

Community Asset Transfers in Kirklees

Cllr Moses Crook

Deputy Leader and Housing &
Transport Portfolio Holder

Kirklees Council



Council Context

- CAT – transfer of assets to community
- Financial reality in local government is a driver
- Alternative way to support and enhance community
- Ensure sustainable transfers
- Conflicting motivations - and pitfalls



Kirklees CAT Policy

- **Process:** expression of interest; business case development; council assessment; then decision-making process (~18-48 months in total)
- **Maintain community benefit:** Transfer on long-leasehold with an ongoing requirement for community benefit
- **Support at each stage:**
 - **Advice and triage:** Are they eligible? Is an asset transfers right for the group? Is it right for the community?
 - **Investment:** grants for urgent repair, adaptation or accessibility upgrade requirements; match-funding loans for further development (£490k in loans since 2013)
 - **Business case development:** £5k-10k grants to fund independent professional advice (e.g. legal) (£73k since 2013)
 - **Running costs:** 15% funded for Year 1, 5% for Year 2



Council benefits

- Preserve and unlock additional community benefits compared to private sale
- CATs can deliver financial savings; since 2013, community asset transfers have enabled:
 - Circa £300k revenue savings
 - Circa £2m capital savings
- 26 assets transferred to communities since 2013; five more in progress



Community benefits

- **Community empowerment:** local control to meet local community needs (can be built into the transfer agreement)
- **Community impact:**
 - enabling and expanding community group activities
 - Supporting community engagement by councillors and council services
 - an opportunity for responsive, place-based, community-led services from the council and other partners
- **Investment and regeneration:** new income and investment sources



Meltham Carlile Institute



Post office



Meeting rooms



Meltham Town Council



Events



More



Holmfirth Tech



JOIN US!
Be a part of
HOLMFIRTH
Tech
COMMUNITY SHARE OFFER

OFFER
CLOSES
ON 25th
APRIL

www.holmfirmttech.co.uk / share-offer



Thank you!

Contact:

moses.crook@kirklees.gov.uk

