



Forestry and
Land Scotland
Coilltearachd agus
Fearann Alba

Community Asset Transfer Scheme

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
7th Annual Report

1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

7th Annual Report

Launched in January 2017, Forestry and Land Scotland's Community Asset Transfer Scheme (CATS) sets out how we deliver the asset transfer rights for communities (Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, Part 5) for our national forests and land.

This seventh annual report covers the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. During that period, Forestry and Land Scotland has:

- **validated four requests for ownership of sites** on our national forests and land
- issued decision notices **to approve five requests**
- **completed three transfers of ownership**

All four validated requests were from communities that had identified areas of our national forest and land that could contribute to their objectives and benefit their communities.

Since the scheme launched in January 2017 up until 31 March 2024, FLS had received a total of 38 requests, of which 36 have been approved:

- 23 sales have completed, totalling 681 hectares
- 2 renewables leases have completed for community hydro schemes which are now operational
- requests for 7 sites are approved and in progress to complete
- 1 request is awaiting a decision
- 2 requests approved by FLS were withdrawn by the community

A full list of asset transfer requests received for Scotland's national forests and land, and progress to date is shown in Annex 1.

ANNEX 1: Forestry and Land Scotland: Asset Transfer Requests

Table 1: Requests validated 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Property Address	Community Transfer Body	Validation date	Size (ha)	Type – purchase or lease	Proposed use	Outcome	Status
Balmacara Campsite , Balmacara, Highland	Balmacara Community Trust	19-Jan-24	9.2	Purchase	Camping and community amenity	Awaiting decision	Validated
Glenmore Visitor Centre and Car Park Glenmore, Aviemore, Highland	Aviemore & Glenmore Community Trust	07-Jan-24	0.55	Purchase	Community hub and café	Approved 28-Mar-24	Approved
Balnain Buildings Balnain, Glen Urquhart, Highland	Glen Urquhart Rural Community Association (GURCA)	20-Sep-23	0.26	Purchase	Mens Shed	Approved 07-Feb-24	Approved
Farigaig Forest School Building and Fasnagruig Paddock Inverfarigaig, Highland	Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust	07-Aug-23	0.83	Purchase	Community hub	Approved 11-Jan-24	Approved

ANNEX 2: Previous Requests

	21 January 2017 to 31 March 2022
	1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023
	Progress since 31 March 2023

Table 2: Requests validated 21 January 2017 to 31 March 2023

Property Address	Community Transfer Body	Validation date	Size (ha)	Type – purchase or lease	Proposed use	Outcome	Status
Rosal Clearance Village Strathnaver, Highland	North Sutherland Community Forest Trust	09-Aug-22	40	Purchase	Historic site	Approved 16-Jan-23	Awaiting offer
Slattadale Gairloch, Highland	Slattadale	19-Aug-22	0.58	Purchase	Outdoor education facility	Approved 27-Mar-23*	Completed 03-Nov-23
Argyll Beaver Centre Barrandaimh, Argyll & Bute	Heart of Argyll Wildlife Organisation	04-Oct-22	0.52	Purchase	Wildlife and environment centre	Approved 20-Dec-22	Completed 27-Oct-23
Taymount and Five Mile Woods Stanley, Perth & Kinross	West Stormont Woodland Group	19-Dec-22	289	Purchase	Community woodland	Approved 31-Oct-23	Awaiting offer
Longrigg Wood Strontian, Highland	Sunart Community Company	09-Jan-23	87	Purchase	Community woodland	Approved 03-May-23	Under offer 31-Jan-24
Dyemill MTB Trails Lamlash, Isle of Arran	Arran High School Mountain Bike Club	15-Dec-21	5.7	Purchase	Mountain bike trails	Approved 07-Mar-21	Completed 20-Nov-22
Littleburn Road Munlochy, Highland	Roots & Growth	25-May-21	0.45	Purchase	Community hub and wellbeing centre	Approved 30-Sep-21	Withdrawn
Lower Ardochy Invergarry, Highland	Glengarry Community Woodlands	05-May-21	47.4	Purchase	Woodland crofts	Approved 06-Sep-21	Completed 09-Sep-22
Inchree Barn, Inchree, Highland	Nether Lochaber Community Association	28-Apr-21	0.05	Purchase	Community hub and café	Approved 23-Aug-21	Completed 12-Nov-23
Broch Field Strathyre	BLS Community Trust	12-Mar-21	1.9	Ownership	Community recreation area	Approved 17-Jun-21	Completed 20-Apr-22

