

Development Trusts Association Scotland Board of Trustees Nominations 2025-26

The DTAS Constitution requires that one third of the Board retire at the AGM (but are entitled to seek re-election). The board consisted of 15 members which means 5 Trustees will be required to stand down this year. These are:

- Jim Bristow, Associate Member, Individual. Jim is not seeking re-election
- David Fryer, Full Member, Torry Development Trust. David is seeking re-election
- Mark McRitchie, Full Member, Community Central Hall. Mark is seeking re-election
- Tom Sneddon, Full Member, Carlisle Development Trust. Tom is not seeking re-election.
- Lindsay Wood, Full Member, A Heart for Duns. Lindsay is seeking re-election

We have received nominations for three new Trustees, they are:

- Mike Danson, Full Member, Strathnairn Development Trust
- Sheena Boyd, Full Member, New Cumnock Development Trust
- Carolyn Reddell, Full Member, Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust

This year we have five vacancies on the DTAS board and a total of six nominations. This means that we are holding a vote to elect our trustees.

Every full and provisional member organisation has one vote. Only one individual should be authorised to vote on behalf of your member organisation. It is up to your organisation to agree who this individual should be. In the event of any dispute or challenge, DTAS reserves the right to check and verify this. Multiple votes from the same organisation will not be counted.

Online voting was open from 11th July 2025 – 18th August 2025. Any members who have not cast a vote online will be able to do so in person at the AGM on 26th August. Ballots forms will be provided at registration to any full and provisional member who has not already cast a vote online.

The nominated trustees with the greatest number of votes will be deemed elected. If possible, this will be announced during DTAS annual conference, but we will defer the announcement in the event that there are any issues.

Development Trusts Association Scotland

Trustee profiles

GRAHAM BLACK – MOFFAT TOWN HALL REDEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

Graham lives in Moffat with his wife Claire, and their labrador Pippin. Having spent most his career as a senior manager in HMRC, he moved to become Director of Marine Scotland in 2016 before retiring in 2020. He has been Chair of Moffat Town Hall Redevelopment Trust since 2016. He is also Chair of the local Theatre and is a non-executive director of Seafish, a body supporting the fishing industry and encouraging people to eat fantastic seafood!

SHEENA BOYD – NEW CUMNOCK DEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

Sheena is currently employed as operational lead in a community-led charity aiming to regenerate New Cumnock. Responsibilities include operational HR, finance, fundraising, project development and management, supporting trustees with governance and reporting to the board. She is a professionally qualified accountant and previously worked in private sector, practice and international charity before changing career. She has volunteered in various roles from community activist to charity trustee for approximately 20 years. Previous board roles include as director with Scottish Rural Action and founding trustee with Sanquhar Enterprise Company. Her current board role is with Firstport. She has also recently joined the South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership.

SANDY BRUNTON – MULL & IONA COMMUNITY TRUST (FULL)

Sandy was born and raised on the Isle of Mull, trained as a boat builder, then moved to Southampton. Returning to Mull with his wife Jane, they reopened the village shop and Post Office in Fionnphort and raised a family. After 25 busy years, they sold the shop in 2011. He is involved in many community-based local and national organisations. Sandy has been the Convenor of Mull and Iona Community Trust for a number of years and is on the board of Connecting Scotland, a CiC which aims to increase the use of participatory processes in organisations throughout Scotland. He plays in the local pipe band and also a local volunteer Coastguard.

ANDY CUTHBERTSON – ROSEMOUNT DEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

Andy Cuthbertson is the Community Development Officer with Rosemount Development Trust, leading on Royston's Local Place Plan, as well as a large-scale greening project including acquiring Vacant & Derelict Land for park development and a local heritage project which will feed into Royston's school curriculum.

Andy previously worked as Head of Heritage at New Lanark, leading on projects including heritage-led regeneration, decolonisation and exploring LGBTQ+ lives in the Industrial Revolution. They have previously worked in PR for TRNSMT festival and Whyte & Mackay brands, with an extensive background in social media marketing.

