



Development
Trusts Association
Scotland

A Thriving Community-led Network

Development Trusts *In Action*

LOCAL DEMOCRACY

DTAS Members have been engaging in the Scottish Government's Democracy Matters consultations, leading to new concepts and conversations...

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What is Local Democracy?

- As part of the Scottish Government's Local Governance Review, **Democracy Matters** has been at the forefront of DTAS' policy priorities.
- Through conversations across towns, cities and villages surrounding local decision making, the Scottish Government has been seeking promote democracy at a local level.
- Democracy Matters conversations have been ongoing since 2018, giving communities the chance to discuss their democratic systems and how these can improve.
- The second stage of consultation opened in Autumn 2023 with new prompts for communities to discuss support, powers, relationships with statutory bodies among other issues.
- The following Development Trusts are examples of communities taking local democracy into action in their areas.

A Heart for Duns

 Berwickshire, The Borders

About the Trust:

The Berwickshire based development trust regularly engage with their wider community to inform upcoming priorities and goals.

Challenges Faced:

- Lack of a local care home
- Poor transport links
- Little provision for further education in Berwickshire.

Some Projects:

- The trust capitalised on the opportunities of the **Local Place Plan** regulations.
- Taken a lead on the Community Led Planning process to improve the quality of life, environment and opportunity for the area in collaboration with other community associations and organisations.
- The Place Standard Tool was used to collect responses on a wide range of views' on the area's future of Duns and the wider Berwickshire area.
- Hosted a **Democracy Matters 2** Consultation in November 2023, with discussions on the pressing issues of the Duns community.



Communtiy Lunches



Democracy Matters
Deep Dive

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Development Trust by
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