

DTAS Annual Conference 2026

Sponsors and Supporters



The DTAS Annual Conference could not go ahead without the support of our fantastic sponsors and supporters.

We are grateful to them for ensuring that Development Trusts across Scotland get access to the brilliant range of peer learning, events, resources and support that is available at the DTAS Annual Conference.

DTAS Conference 2026 - Our Sponsors

The DTAS Conference would not be possible without the contributions of our sponsors, so we would like to extend our thanks to them. See below for details of this year's generous sponsors.



Acorns to Trees

ACORNS TO TREES
ENABLING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Acorns to Trees is a privately funded Scottish Charity with 2 main aims. Firstly, to support the ongoing growth and development of Community Enterprise in Scotland through targeted financial investment, and secondly, to promote and support a more inclusive society in Scotland, where adults with learning disabilities enjoy a more meaningful sense of purpose and belonging. In pursuing these objectives, Acorns2Trees works closely with a small number of key strategic partners, one of which is DTA Scotland. For further information see www.acorns2trees.com

The National Lottery Community Fund



At The National Lottery Community Fund, we work within and alongside communities across the UK to strengthen society and build a better future. Thanks to National Lottery players, we fund thousands of projects, supporting communities to create change locally and at scale.

We award funding to projects that help communities come together; be environmentally sustainable; help children and young people thrive, and enable people to live healthier lives.

In Scotland, our eight regional teams ensure our funding is accessible and responsive to local needs.

We also deliver the Scottish Land Fund in partnership with Highlands and Islands Enterprise on behalf of the Scottish Government, and distribute dormant assets funding through our Young Start programme.

We'll be at the Marketplace to chat about your project ideas, including community ownership ambitions—come and say hello at table 11.

Contacts for funding enquiries.

Tel: 0300 123 7110

[Home | The National Lottery Community Fund](http://Home.TheNationalLotteryCommunityFund)

Historic Environment Scotland



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

Historic Environment Scotland is the lead public body established to investigate, care for and promote Scotland's historic environment. We know that heritage matters to people and the communities they live in. Many of DTAS members own or manage a historic building, provide opportunities to learn and engage with their local heritage or support the protection or conservation of the heritage assets in their places. Heritage may play a key part in attracting visitors to your communities, generating income or helping residents wellbeing. Historic Environment Scotland can provide you with advice and support as well as funding opportunities and guidance to help you care for your historic environment. We have created a specific area of our website to provide more information– www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/communities and if you want to get in touch contact drop us an email developmentandcommunity@hes.scot

Social Investment Scotland



Social Investment Scotland (SIS) is a charity and social enterprise that provides loan finance and tailored business support to charities, social enterprises and community organisations across Scotland. It aims to strengthen the sector by improving access to affordable finance and helping organisations build long-term sustainability and impact.

For DTAS members, SIS can support growth and resilience by offering flexible loans for projects, assets or cash flow, including bridging finance for grant-funded activities. It also delivers training, investment readiness support and programmes that build skills, confidence and organisational capacity.

Together, this finance and support can help development trusts diversify income, invest in community assets, and scale their social and economic impact in line with DTAS's community-led mission.

To get in touch, visit our website: [Contact | Social Investment Scotland](#) or email hello@socialinvestmentscotland.com



**Royal Bank
of Scotland**

Royal Bank of Scotland

Royal Bank of Scotland has a strong heritage supporting community-based businesses. Royal Bank of Scotland has paved the way in banking ever since it was established in 1727. From the world's first overdraft and the first house purchase loan by a UK bank to the first fully-fledged internet banking service and mobile banking app, the bank has a history of making life easier for its customers. Across Scotland, the Royal Bank of Scotland has teams offering customers the support and the skills to make the most of online and mobile banking.

Through Royal Bank of Scotland Social & Community Capital (S&CC), we are building on that support, helping potential and existing social entrepreneurs who are unable to access sufficient finance through mainstream channels. We will look to support viable charities, social enterprises, community interest companies and co-operatives who are sustainable, deliver high levels of social value and are investment ready.

S&CC offers a range of loan products tailored to different organisational needs, with amounts ranging from £30,000 to £500,000 and repayment terms up to 15 years. Interest rates typically range from 4% to 8%, depending on the loan type and security arrangements. Beyond funding, S&CC provides guidance on business and digital skills, networking opportunities, to help organisations expand and thrive



Community Enterprise

Do you have an amazing idea, but need some support to implement it? Community Enterprise provides development support to social enterprises, charities and voluntary groups to help make ideas a reality.



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