

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER

Stage 1

Expression of Interest

Completion of this form opens engagement with the Council and allows us to allocate support to your group via our local Ward Officers who work closely with local partners. When you express an interest we will provide you with a local point of contact and support and advice help you work your way through all aspects of the asset transfer process.

The formal asset transfer process can involve detailed business planning and it is important that groups receive good advice prior to this stage. Stage 1 is a pre application stage to allow groups to consider fully what is required in the business plan which forms the basis of the formal asset transfer request. If your group wishes

If your group wishes to apply for an asset through Dumfries & Galloway Council's CAT process, please complete this expression of interest form and send to the Community Development and Empowerment Manager (contact details below).

1. Please provide details of the organisation making the application

Name of Organisation: The Stove Network Ltd

Address of Organisation: 100 High Street, Dumfries DG1 2BJ

Telephone Number: 01387 252435

Email Address: info@thestove.org

2. Please provide your contact details

Your Name:

Contact Address:

Telephone Number:

Fax Number:

Email Address:

Position in the Organisation:

3. Structure of the Organisation

What type of Organisation are you? Scottish Charity

Do you have a formal constitution, governance document or set of rules? Yes

4. What is the structure and purpose of your Organisation?

How many people are involved in your organization, ie-

Management Committee – 9 (volunteers)

Staff:

Full time Equivalent Staff – 12

Freelancers 10-20 varies

When was the organization established: Nov 2011

What is the purpose and main activities of your organisation?

The Stove Network uses the arts and creative practice to positively disrupt and innovate.

We want to help make Dumfries and our region a place where communities thrive through collaboration, enterprise and risk-taking. A place where everyone is supported to be involved creatively and take part in the celebration and making of our culture.

We do this through place-based work and embedded arts practice, we will support creative conversation, enterprise and inclusion. We will bring together diverse communities to promote and develop wellbeing and sustainable local futures.

The Stove Network:

- builds and sustains networks locally, regionally and nationally
- supports meaningful collaborations and active partnership for community development and place based working

- develops potential in our community by creating pathways to new opportunities and learning
- revitalises towns by supporting community solutions and developing public policy
- uses and promotes creativity as a tool for communities to be part of shaping the future of their places and their wellbeing

Does your organisation have any previous experience of managing an asset?

Since April 2015 The Stove Network has managed the premises of 100 High Street as a fully accessible and inclusive public arts centre.

5. Please tell us about the asset (building or land) that you are interested in?

Name of Asset: The Stove

Address of Asset: 100 High Street, Dumfries DG1 2BJ (aka 96-102 High Street, Dumfries DG1 2BJ)

Type of Transfer you are interested in: Transfer of Ownership

6. Please tell us, using no more than one side of A4 paper: _

A. What do you want the asset for?

The Stove building is a public arts centre in the heart of Dumfries town centre. It is run by a membership (650) of local artists, groups and individuals, The Stove Network produce a programme of creative events, exhibitions and workshops designed to support people to actively participate and have a voice in the future of their area.

B. What benefits will this bring to the local community?

The Stove Network (TSN) is a community anchor organisation for Dumfries and Galloway (D+G), a development trust based in the heart of Dumfries & the coordinating hub for D&G's Creative Placemaking Network (What We Do Now [WWDN]). Other WWDN hubs are in Sanquhar, Stranraer, Langholm, Castle Douglas & NW Dumfries. TSN functions as a social enterprise, has c.650 members & operates through a board annually elected by our membership. Our operations range from running a community café & activity programme co-delivered with our community to establishing a regional Creative Placemaking Network with other hubs & regional organisations. We currently provide regular employment for 43 people within our communities. Founded in 2011, TSN works in vulnerable communities & uses arts & cultural activity to bring together local people to develop positive place- based visions

& plans for equality & justice. We co-deliver new initiatives that promote & develop wellbeing & sustainable local futures. Our work seeks to engage the widest possible range of people on issues relevant to their lives in ways that can make a lasting difference. TSN is a bridge between communities, enterprises, organisations & funders – supporting under-represented groups to be heard in decision making processes. We deliver a range of activities from large-scale community events/festivals to regular groups/workshops & partnership projects delivered with communities. Typically, projects are developed over long periods of time and co-produced with service users to meet their needs. Project impacts range

from personal/professional growth in confidence/skills, starting new social enterprises/initiatives or new community groups to regeneration/environmental improvement projects. Our Creative Placemaking methodology centres learning & skills development at all levels, including training opportunities within project teams, particularly for young people & those experiencing disadvantage and inequality. We build & sustain networks locally, regionally, nationally, & increasingly internationally sharing best practice.

In 2021-22 we have offered 94 opportunities for the local creative community valued at £250,000 (up from £141,000 in 2020-21).

Signed:

Name:

Position: Orchestrator

Date: 05.05.22

Completed applications should be emailed to
CommunityAssetTransfer@dumgal.gov.uk

Or by post to:

Community Development and Empowerment Manager

Communities Directorate
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Municipal Chambers
Buccleuch Street
Dumfries
DG1 2AD