

Community Ownership of Resources

Benefits

Example of positive outcome Community Farm Arran, Local needs met; Allotments, Orchards, areas for children, ability to respond to access issues for people with mobility problems.

Consultations can identify local issues and whether a transfer is in the best interest of the community.

Local management can set policies for use of facility.

Community ownership will enable local development without constraints placed on local authorities

Can generate local employment

Facility can be more responsive to local need (opening hours)

Risks

Assets transferred for wrong reasons simply money saving exercise for LA.

Assets are not fit for purpose e.g. Old properties that have high maintenance costs.

Organisations taking on assets lose focus on community activities and concentrate on revenue generation

Succession Who takes on the responsibility when initial group moves on.

Spiralling costs e.g. energy local organisations do not have buying power of local/national agencies

Current systems in most Community Centres/halls free lets for certain activities these could go due to financial pressures

Will all community groups get the same level of access?

Next Steps

Involve schools in volunteer development (next generation of activists)

Roll out training/awareness raising to elected members and chief officers on local implications of the ACT

There needs to be recognition by employers that CLD practitioners supporting local organisations may come into conflict with authority position/policy on issues.