



# **Findochty and Buckie Development Trust SCIO**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**Period 1 Sep 2024 to 31 Aug 2025**

## Charity contact information

Charity Name: Findochty and Buckie Development Trust, also known as FAB DT

Scottish Charity Number: SC052237

Address 7 William St, Buckie, AB56 1RN

Email address: - [chair@fabdt.co.uk](mailto:chair@fabdt.co.uk)

Website: <https://fabdt.co.uk/>

Facebook profile: <https://www.facebook.com/FABDevTrust>

## Charity Trustees

- Ronnie Cargill appointed from the Membership 29th January 2025
- Susan Chalmers [Chair]
- Ian Collacott [Secretary]
- Christine Fairbairn [Treasurer]
- Kevin McKay
- Annabella McLean appointed from the Membership 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025
- Shona Monroe removed 8<sup>th</sup> February 2025 [deceased]
- Jim Murray

## Structure, governance and management

### Constitution

FAB DT was registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Our Constitution was last reviewed in August 2024.

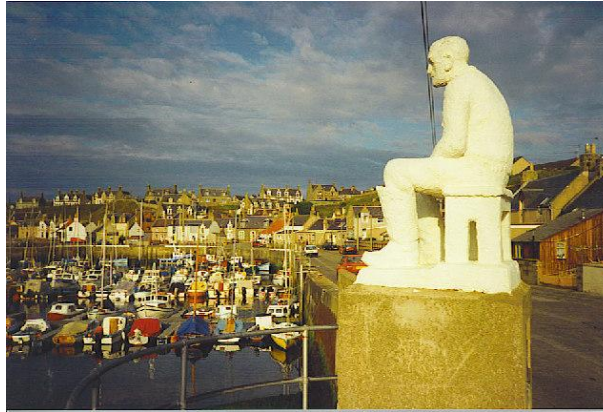
FAB DT has a 2-tier structure, comprising the Members and the Board of Trustees. Membership is open to any individual aged 16 or over who lives in the Findochty and Buckie area, ie Moray Council's Ward 3.

In addition, we have some Associates who are not eligible to be members of the organisation but who wish to support the organisation's Purposes.

The board of Trustees must make sure that the charity complies with FAB DT's Constitution.

## Trustee recruitment and appointment

FAB DT has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 9 Trustees, the majority of whom must be elected or appointed from the membership. The board is also empowered to co-opt any non-member to be a trustee.



## Objectives and activities

### Charitable Purposes

Findochty and Buckie Development Trust [FAB DT] has been formed to benefit the people residing and / or working in the Findochty and Buckie area, (which comprises Moray Council's Ward 3 - Buckie) and will represent the interests of the whole community of Findochty and Buckie, throughout the lifetime of the Trust.

The Trust objectives are:

- 1 - The advancement of community development, including advancement of regeneration, but such that the Trust shall do so following principles of sustainable development.
- 2 - The provision or enhancement of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.
- 3 - The advancement of citizenship.

As a Development Trust we are a community owned and led organisation which uses a combination of enterprise and creativity to improve the quality of life for people living in the Findochty and Buckie [FAB] area.

We support people in our community to come together to address local issues through collaboration and partnership working. Our goal is to enable social, economic and environmental renewal of our locality through capitalising on funding opportunities, income generation from trading for social purpose, and community ownership of buildings and land. In common with other development

trusts in Scotland, we always aim to do this in ways which are ecologically sound, economically viable and socially just.

All of our intended activities are community led and as such will vary over time according to the needs of local people and their priorities identified through ongoing community engagement and research.

This flexibility and ability to adapt to changing circumstances will ensure that we are well placed to support our community when unexpected economic, environmental and social challenges occur.



