

Stage 1 - Expression of Interest Form **Community Asset Transfer (CAT) request**

The Expression of Interest opens the conversation between the applicant and South Ayrshire Council regarding the Council-owned asset your organisation is interested in taking ownership or control of.

In submitting this form, it provides access to support from the CAT team through the provision of information, guidance and signposting to appropriate organisations. It also ensures that where applicable, the applicant organisation is supported throughout the considerable work involved in developing a formal **Community Asset Transfer request** (Stage 2) as per **Part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) 2015 Act** to go forward for a final decision by the Council.

This form must be used when the applicant wishes to request a Development Grant for up to a maximum of £12,000 from the Council's Advancing Community Assets Fund for costs associated with all types of surveys and investigations relating to the asset for the development of a Stage 2 asset transfer proposal.

Please note that an award of a Development grant from the Advancing Community Assets Fund would not commit the Council to a particular outcome nor guarantee approval of any future asset transfer request that is developed and submitted for consideration. Any future asset transfer request would be determined in accordance with the Council's approved asset transfer process.

This completed Stage 1 will be submitted to the Council's Community Asset Transfer Advisory Group (CATAG) who will consider the information and you will be advised of next steps. Where the organisation has also requested a grant, the CATAG will make a recommendation to the Director-Place who will then consider and decide whether to authorise the grant request.

Before completing this form, please take time to read the **Advancing Community Assets (ACA) Fund applicant guidance** and the **Scottish Government Guidance for Community Transfer Bodies**. For assistance in completing this form or if you have any questions regarding a Community Asset Transfer and development grant, please contact:

Colin Love, Community Asset Transfer Team Leader
South Ayrshire Council

E-mail: cat@south-ayrshire.gov.uk **Telephone:** 01292 559347

1. Details of the organisation making the Stage 1 Expression of Interest

Name of organisation	Tarbolton Community Development Trust
Address of organisation	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Website address	https://www.tarbolton.org
Social media links e.g. Facebook, Twitter	https://www.facebook.com/TarboltonCDT https://www.instagram.com/TarboltonCDT https://www.x.com/TarboltonCDT
What year was your organisation established?	2025

2. Main contact details within organisation

Name	Matthew McColm
Contact Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Telephone Number	+44 7944 525309
E-mail Address	m.mccolm@tarbolton.org
Position in the organisation	Trustee / Development Officer

3. Eligibility of organisation

Only certain types of organisations are eligible to apply for certain asset transfer tenure options. Please advise the current status of the organisation as this will help us identify whether you may have to change the status of your organisation prior to submitting a formal Stage 2 asset transfer request.

What type of organisation are you?	Please tick
Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)	X Charity No. SC054279
Company Limited by Guarantee	

Unincorporated Club or Association	
Other: <i>(please specify)</i>	
Charity Number: <i>(if applicable)</i>	SC054279

Do you have a formal constitution, governance documents?	Yes
How many people are involved in your organisation?	
Is the organisation VAT registered?	No

4. Please tell us about the Council-owned asset you are interested in.

This will help us check that we own the asset that you are interested in and give you any relevant information we hold.

Name of Asset	Site of Ex-Tarbolton Community Centre
Address of Asset	69-71 Montgomerie Street, Tarbolton, KA5 5QD
Map Reference /Boundary Plan	Please provide a map or boundary plan – this could be a google street view with the land and/or property you wish to enquire about indicated. This is to ensure all parties are clear on the nature of the request. ATTACHED TO APPLICATION

Type of transfer you are interested in:	Ownership
Summarise the reason/s for considering an asset transfer request and how you intend to use the Council asset and any related timescales: The aims of the project is to create a new community facility at the site (69-71 Montgomerie Street) for the people of Tarbolton that incorporates a games/activity hall, various other multipurpose rooms, space for a cafe/catering outlet, and any other facilities that are identified	

throughout the process as being of benefit to the people of Tarbolton. The basis of evidence for this is founded in the actions throughout the Tarbolton Community-led Action Plan (CLAP), specifically in Action 17.4 "Enquire about the feasibility of having a structure built at the old location of the Tarbolton Community Centre on Montgomerie Street. Additionally, gain support from SAC and other funding partners to acquire ownership of the ground and have a structure built.". TCC plans to run a 'find out more' stall at each of its events in the future to update the public and provide more information, in addition to this members of the public will be able to suggest new ideas and pledge their support.

