

Our Ref: CATR.01.26
Your Ref: CAT Review
Contact: Euan Gray
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Date: 18 May 2026



[REDACTED]

Date of Notice: 18 May 2026

ASSET TRANSFER UNDER THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT DECISION NOTICE - REFUSED

This Decision Notice relates to the review of the decision to refuse the Community Asset Transfer review request submitted by Ferguslie Community Development Trust on 19 February 2026 in relation to former St Ninian's Church Hall, Paisley.

Renfrewshire Council's Community Asset Transfer Review Appeals Panel met on 12 May 2026 where the decision was taken to refuse the Community Asset Transfer request. The reason for this decision was as follows:

That the application be refused due to the lack of community support demonstrated and concerns around the sustainability of the proposed business plan.

Right to Appeal

Under Section 88 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Ministers.

An appeal form has been appended to this notice. Completed forms should be submitted to Community Empowerment Team, Area 3F North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ or to community.empowerment@gov.scot by 16 June 2026 which is 20 working days from the date of this notice.



Finance & Resources
Director: Alastair MacArthur CPFA
Head of Corporate Governance: Mark Conaghan LLB (Hons) Dip LP
Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley PA1 1TT
www.renfrewshire.gov.uk



Further information around submitting an appeal, including timescales and documents required, is contained in the Community Asset Transfer Guidance for Community Transfer Bodies which is published here: www.gov.scot/publications/asset-transfer-under-community-empowerment-scotland-act-2015-guidance-community-9781786527509/documents/

Yours sincerely



Mark Conaghan
Head of Corporate Governance

COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER APPEAL TO SCOTTISH MINISTERS



UNDER SECTIONS 85-91 OF THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2015
THE ASSET TRANSFER REQUEST (APPEALS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2016

IMPORTANT: Please read and follow the notes provided when completing this form
- failure to supply all relevant information could invalidate your appeal
Use **BLOCK CAPITALS** if completing in manuscript

Community Transfer Body	Agent (if any, please note professional representation is not mandatory)
Name <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	Name <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Address <input style="width: 90%; height: 60px;" type="text"/>	Address <input style="width: 90%; height: 60px;" type="text"/>
Postcode <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	Postcode <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Contact Tel No 1 <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Contact Tel No 1 <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Contact Tel No 2 <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Contact Tel No 2 <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Fax No <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Fax No <input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
E-mail <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	E-mail <input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
	Mark this box to confirm all contact should be through this representative <input type="checkbox"/>

*Do you agree to all correspondence regarding your appeal being sent by e-mail?

Yes No

Relevant Authority Office	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>		
Asset Address	<input style="width: 95%; height: 60px;" type="text"/>		
Description of Asset (e.g. size in hectares, if known)	<input style="width: 95%; height: 40px;" type="text"/>		
Date of Application	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Date of Review	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
Date of Relevant Authority's decision	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>	Date of Review Decision	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>

Appeal Against:			
Refusal of application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conditions imposed on grant of application	<input type="checkbox"/>
Failure to reach a decision within required/agreed timescale	<input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF APPEAL

You must state, in full, why you are appealing against the relevant authority's decision. Your statement must set out all matters you consider require to be taken into account in determining your appeal.

Note: you might not have a further opportunity to add to your statement of appeal at a later date, so it is essential that you produce all of the information you want the decision-maker to take into account. You will be entitled to comment on (i) any additional matter which may be raised by the relevant authority in its response to your appeal, or (ii) any representations the Scottish Government might receive from any other person or body.

State the reasons for your appeal and all matters you wish to raise here. (If necessary, this can be continued or provided in full on a separate document.)

List of documents/evidence

At the same time as sending the notice of appeal to the Scottish Ministers, it is required for you to notify the relevant authority of your appeal. This must be accompanied by a list of all the documents and evidence you submitted to the Scottish Ministers. You must also give the relevant authority copies of anything submitted to the Scottish Ministers that the relevant authority does not already have. Please provide a copy of this list below (if necessary this can be continued or provided in full on a separate document).

To help us process your appeal quickly and for ease of reference you may wish to give each document a descriptive name and number in relation to this list. For example: 'Document 01 – email exchange between XXXX and XXXX dated DD MONTH YYYY'

APPEAL PROCEDURE

The person appointed to determine your appeal will decide the procedure to be used. In general, a decision will be made based on your appeal documents and the relevant authority's response. In some cases the appointed person may require further procedures to gain more information on specific matters before reaching a decision. You must indicate what procedure you think is most appropriate for the handling of your appeal.

Note: If you select Option 1 you should not select any further options
You may select any combination of Options 2 to 4 if you wish

- 1. Review of all relevant information provided by yourself and other parties only, with no further procedure
- 2. Inspection of land subject of the appeal
- 3. Further written submissions on specific matters
- 4. Holding one or more hearing sessions (i.e. round table discussions) on specific matters

If boxes 3 or 4 are checked, please explain below which of the matters (as set out in your statement above) you think should be subject to that procedure, and why. (Use additional pages if necessary.)

SITE INSPECTION

In the event that the Scottish Government Reporter appointed to consider your appeal decided to inspect the appeal site, in your opinion:

Can the site be viewed entirely from public land?

Yes No

Is it possible for the site to be accessed safely, and without barriers to entry?

Yes No

Are there any biosecurity issues that affect the site?

Yes No

If there are any reasons why you think the Reporter would be unable to access and view the appeal site alone, please explain here:

CHECKLIST

Please mark the appropriate boxes to confirm you have provided all supporting documents/evidence relevant to your appeal:

- Full completion of all parts of this form
- Full statement of appeal
- All documents, materials and evidence you intend to rely on
- A copy of the original community asset transfer request
- Copies of all related documents submitted with the original community asset transfer request
- Decision notice from the relevant authority (if applicable)

Maps/Plans copies of the maps or plans must be at suitable scale to ensure they are easy to interpret. It is not possible for electronic plans and maps to be scale and you should also provide these in hard copy.

Where your appeal is progressed to DPEA you should note that they routinely publish all documents relating to each appeal on their website at www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk. You must advise the Community Empowerment Team if there are particular reasons why you think any document you have provided cannot be published by DPEA.

DECLARATION

I appeal to the Scottish Ministers as set out on this form and supporting documents.

Signed

Date

Role

If you take part in the appeals process, use the Community Empowerment Team or DPEA websites, contact either the agency or division, or attend a webcast, the Community Empowerment Team and DPEA may collect certain information about you. To find out more about what information is collected and how the information is used and managed please read the privacy notice found on the [DPEA website](#).

This form and all supporting documents should be sent to:

E-mail: Community.Empowerment@gov.scot

Post: Community Empowerment Scottish Government
3-F North: Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

Twitter: [@commempower](https://twitter.com/commempower)