



Community  
Woodlands  
Association

In partnership with



DEVELOPMENT  
TRUSTS ASSOCIATION  
SCOTLAND

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the community-led regeneration network

## **From Ideas to Action Seminar**

**Project Development and Funding**

**West Park Centre Dundee 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August 2009**

**This event was supported by Scottish Government, The Robertson Trust,  
Hugh Fraser Foundation and DTA Scotland**

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# **Introduction**

This event was arranged jointly by CWA with Development Trusts Association Scotland. This was due to the subject matter of the event being relevant to all our members whatever their particular interest or project.

DTAS is an Associate CWA member and we work very closely to support our member organisations where specialist help in forestry is required or where a community woodland group has progressed to the point of becoming an anchor organisation within the community and feel that they are now strong enough to become a development trust.

## **Key learning points**

The majority of attendees were keen to learn about how to develop projects and to subsequently fund their ideas. The content was designed to help them follow a structured approach and to ensure they considered every step on the way to a fully developed plan.

Day one Focussed on Project Development and Planning and covered the following key learning points

- Ideas where they come from and how to capture them
- Definition – how to define the idea to communicate to others
- Support – proving community support and support from others
- Need – demonstrating the need for your plans
- Options – reviewing all of the options on how you can deliver your idea
- Feasibility – checking that your idea will work and bring benefit without duplicating other services
- Business plan – drawing up a business plan with all the above factors included
- Funding – considering what funders might be best placed to support your idea

Day two consisted of 3 workshops which allowed participants to explore options for funding the development and delivery of their ideas.

Workshop 1 – forming a funding strategy

Workshop 2 – funding applications from a fund assessors viewpoint

Workshop 3 – alternatives to funding support through loans and overdrafts

## **Day One – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August**

### **Project Development and Management**

Ian Leaver from Comas laid out the various steps required to deliver projects. Ian has kindly allowed us to reproduce the notes he provided to include in this report. The notes are comprehensive and give a good guide to the essential points to consider when developing your projects. These can be found at the end of this report.