The services that TCC proposes to put in place through the facility include hall lets for community groups, businesses, private individuals, etc for a variety of functions as well as potential use as an office space for local charities, hotdesking spaces for local residents (fee/subscription), a store for the equipment that Tarbolton, Annbank, and Mossblown are creating as part of a Civil Contingencies Plan prepared by the Three Villages Forum, South Ayrshire HSCP, and NHS A&A. The evidence for this can be found in the CLAP. Action 15.1 'TCC seeks to establish better links with Thriving Communities youth officers to improve the promotion and consistency of young club meetings in Tarbolton.', as well as Action 16.1 'Enquire about the possibility of The Bachelors' Club to be used as a community meeting space for cultural opportunities/activities such as film screenings and any other similar events', and Action 18.1 'TCC acknowledges the importance and utility of the drop-in sessions by SAC teams such as, the Information Hub, the CLD and Employability & Skills (Thriving Communities) teams, and would appreciate if these services are retained'. There are many more points like this but the point is that these are all opportunities that Tarbolton is either missing out on or they aren't running frequently enough due to the lack of a suitable premises to run them from. Again, TCC will continue to engage with the community to develop additional ideas for services that can be provided from the facility and TCC acknowledges that this is a very dynamic subject and as such the requirements and needs of the village are likely to change in the future with additional requirements that cannot currently be foreseen.

TCC is requesting the asset (69-71 Montgomerie Street) because it is the only suitable place that can be identified to build such a structure. Particularly due to the fact that up until circa. 2016 there was a Community Centre stood on the ground before being demolished by SAC in favour of Tarbolton Primary School. TCC has in the past liaised with SAC's CAT team to identify opportunities for an asset transfer of an already intact structure that we could move into and start providing the above services but as a small village, there are none. By TCC having a premises it will allow us to drastically increase the amount of community events that we run, primarily due to the fact that events will be easier to run and organise. Additionally, we will restore a large space like this that community groups and individuals can let out for groups and functions. At the current moment in time the committee room at Tarbolton Primary School is unsuitable for most activities, in addition to this the letting procedures proves extremely difficult to those not familiar with it and as such it is rarely used. There are a few other facilities in the village such as the Church of Scotland owned 'Erskine Hall' and the Scout Hall but these are in a constant state of fully booked due to the amount of activities that go on in the village and the sheer lack of space.

As the site is currently just Grass land, we cannot imagine that there will be much expenditure on the part of SAC for maintenance, however there will be minor revenue savings for SAC as they will no longer be required to seasonally cut the grass. There are currently no similar services like

this that SAC provides in the area, as such there will be no displacement to SAC services in the area.

By agreeing to the request you will be helping to improve the local economic development as you will allow for a space where events can be held to contribute to the local community, additionally this will help with community regeneration and will bring us closer together as it will be easier for us to come together as a community. One of the biggest aims of the Tarbolton Community Council throughout its projects is to help reduce social isolation (or improve social wellbeing) and this will help the community achieve that by creating a space where small activities and local interest groups can form and come together. The integration of a cafe space (whether community run or leased out) will allow for a casual space where people can meet and go for a coffee etc. may encourage those who are socially isolated to integrate themselves into the community again. One of the proposed ideas is a grass area out the back for outdoor seating during the summer for the café / permanent picnic benches to create a space that the community can use and encourage people to come out into the community. The area has a lot of proposed improvement from the Community-led Action Plan such as upgraded playpark equipment and outdoor gym equipment, improved paths etc. so all together it would encourage people to spend more time outdoors.

