Democratic Finance Scotland

Supporting communities to explore and use alternative methods of raising local finance and funding. Run by DTA Scotland.



Where the money is:

- sourced locally from local people and local businesses
- used locally to start or grow democratic community enterprises or purchase sustainable community assets

We can support with:

- Community shares
- Community bonds
- Local legacy giving
- Local philanthropic giving
- Donation or reward crowdfunding
- Community lotteries
- Accessing Common Good Funds

Why is Democratic Finance needed?

- Grant dependency too high
- Grant match funding often required
- Alternative or complement to social investment loans
- Very flexible form of funding
- Builds democratic robust enterprises

Focus on Community Shares

Over £10 million raised in Scotland via community shares for community owned turbines, hydros and solar initiatives.



Some examples:

£750k raised by Strontian Community Hydro
£665k raised by Raasay Community Hydro
£450k raised by Uist Wind

£1.3m live share offer - Edinburgh Community Solar

DTAS' Democratic Finance programme can support to develop and launch a community share offer.

About DTAS

Our mission is to support the growth of effective and sustainable communities in Scotland

We have 3 staff teams supporting communities:



- **Development Trusts Support Team**

  https://dtascot.org.uk/

- **Community Ownership Support Team (COSS)**

  http://www.dtascommunityownership.org.uk/

- **Democratic Finance (DF)**

  https://democraticfinance.scot/

Development Trusts Association Scotland

A Thriving Community-led Network