MIKE DANSON – STRATHNAIRN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (FULL)

Mike lives in the Highlands where he is the Chair of Strathnairn Development Company, Vice Chair of Strathnairn Heritage Association and on the board of Cultarlann Inbhir Nis. He has

worked mostly as a Professor of Economics in universities in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Paisley but also as a senior economist in Strathclyde Regional Council. Currently he is Professor Emeritus of Enterprise Policy, Heriot-Watt University, Visiting Professor of Energy Policy, Strathclyde University and Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences, of the Institute of Economic Development and of the Regional Studies Association. He has worked with and advised national and international organisations: including Scottish Government, OECD, WHO, EC, trades unions and community groups and has published widely on rural, regional and island economies; community buyouts; microbreweries; Gaelic and minority languages; and many other areas.

DAVID FRYER – TORRY DEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

David was one of the founding members of the Torry Development Trust and was Secretary of Torry Community Council for five years up to 2017. With a background in architecture, building conservation, project management and community development, he brings an accumulation of knowledge and experiences from the last fifty years of community involvement, environmental and campaign organisations to share with the DTAS and its partners. David has been on the DTAS board since 2022 and is keen for Development Trusts to develop collaborations with third sector, academic institutions and community organisations especially in the new age of less and lesser government that is being talked up in the political environment.

JANE LAMONT – BEITH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

Jane is the Senior Officer at Beith Community Development Trust in the Garnock Valley. She has worked predominantly in the voluntary sector, focusing mostly on the meaningful participation and involvement of communities in decision making. The inception of Beith CDT led to a role within her local community driving the organisation forward as a means to empower individuals and develop new ways of working.

EWEN MCLACHLAN – ASSYNT DEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

Ewen McLauchlan, has been Development Officer with Assynt Development Trust since 2018 and over this time he has been pivotal in addressing priority areas for the North West of Scotland in terms of housing shortages, low paid employment and the threat of depopulation. Tourism, housing, economy and environment are key areas of Ewen's expertise, and he actively works in delivering transformational services with ADT and being instrumental in setting up other community-led activities. Including Discover Assynt, Assynt Food Larder and a proposed mixed housing development. Ewen is also active in various advisory, research and steering groups on a local and national level for offshore community benefits, creation of new jobs and connectivity in the North West.

Previously Ewen has worked as a columnist, owned a media and production company and events.

MARK MCRITCHIE – COMMUNITY CENTRAL HALL (FULL)

Mark is Chief Executive of Community Central Hall (CCH) in Glasgow, leading a community anchor in operation for 50 years, with a variety of services, including childcare, transport, and community fridge. CCH generates around 86% of its own income. A Fellow of the RSA, Mark is active in the voluntary, social enterprise, and co-operative sectors, having worked as a business adviser to social enterprises across Scotland. He first joined the Board in 2008, becoming Vice-Chair and stepped down in 2021/22 to act as DTAS Interim Chief Executive. He rejoined the Board the following year and now seeks re-election. Mark is passionate about the impact and potential of Development Trusts and the value of learning from one another across the UK.

JANET MILES - GAIRLOCH AND LOCH EWE ACTION FORUM (FULL)

Janet is Managing Director of GALE, a community development company serving the Gairloch and Loch Ewe communities in Wester Ross. Janet has managed GALE for the last 25 years growing its income generating capacity to change it from a fully grant funded organisation to a thriving social enterprise employing 25 staff and engaging 40 volunteers. Income streams developed now include retail trading, advertising services, events, public sector service level agreements and advice and support services to other community groups. In 2012 GALE completed construction of the first public building in Scotland to achieve Passive House Certification which they continue to run as a thriving community hub. Janet has served on the Scottish Land Fund Committee since 2016 and in October 2018 was appointed to the National Lottery Community Fund Scotland Committee.