## THE HUB

BUCKIE AREA FORUM  
WITH  
FINDOCHTY AND BUCKIE  
DEVELOPMENT TRUST

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17 East Church Street    Buckie

A COMMUNITY HUB  
FOR ANYONE  
LIVING IN  
THE BUCKIE AREA

<b>MONDAY</b>	10AM - 4PM
<b>TUESDAY</b>	10AM - 4PM
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	10AM - 4PM
<b>THURSDAY</b>	10AM - 4PM
<b>FRIDAY</b>	10AM - 4PM
<b>SATURDAY</b>	10AM - 1PM

FIND OUT ABOUT LOCAL  
SERVICES AVAILABLE  
AND HOW TO ACCESS THEM

VISIT US FOR A  
CUPPA AND  
TO LEARN MORE

admin@buckiehub.com

01542 780624  
(answerphone service)

The Hub supported by  
Buckie Area Forum

## Achievements and performance

In this period, we have:

Continued to support Buckie Area Forum to operate **The Hub advice centre** and warm space in Buckie which was established to mitigate the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on our community. 22 of our Members and Associates volunteer for The Hub on a regular [often weekly] basis, contributing around 4000 hours to direct delivery, project administration, building maintenance, fundraising and social media. Our charitable status enables The Hub to benefit from reduced costs and to access funding.

During this period, The Hub received over 7000 visits from users.

- 70% of these visits were by vulnerable or lonely people seeking some social interaction.
- 905 were for information, advice or practical help, eg with their smart phone, form filling, arranging patient transport, managing their Universal Credit journal, applying for jobs, etc
- 392 were to donate goods to benefit others
- 277 were to access facilities [toilet, wi-fi, printing, phone, etc]
- 235 were to collect preloved school uniform or warm clothing, blankets, hot water bottles, toiletries, etc provided to them free of charge
- 183 were to use the emergency food bank.
- 99 were to meet partner agencies locally rather than having to travel to another location

In addition to direct support for those visiting –

- The Hub's shop frontage was used to promote local events and advertise local job vacancies
- Volunteers supported other community groups to collect and distribute Christmas Food Hampers and cash gifts to families in need

All of this has helped to improve the lives of vulnerable people in our community by reducing their social isolation, solving some of their practical problems, enabling them to access benefits and free resources, and feeding them when they were in crisis.

Established **Buckie Community Lunches** as a popular monthly event. 8 of our Members and Associates volunteer for this project on a regular basis, contributing to shopping, cooking, serving, and project administration.

- An average of 78 diners came along each month to enjoy soup, pudding, and a hot drink.
- A range of agencies attended each event to promote their services, offer outreach support, or carry out community consultations. 14 different organisations were present this year.
- A further 16 people volunteered to support the lunches this year. Several of them used the experience to develop their skills and confidence and increase their employability.
- Meals were provided free of charge. Donations were accepted from those wishing to contribute to the cost.
- This year we were grateful for a donation of £500 from Tesco's Stronger Start programme.

A diverse range of people enjoy the Community Lunches and our diners usually include single older people, family groups, adults from supported housing, people with learning disabilities and High School pupils from the Support from Learning Department. All benefit from a great meal and the opportunity to meet friends old and new.

As an added outcome, by holding the lunches in a community hall, we help to support a fellow charity by contributing to their income.



**COMMUNITY LUNCHES 2025**

**12PM - 1.15PM**  
**FISHERMEN'S HALL**

**Monday 27th January**  
**Monday 24th February**  
**Monday 24th March**  
**Monday 28th April**  
**Monday 26th May**  
**Monday 30th June**

**soup**  
**sweet**

**&**

**Supported by Stronger Starts.** Partner agencies will be in attendance to offer information and advice - see A Better Buckie on Facebook for details. No charge - donations welcome

**A project administered by Findochy and Buckie Development Trust**

\*A Better Buckie\* is shorthand for statutory and voluntary agencies and community volunteers working together to deliver the Buckie Locality Plan to build a better future for people in Buckie.



**BUCKIE COMMUNITY NEWS**  
Autumn 2024 Keeping you informed

**A WORD FROM US**

Welcome to the 2024 update from the Buckie Locality Plan. Progress since our last newsletter:

- Letterleave Park has been upgraded
- Ocean Winds have moved into their shiny new building at the Harbour
- Community Lunches have grown
- on-demand bus service is well established and popular
- Cycle racks and repair stations are all in place
- Dropped kerbs have been installed
- Steps from community groups took part in discussions to review the school estate in the Buckie ASD area
- The Hub has improved the Secret Garden and added an emergency food bank
- We have explored over a dozen buildings to check their potential to be transformed into a new multi-purpose community hub
- See inside for more news...

