

Support for rural community businesses in Scotland

Plunkett UK is a charity with a vision for resilient, thriving and inclusive rural communities.

In partnership with Democratic Finance Scotland we bring our specialist expertise in viable trading community businesses to the support available to rural community groups in Scotland.

We can advise on:

- business development
- marketing strategy (inc website and socials)
- range
- pricing
- layout
- governance
- operating finances
- people management
- business models
- crisis support
- ...and more!

Our Members have access to free specialist business adviser help, in-person business health checks, supplier deals, free training, guides and resources plus peer networks of community shops and community pubs.

Scan the QR codes or click the links below to see some of the rural community shops, pubs and hub businesses we've helped!



[How a community saved its pub and restored its social anchor](#)



[Inside The King's Arms: A Story of Local Resilience](#)

Community businesses are owned and controlled by whole communities; membership is open to anyone at accessible prices, and all members have an equal say in how the business is run. There are now around 20 pubs and 50 shops operating under community ownership in Scotland with dozens more in the pipeline.

They've provided safe, warm, social places for locals, boosted local supply economies and jobs, built people's skills and experience, and taken environmental actions like installing EV chargers and growing food.



Contact Plunkett today on 01993 630022 or info@plunkett.co.uk for an initial chat.

Democratic Finance Scotland is a programme of support, run by the Development Trusts Association Scotland.

We support community-led organisations to explore and use alternative methods of raising finance and funding. Specifically, methods where money is

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

We offer practical, fully-funded, hands-on support which is split into two stages.

1. Early Stage

To explore what democratic finances sources are the best fit for your organisation.

2. In-Depth Development

To implement democratic sources such as:

- community shares
- community bonds
- local legacy giving
- local philanthropy
- community lotteries

If you want to know more, or for support, contact:

info@democraticfinance.scot



How Plunkett and Democratic Finance Scotland can help