MATT PEARCE – WEST CALDER & HARBURN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

Matt is the Chief Executive of West Calder & Harburn CDT which is where he lives and grew up. As a founding director then employee, he has been involved from planters and Santa's Sleighs through to major capital works and asset transfers. He thinks that communities should be able to decide what is best for themselves and that Development Trusts help make that happen. In a supportive environment this can have a huge impact and the opportunity to help DTAS provide that is really inspiring to him. His interests include woodland management, history and travel (including an endless camper-van conversion!).

CAROLYNN REDDELL – EDINBURGH OLD TOWN DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Carolynn has worked within Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust since 2021 as their Facilities and Operations Manager. This has involved managing the finances, administration, and staff management of the organisation, as well as the running of The Crannie – EOTDT's community hub. Carolynn is particularly proud of developing a financial inclusion project, through which she has been supporting residents of Edinburgh Old Town through the cost-of-living crisis. Prior to this, Carolynn worked for St John Ambulance service as an event coordinator, ensuring adequate first aid provisions were provided to events, from small community fetes to large events such as football games and the London Marathon. Before St John, she worked for Picturehouse Cinemas, where she ran their Outdoor Cinema programme.

MICHAEL ROY – ANTERMONY DEVELOPMENT TRUST (FULL)

Michael Roy PhD is Professor of Social Innovation and Sustainable Organisations at Stirling Management School, University of Stirling. He is internationally recognised for his groundbreaking research on the health and wellbeing impacts of social enterprises and other organisations in the social economy. He is Editor in Chief of the longest-established scientific journal in the field, Social Enterprise Journal, and is Associate Editor of the Journal of Social Entrepreneurship. Michael is also Secretary of Antermony Development Trust, based in Milton of Campsie, and was elected Chair of DTAS in 2022.

TRACY THOMSON - ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND (ASSOCIATE)

Tracy joined the NatWest Group plc in 1988, she has a background in Retail Banking as a Customer Service Officer, Customer Adviser, Branch Manager and latterly 14 years as a Relationship Manager in Business Banking based in Edinburgh working with businesses, charities and social sector organisations. In 2015 Tracy joined the, Social & Community Capital division as a Loans Officer, which is a social lender and independent charity supported and financed by the NatWest Group plc. In her current role she gets to support enterprises with a social purpose and to help promote sustainability in communities and

develop the social finance and investment marketplace to support start-up and growing organisations who find it difficult to get sufficient mainstream finances across the UK.

MELLISSA THOMSON – EDAY PARTNERSHIP (FULL)

Melissa has lived on the small island of Eday in Orkney for most of her life, engaging in farming, fishing and various other island activities. She serves as a Director of the Eday Partnership, the development trust for the island, and also as a director of the trading subsidiary, Eday Renewable Energy. Eday Partnership delivers on training, community transport, events, climate action and is currently investigating housing options for the island.

A couple of years ago, Melissa was elected as a Councillor for the North Isles Ward of Orkney Islands Council. Additionally, she chairs the board of Orkney Ferries, which operates the internal ferry service within Orkney and employs over 200 staff.

With a broad spectrum of knowledge, Melissa is keenly aware that financial resources are becoming more constrained for everyone. Therefore, she advocates for strategic spending and innovative thinking. She believes that collaboration is essential for success.

LINDSAY WOOD – A HEART FOR DUNS (FULL)

Lindsay is Development Manager for A Heart for Duns, a Development Trust and a SCIO in Duns. Lindsay has been a volunteer for ages in local, regional and national groups, and formerly managed Cultural Services in Scottish Borders. He is also a Director of Borders Community Action (TSI), and has experience of wee and big project development works including both capital and revenue disciplines. In working with many articulate and passionate community groups he has seen the transformative impact local groups can make when taking ownership and being engaged in their community, and subscribes to the BBQ principle of intervention to make things Bigger, Better or Quicker, and to the MAD principle of Making A Difference.