Tarbolton has an SIMD (S01012532) in the bottom 30% of deprivation with the lowest ranking being on the Geographical Access Domain Ranking (Rank 2). This community facility would help improve this. Whether it is running groups, summer play schemes, information and advice drop in sessions, or even just somewhere for people to come together we would be creating something that Tarbolton and the surrounding villages don't have.

Tarbolton Community Council currently has a highly skilled board of 3 members with a view to expand this over the coming years with specialist expertise. Although the SCIO has only ran since May 2025 the Tarbolton Community Council was formed in October of 2017 and has a long history of responsible governance and fiscal responsibility with all of our records being audited by South Ayrshire Council every April. We have strong ties with local community organisations such as Annbank Community Association as well as Mossblown Matters and larger organisations such as Voluntary Action South Ayrshire, Thriving Communities, South Ayrshire HSCP, and NHS A&A.

During the process of preparing this application we have received a number of Letters of Support from local community organisations which we are proud to attach to this application.

5. Have you previously discussed your asset transfer proposal with anybody in South Ayrshire Council such as a Councillor or an officer? Please provide any details.

Previously discussed with [REDACTED] (Team Leader, Place Planning) and [REDACTED] (Community Wealth Building Officer, Economy and Regeneration), as well as [REDACTED] (Team Leader, Community Asset Transfer). Additionally, plans have been discussed with our Ward Cllrs, Cllr Julie Dettbarn, Cllr Duncan Townson, and Cllr Stephen Ferry

ADVANCING COMMUNITY ASSETS FUND – DEVELOPMENT GRANT REQUEST

Applicants may apply to the Advancing Community Assets Fund for up to a maximum of £12,000 Development Grant from the Council's Advancing Community Assets Fund for **costs associated with all types of surveys and investigations relating to the asset** for the development of a Stage 2 asset transfer proposal.

Do you wish to apply for a development grant?

[REDACTED]

How much development grant are you applying for?

£ [REDACTED]

Provide a detailed cost breakdown itemising expected expenditure that you require the development grant for:

Item	Cost (£)	Have estimates/quotes been sought? <i>If yes please submit copies with the application</i>
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Total: £12,000.00	

Please state what funding, if any, you have received from South Ayrshire Council in the last 3 financial years	
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N.B An award of a Development grant from the Advancing Assets Fund does not commit the Council to a particular outcome nor guarantee approval of any future asset transfer request that is developed and submitted for consideration.

All grants will be subject to South Ayrshire Council's standard conditions of grant as detailed in Advancing Community Assets Fund applicant guidance.

6. Supporting paperwork

Please include copies of the following with your Stage 1:

- ✓ A bank statement less than 3 months old
- ✓ Copy of your most recent Annual Accounts or Income and Expenditure Statement.
- ✓ A copy of the organisations Constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association
- ✓ A list of current committee members or current Directors

This form should be completed and returned to cat@south-ayrshire.gov.uk. All relevant sections of the application **must be** completed including supporting documents e.g. constitution, financial details etc. Failure to submit a fully completed application may result in a delay or rejection of the application.

7. Declaration

On behalf of: Tarbolton Community Council SCIO (SC054279)

I declare that the information provided in this form is accurate and complete and have included documentation as requested in Section 6. I have read and agree to the conditions detailed in the Advancing Community Assets Fund guidance document and that I have the authority to submit the form on behalf of the named organisation.

Name: Matthew McColm

Position within organisation: Trustee

Signature (hard copy only):

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. McColm', written over a horizontal line.

Date: Tuesday 19th August 2025

Please return this form to:

Email: cat@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Post: Community Asset Transfer Team, Asset Management & Community Asset Transfer, South Ayrshire Council, County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR