 2017

REVISED COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER POLICY

REPORT BY HEAD OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND TRANSFORMATION

ABSTRACT

This report advises the Committee of changes in how the Council deals with Community Asset Transfer and a revised guide in line with the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) approves the new Community Asset Transfer Guide as set out below and at **Appendix 1**.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN / SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

2.1. This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Angus is a good place to live in, work in and visit
- Our communities are safe, secure and vibrant
- Individuals are supported in their own communities with good quality services
- We have improved the health and wellbeing of our people and inequalities are reduced
- Our built and natural environment is protected and enjoyed

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Following the approval of a community asset transfer policy in November 2012, the Council has been at the forefront of community asset transfers with an established voluntary Community Asset Transfer scheme. The Community Asset Transfer Group (CATG) was established to assess applications. However, In January 2017, Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, Asset Transfer Requests, came in to force fully, and the Scottish Government issued Guidance for Relevant Authorities and Community Transfer Bodies. The review of the Community Asset Transfer policy and procedures mentioned in Report No 138/17 has now been completed.

4. CURRENT POSITION

4.1 In the period of the Council's voluntary asset transfer policy, a total of 9 applications for Community Asset Transfer were approved by Committee and Council, whilst a number are in the development stages. Details of these applications are listed in **Appendix 2**.

4.2 Since January 2017, all new enquiries for asset transfer and those currently at Stage 1 in the previous policy, have been dealt with using the new Guidance for Relevant Authorities.

4.3 The Community Asset Transfer Group has developed the new guide in conjunction with Scottish Government Guidance.

5. PROPOSALS

5.1 Under the proposed new legislation, an asset transfer request has to be made by a Community Transfer Body (CTB) to a relevant authority (in this case, the Council) about any land or buildings that the authority owns or rents. A Community Transfer Body has to meet certain rules before it can make an asset transfer request.

5.2 Land or buildings no longer have to be surplus to the Council's requirements. A Community Transfer Body can make an application for any land or buildings owned by the Council (with a

Appendix 2 – Applications

Name of Applicant	Name of Asset	Date of delegated approval or outcome	Status
Tealing Hall Management Committee	Tealing Village Hall	12/12/2012	Transfer completed. Handover of keys to Hall Committee in November 2014.
Muirhead and Birkhill Bowling Club	Land at Bowling Club	15/12/2012	Transfer approved by committee in August 2014. Legal and finance arrangements in place.
Newtyle and Eassie playgroup	Newtyle Pavillion	10/12/2012	Application withdrawn
Friockheim Community Hub Ltd	Eastgate School	09/03/2013	Transfer complete.
Cliffburn and Hayshead Development Trust	Seaton Park	19/07/13	Development phase. Transfer agreed by committee in November 2014. Planning application submitted. Funding applications in hand and waiting to hear from Environmental Health .
Montrose Playhouse	Montrose Swimming Pool	18/11/2013	Property went back on Market and was sold to the group
Muirhead Birkhill Millenium Hall	Birkhill Park	19/05/2014	Transfer Approved by committee – Awaiting information from club
Carnoustie Panmure Football Club	Pitskelly Park synthetic pitch	19/05/14	Transfer agreed. Funding in place. Legal arrangements complete.
Arbroath Vics	Ogilvy Park	22/05/2013	Transfer agreed by committee in March 2015. Negotiations for first payment underway.
Monifieth Community Resource group	Invertay House and grounds	August 2016	Development stage
Birkhill Park Millennium Land. Group	Car park and close adjacent area	September 2016	Development phase. Funding in place. Legal arrangements in hand.
Forfar and District mans shed	Lochside road lock ups	December 2016	Transfer Approved subject to ministerial consent re HRA land.
Brechin City Band	21 City Road	December 2015	Application has been rejected and premises will be demolished
Carnoustie Allotment Association	Maule Street allotments	August 2016	Transfer approved subject to ministerial consent
Arbroath Garden Allotment association	Brechin road Allotments	August 2016	Application submitted. Meeting arranged
Tayside Council on Alcohol	Den House, Kirriemuir	December 2016	Development phase – meeting being arranged
Angus Creative Practitioners	The Cross, Forfar	March 2016	Pre application submitted.- meeting arranged
Kirriemuir and Dean Area Partnership	Fairlie House, Kirriemuir	March 2016	Pre application submitted – meeting arranged.