



“Resilient Communities – Time for Action”
13/14th June, MacDonald Highland Conference Centre, Aviemore

Sunday 13th June - Arrive & Register from 1pm onwards

- 14:00 **Study Visit – Laggan Forrest Trust (return 4pm)**
- 16.30 **Annual General Meeting and Annual Review**
- 17:00 **Mystery Slot – DTAS Members**
- 17:30 **Have Your Say – a platform for members to shape the way forward**
- 18:00 **Break**
- 19.00 **Civic Reception – Hosted by Highland Council**
- 19:45 **Conference Dinner – Sponsored by The Royal Bank of Scotland**

Monday 14th June

- 09:00 – 09:30 **Registration & Marketplace (Tea/Coffee)**
- 09:30 – 09:40 **Welcome and introduction: Alex Walker, Chairperson, DTAS**
- 09:40 – 10:50 **Keynote Speakers:**
Alistair McIntosh-Activist, Scholar & Writer
Micheal Pyner-Chair DTA/CEO Shoreditch Trust
T (tbc)Pauline Hinchion-CE Community Recycling Network for Scotland
- 10.50 - 11:20 **Tea/Coffee & Marketplace**
- 11:25 – 12:40 **Seminars – part 1 (see over)**
- 12:40 – 13:10 **Marketplace/Networking**
- 13:10 – 14:00 **Lunch & Marketplace (from 13:30)**
- 14:05 – 14:55 **Seminars/Surgeries - part 2 (see over)**
- 15:00 – 16:00 **Question Time with Lesley Riddoch**
- 16:00 **Conference close & afternoon tea**

Themes to be covered through conference programme:

- **ENTERPRISING RESPONSES TO THE RECESSION**
- **REVERSING POPULATION DECLINE**
- **USING ASSET TRANSFER TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL ECONOMIES**
- **COMMUNITY ACTION - CLIMATE CHANGE & PEAK OIL**

Conference supporters:



DTA Scotland is a Scottish Registered Charity No. SCO34231

11:25 – 12:40 Seminars Part 1 (choose one)

1. Sustainable Rural Communities & Community Responses to Affordable Housing

Chair: David Brettell, Hands on Help for Communities

**Speakers: Jamie Dent, Dumfries & Galloway Small Communities Housing Trust
Angela Williams, The Knoydart Foundation**

Significant changes in the population of rural Scotland ? in numbers, age profile, and socio-economic background pose real challenges to these communities. Can these trends be reversed, or even managed? And how can population change be used to the advantage of rural areas? This session will explore key factors influencing the sustainability of rural communities, with a particular focus on access to affordable housing, jobs and services. Innovative ways of providing affordable housing will be profiled.

2. Business Acquisition ? a new route to growth?

Chair: Karen Anderson, Social Firms Scotland

Speaker: Maree Hay, Northmavine Community Development Company

Could the acquisition of an existing business help your trust grow and meet local needs at the same time? A growing number of small and family businesses are looking to sell. Acquisition by a local development trust can provide a good solution for both the community and the seller. This session will introduce the acquisition of an existing business as a method of growing your organisation?s income and social impact, explore the experiences of trusts that have gone down this road, and outline sources of support for those considering it.

3. The Legal Considerations of Taking on and Developing Community Assets

Chair: Angus Hardie, Promoting Asset Transfer Programme

Speakers: Lionel Most and James Forbes, Burness LLP

This session will give an overview of some of the key legal considerations that development trusts need to be aware of in relation to taking on and developing assets. This includes taking on a lease or ownership of property, making sure you have sufficient control and use of the asset, and contracting professionals in relation to building work ? whether new build or improvements to an existing property. There will be a chance to ask questions of the legal experts on-hand. There will be limited places for this workshop, so If interested ? book early! Some information will be required in advance on topics delegates want covered in this session

4. Can Communities Tackle Climate Change & Fuel Poverty in Tandem?

Chair: Ian Cooke, DTA Scotland

Speakers; Norman Kerr, Energy Action Scotland

Rosie Lewis, Out of the Blue, Edinburgh

Sandra Sutton, Twechar Community Action

It is widely acknowledged that the effects of global warming will be felt most acutely by disadvantaged communities, and fuel poverty remains a pressing issue for older people, vulnerable people and low income families. As it becomes increasingly clear that both these

issues are intrinsically linked, more and more communities are tackling these issues together. This session explores the climate change and fuel poverty, highlights what some development trusts are doing in response to these issues and highlights what practical resources are available to assist communities engage in these issues.

5. Can Community Owned Renewables Stack Up in Urban Areas?

Chair: Nicholas Gubbins, Community Energy Scotland

Panel: Iona McDonald, Community Energy Scotland;

Pauline Gallacher, Neilston Development Trust;

John Cape, Scottish Renewables

Hundreds of communities throughout Scotland are developing their own renewable sources of heat and power. Much of this activity has taken place in rural areas, where the resource is greatest. But what opportunities, challenges and solutions exist for urban communities? This session will begin with an overview of current interest within urban communities, relevant technologies, specific challenges, and new and emerging models for delivery. This will be followed by an open debate. Can community owned renewable stack up in urban areas? If so, how?

14:05 –14:55 Seminars– Part 2 (choose one)

6. Trading Income, Capital Builds & VAT-an Introduction for Development Trusts

Speaker: Charles Rumbles, CKR VAT Consultancy

Dealing with VAT can seem a daunting prospect for many development trusts, particularly as their trading income expands, or as a consideration within capital build projects. This workshop provides an accessible introduction to the issue of VAT ? when does it become a consideration and how should development trusts respond to it when it does. In addition to a general overview, the workshop will offer participants the opportunity to ask questions about their own particular situation. There will be limited places for this workshop, so if interested ? book early!

Some information will be required in advance on topics delegates want covered in this session

7. Waste ? An Asset in Every Community!

Speaker: Pauline Hinchion, Community Recycling Network for Scotland

Historically, dealing with waste has been one of the most successful areas of social enterprise activity, and many community-led organisations have delivered a range of re-use and re-cycling services. In this workshop, Pauline Hinchion, Director of Community Recycling Network Scotland, reflects on how the increasing value of waste produce is challenging the role of community enterprises, outlines how development trusts can engage in recycling activities and explores what needs to be done to ensure that communities continue to maximize the benefits of, what is ultimately, a community asset.

8. Reversing Economic Blight through Community-Led Asset Development

Speakers : Tony Dylak & Raj Panesar, Royds Community Association, Bradford

This workshop recounts the inspiring story of how in 1994 the formation of a development trust in the south west of Bradford transformed the fortunes of the area. Hear the full story! More txt to come

9. Meeting the Challenges of De-population

Speaker: Alasdair McVicar, Westray Development Trust

De-population is a challenge facing many rural and island communities, and attempting to reverse de-population was a central reason behind the formation of Westray Development Trust. This workshop highlights how the development trust in this Orcadian island have

developed and implemented an ambitious plan to reverse the fortunes of the community, and in the process overcome challenges and address issues which will resonate in rural communities throughout Scotland.

10. Community Share Issues ? An Alternative Way to Finance Capital Projects

Speaker: Jim Brown, Community Shares Programme & Baker Brown Associates

Within a context of diminishing public spending and less grant funding, the availability of alternative ways to finance capital projects takes on an additional significance. Our sister organisation, the DTA are currently working with Co-operatives UK on an action / learning programme to develop the use of community shares. This workshop offers an opportunity to get an update on what's been happening and hear about what has been learnt to date. The legislative context for community share issues is a UK one, so the resources being developed by the programme have a direct relevance for development trusts in Scotland.