
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

15th AUGUST 2024

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2015 – UPDATE – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST / ASSET TRANSFER REQUESTS / PARTICIPATION REQUESTS / REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Policy and Resources Committee on:

- The operation of the processes in regard to formal Asset Transfer Requests and Participation Requests in terms of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015;
- Current live informal Expressions of Interest (EOI's) which may become subject to a formal asset transfer request or be dealt with outwith the formal asset transfer request process;
- Current live ongoing or agreed Participation Requests received by the Council; and
- The annual reporting requirements in respect of Asset Transfer Requests and Participation Requests set out in Section 95 and 32 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 respectively.

2.2 At the Elected Members seminar on 21st March 2023 it was agreed that updates on ATRs and EOIs would be provided on a regular basis. Accordingly, this report will be circulated to all Members following the committee and a quarterly update is provided directly to all Members between the annual reporting.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that:

3.1.1 The Policy and Resources Committee consider the report.

4. DETAIL

4.1 The Council operates processes in compliance with parts 3 and 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 in regard to:

- Asset Transfer Requests (ATR's) (part 5 of the Act) which came into force on 23 January 2017. ATR's enable community bodies to make requests to all local authorities, Scottish Ministers and a range of public bodies for any land or buildings they feel they could make better use of. They can request ownership, lease or other rights as they wish.

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ASSET TRANSFER AND PARTICIPATION REQUESTS - ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- 4.8 Section 95 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires the Council to publish an annual report setting out the numbers of asset transfer requests received and their outcomes.
- 4.9 The report also requires to set out what the Council has done to 1:

6.4 HR – None.

6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty

6.5.1 Equalities – Protected characteristics – None.

6.5.2 Socio economic Duty – None.

Appendix 1

Current Active Expressions of Interest (as at 5th June 2024)

It should be noted that the Council has continued to engage with community groups who have had EOI's active for a significant period of time and while they remain active the requesters have not yet moved them on.

No	Organisation	Asset	Summary of Expression of Interest	Current Status
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8 Dunoon Pipe Band Dunoon Pipe Band Hall, Dunoon Request for a new lease of the hall.

