



What is a development trust?

A development trust is a community organisation that takes action to improve the place where it's based. It's led by local people and works to create lasting, positive change, building wealth in an area and keeping it there.

- Community-led and community-run
- Made up of local members who shape key decisions
- Independent, but works in partnership with others
- Enterprise-driven – generates income to stay sustainable
- Focused on reinvesting profits into a wide range of local issues (social, economic, environmental)

What can a development trust do?

If the community needs it, a development trust can make it happen...

Take on a disused building and turn it into a community hub

Run a local shop, café or workspace

Deliver services like childcare, transport or training

Create jobs and opportunities in the local economy

If your community is exploring the idea of a development trust, or is already taking steps to set one up, DTAS can help.

Turn over to learn more.



About Development Trusts Association Scotland

DTAS is the national support network for development trusts in Scotland. We help communities take ownership of local assets, deliver services, and create thriving local economies. Wherever you are on the development trust journey, we're here to support you.

What does DTAS offer?

Support with starting a
development trust

Expert services and guidance on
running a development trust

Resources, events and
networking

Access to funding and peer
learning

Specialised support teams: member
support, community ownership,
democratic finance

A network of over 350 member
trusts

Name:

Contact: