

**Asset Transfer Request**

**Reporting Template 2020/21 for Relevant Authorities**

Section 95 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 requires relevant authorities to produce an annual report on Asset Transfer Request activity and publish this no later than 30 June each year.

Following stakeholder feedback and in response to asset transfer evaluations, this template has been created to help gather asset transfer data for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. Information provided will help inform policy and practice at local and national level as the data will be collated and shared by the Scottish Government’s Community Empowerment Team. However, it will be for each relevant authority to make their own annual report publicly available by 30 June 2021, whether using this template or not.

**Please provide information in the four sections below and email the completed template by 30 June 2021 to** [**community.empowerment@gov.scot**](mailto:community.empowerment@gov.scot) **.**

**Section One – Relevant Authority Information**

Organisation: East Ayrshire Council Address: Council HQ,

London Road,

Kilmarnock

KA3 7BU

Completed by: Craig Fulton Role: Community Asset Transfer Officer

Email: craig.fulton@east-ayrshire.gov.uk Telephone: 07725763512

Date of completion: 12 June 2021

Are you the Asset Transfer Lead Contact for the organisation: No

If not please provide the name, job title and email address for the lead contact for any queries:

Angela Graham

Estates Manager

Angela.graham@east-ayrshire.gov.uk

**Section 2: Asset Transfer Data in 2020/21**

2.1 Please complete the following table for the 2020/21 reporting period :

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Total new applications received in 2020/21 | Total applications received prior to 1 April 2020 which were still to be determined at 1 April 2020 | Number of successful applications agreed in 2020/21 | Number of unsuccessful applications  refused in 2020/21 | Total applications (received in any year) still to be determined as at 31 March 2021. |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

2.2 Please provide details of Asset Transfer Requests received which resulted in transfer of ownership, lease, or rights from your relevant authority to a community transfer body in 2020/21:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Community Transfer Body, or community group that will take ownership, lease, or management of the asset. | Date request was accepted | Date decision was agreed to transfer the asset | Date transfer completed | Please provide further details, such as: description of the asset / area transferred / amount paid / discount given/ type of ownership / purpose of the transfer. |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

2.3 Please provide details of Asset Transfer Requests that went to a relevant authority appeal (internal) and/or review (Scottish Government) which were concluded in 2020/21:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Community Transfer Body | Was the Asset Transfer Appeal/Review accepted? (Y/N) | Why was the Appeal/Review accepted/refused? *Please provide details of the asset transfer request and reasons for your decision.* |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

2.4 How many assets in total have been transferred to community ownership, lease or management by your organisation since the asset transfer legislation came into force in January 2017?

0

2.5 Please provide information on any assets transferred to community ownership *outwith* the Asset Transfer legislative process since January 2017.

Kilmarnock Academy was transferred to Centrestage in February 2019.

Furthermore multiple buildings and land have been leased through our own Community Asset Transfer Framework:

Gavin Hamilton Sports Centre- Darvel Community Trust

Muirkirk Day Centre- Muirkirk Enterprise Group

New Farm Loch Community Centre- Take A Bow

Jamieson Park Pavilion- Galston YFC

2.6 Considering asset transfers that have completed since 2017, what do you consider to be the outcomes (benefits/challenges) for the communities that have taken ownership of the assets? Please give examples if you can.

Overall the Community Asset Transfer framework which East Ayrshire Council have used to assist organisations take ownership of buildings they desire has been successful. With the exception of Centrestage, who are near completion of a multi million pound refurbishment each Community Asset Transfer organisation has increased the footfall of the facility which they have taken a lease of. These buildings, which in the main were underutilised previously, are now the heart of their communities offering services and activities which increase the quality of life for local residents. Furthermore our CAT organisation were often at the forefront of East Ayrshires Coronavirus resiliency efforts. These volunteers used their buildings as food larders, testing centres, vaccination centres, distribution points or tailored their services to online activity to help residents cope with lockdown. The Coronavirus pandemic has however had an impact of the long term sustainability of some organisations, particularly those organisations who ran successful social enterprise activities which were not suitable for the wider government funding implemented to relieve the effects of C19. While there was an effort from the Council to make organisations aware of the support and assist them to access what was available, it has been noted that some groups fell through the cracks and are now struggling.

As a more long term focus it is clear locally that the demand for funding sources is becoming ever more competitive and this may have an impact on the aspirations of some of our organisations.

2.7 Please use this space to provide any further comments relating to the above data:

**Section Three – Promotion and Equality**

3.1 Please provide information on any action you have taken to promote the benefits of asset transfer or any support provided for communities to engage with the Asset Transfer Request process during 2020/21.

East Ayrshire have developed a strong link between estates officers and the community workers which allows a joined up approach to identifying buildings which are suitable for transfer and organisations with the interest, skills, talent and support to make these assets work better for the communities we serve. Officers engaging with community groups are aware of the process, and can direct and support organisations down this route if of interest, furthermore officers spend significant time with community groups during and after the process to ensure that they have a full understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

While the focus of the authority this year has not been around actively seeking groups interested in Community Asset Transfer, our website has been kept up to date with information able to be accessed through the portal and work to service all interest has been taken online to continue to support our locality.

3.2 In particular what action has been taken to support disadvantaged communities to engage with the asset transfer process during 2020/21?

During 2020/21 financial year very few organisations have come forward to consider new Community Asset Transfer applications given the ongoing pandemic. However many communities have active interest pre-pandemic through our own Framework and continuous support tailored for the needs of the community continue to be provided in a range of online and, recently, face to face settings. The timeframes of these applications has however been altered given that groups have been unable to meet, this more flexible approach has allowed communities to work at their own pace while we recover from the pandemic.

3.3 Please provide any details of the inclusiveness and involvement of local organisations when determining asset transfer applications.

The focus of our CAT Framework is to ensure that Community groups have a wide buy in to any CAT applications through a thorough consultation process. This way all community groups can submit their views and a decision can be reached on the application. Full reflections from Community Groups are considered in the assessment process in order that the views expressed are taken into account.

**Section Four – Additional Information**

4.1 Please use this space to provide any further feedback not covered in the above sections.

*For example, we are interested in your reflections about what has gone well and what has gone less well in relation to Asset Transfers during 2020/21?*

*Is there any aspect of the process that you intend to adapt or change in the year ahead?*

*Have you identified any needs for guidance or support that would support the ATR process?*

*If you have developed any case study material or published new information about Asset Transfer Requests please share links to those with us here.*

**Subject to the pressures of responding during Covid, if possible please email the completed template by 30 June 2021 to** [**community.empowerment@gov.scot**](mailto:community.empowerment@gov.scot)

If you have any queries please contact Malcolm Cowie, Asset Transfer Policy Manager at [Malcolm.cowie@gov.scot](mailto:Malcolm.cowie@gov.scot)

Thank you!

Community Empowerment Team

Scottish Government