Property Address	Community Transfer Body	Validation date	Size (ha)	Type – purchase or lease	Proposed use	Outcome	Status
Ardlarach Quarry Tain	Tain Rifle & Pistol Club	24-Nov-20	5.3	Ownership	Target and outdoor shooting range	Approved 24-Mar-21	Completed 15-Sep-22
Abhainn Greadhain Hydro Scheme , Glenachulish	Lochaber Environmental Group	23-Sep-20	28*	Lease	Hydroelectric scheme	Approved 01-Mar-21	Completed 12-Aug-21
Insh Woodland and Grazings Insh, Newtonmore	Inch Community Holdings	25-Aug-20	6.3	Ownership	Community woodland and grazings	Approved 05-Nov-20	Completed 14-June-21
The Scottish Crannog Centre , Dalerb, Loch Tay	The Crannog Centre	7-Apr-20	4	Ownership	New museum and visitor centre	Approved 16-Jun-20	Completed 11-Jun-21
Inverawe Woodland Inverawe, Argyll & Bute	Inverawe Community Woodland	19-Mar-20	6	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 08-Jun-20	Completed 7-Jun-21
Inverarish hydroelectric scheme Isle of Raasay, Highland	Raasay Development Trust	17-Dec-19	18	Lease	Hydroelectric scheme	Approved 29-May-20	Completed 7-Jan-21
Coilhallan Wood Callander, Stirling	Callander Community Development Trust	23-Oct-19	83	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 21-Apr-20	<i>Withdrawn</i>
Clunes Buildings and Woodland Clunes, Highland	Arkaig Community Forest	3-Sep-19	6	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 06-Jan-20	Completed 25-Jun-21
Corsee Wood Banchory, Aberdeenshire	Deeside Bike Collective	3-Sep-19	13	Ownership	Mountain bike trails	Approved 02-Mar-20	Completed 22-Apr-22
Corrow Gravel Pit Lochgailhead, Cowal	Lochgail Watersports Cub	21-Nov-18	2.15	Ownership	Recreation	Approved 15-Feb-19	Completed 30-Oct-19
The Gantry Craignure, Isle of Mull	Mull and Iona Community Trust	15-Nov-18	0.35	Ownership	Community services	Approved 7-Feb-19	Completed 5-Feb-21
Muirdrochwood Carsphairn, Galloway	Carsphairn Community Woodland	7-Nov-18	324	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 03-May-19 Revised 07-Jan-20	Completed 31-Mar-21
Glenan Wood Portavadie, Cowal	Friends of Glenan Wood	02-Nov-18	144	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 10-May-19	Completed 20-Dec-19

Property Address	Community Transfer Body	Validation date	Size (ha)	Type – purchase or lease	Proposed use	Outcome	Status
Seneval Carradale, South Kintyre	Carradale Community Trust	22-Oct-18	1.9	Ownership	Community services	Approved 07-Feb-19	Completed 16-Sep-19
Ardura Craignure, Mull	Mull and Iona Community Trust	03-Apr-18	201	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 21-Dec-18*	Completed 13-Sep-19
Eshiels Wood Peebles, Scottish Borders	Peebles Community Trust	22-Mar-18	6.9	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 04-Jun-18	Completed 15-Jan-19
Dronley Wood Auchterhouse, Angus	Dronley Community Woodland	19-Mar-18	50.7	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 04-Jun-18	Completed 28-Mar-19
Leadburn Wood Leadburn, Scottish Borders	Friends of Leadburn Community Woodland	26-Feb-18	9.4	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 04-Jun-18	Completed 28-Mar-19
Carron Valley Carron Bridge, Stirling	Valley Renewables Group	20-Dec-17	21.3	Ownership	Community woodland	Approved 28-Feb-18	Completed 12-Oct-18
The Fairy Pools Car Park Minginish, Isle of Skye	Minginish Community Hall Association	16-Aug-17	12.3	Ownership	Parking facilities	Approved 03-Nov-17	Completed 06-Jul-18
Gamescleuch Forest and the Ettrick Marshes Ettrick, Scottish Borders	Ettrick & Yarrow Community Development Company	26-Jun-17	173	Ownership	Community woodland	Refused 03-Nov-17	Refused following Review by Scottish Ministers

* Decision deadline extended by agreement