As independent volunteers, the Buckie Locality Plan Monitoring Group are always keen to hear from you. You can message us on "A Better Buckie", Facebook page or email [abetterbuckie@gmail.com](mailto:abetterbuckie@gmail.com), or drop a note into The Hub for our attention.

**BUCKIE HARBOUR**

Over the summer much of the construction works for the offices finished with both Ocean Winds and the harbours team moving into these offices at the beginning of July. The new harbour office (situated at the east end of the fish market where the coffee shop used to be) is a fantastic modern building which will serve the team well over the coming years. As well as that we had a lookout tower installed allowing full view of the harbour and out to sea which has already proved to be invaluable to us when it comes to planning and most importantly monitoring the safety and security of vessels and people.

The year also saw the first cruise ships coming to Buckie. While this was a relatively small vessel and that company won't be back next year, it has hopefully let other cruise operators see how viable an option Buckie is for their cruises. Let's face it we have the best distilleries on our doorstep for them to visit, amazing historic buildings, stunning golf courses and much more. Why wouldn't they want to come and experience first-hand what we are lucky to see daily?

The fishing in general hasn't been as consistent this year as in years gone by, hence we haven't seen as many visiting fishing boats. Despite this, the harbour has remained busy with other types of vessels such as the CTVs transporting people to the windfarms, general workboats carrying out various works in the Moray Firth and of course the various types of vessel arriving to be serviced by the team at Macduff Shipyards.

You may have spotted the green boxes on the piers, these are to accommodate the power being supplied by the new substation we had to get put in which will allow us to provide more power to the vessels. This of course means that less boats will have to leave generators running overnight which results in less air and noise pollution being generated. We also recently put up some new street light heads, these lights run at a reduced light intensity until you walk down the pier when they will come to its full brightness. This is partly to cut costs for running the lights but it also allows us to see when people are on the pier which increases the safety factor for anyone at night.

Contributed to the delivery of "A Better Buckie", the **Buckie Locality Plan**.

6 of our Members and Associates make up the Community Monitoring Group and are involved in:

- Reviewing the Buckie Locality Plan
- Community consultations
- Identifying community led activities
- Encouraging partner agency involvement
- Reporting on activities, results, issues and needs
- Communicating with the community – newsletters, Facebook

During the period, the Community Monitoring Group:

- Issued another edition of Buckie Community News
- Conducted a mini consultation on the wish for a Multi-Purpose Community Hub in Buckie
- Helped host a Community Showcase event to bring community organisations together to share information regarding their aims and priorities.

- Funded Confidence to Cook sessions at The Fishermen’s Hall
- Contributed to the review of implementation and influence of locality planning approaches in Moray
- Supported Council Officers to implement plans for improved seating in Cluny Square in Buckie
- Reviewed the priorities of the Buckie Locality Plan
- Maintained the “A Better Buckie” Facebook page sharing local news, promoting local events and encouraging participation in consultations

Accepted an invitation to support Culture for Climate Scotland’s “**Sea Change**” project. This is a multi-year, action-research project running until June 2027, during which an embedded artist will work with the community to develop ways of responding to climate change and influencing decisionmakers.

FAB DT Members and Associates will support activities, facilitate connections, provide local knowledge, contribute to the recruitment process and participate in the local steering group.



Carried out promotional and **fundraising** activities at local events, including Buckie Classic Car Show and Buckies Roots Charity Gala.

Worked to **develop FAB DT** as an organisation, including:

- Recruiting 2 new Trustees
- Publishing our website
- Continuing to work with a Development Manager from the Scottish Community Development Centre to clarify our vision and priorities.
- Agreeing a Job Description for a Development Officer role and exploring funding opportunities for this
- Holding a recruitment BBQ
- Maintaining a presence on Facebook sharing local news, promoting local activities and sharing information about grants and funding opportunities for community groups

Maintained contact with representatives from **Vattenfall** regarding their proposals for a wind farm at Aultmore and potential Community Benefit programme.

## Financial review

Our main sources of funding continue to be grants, donations and receipts from fundraising activities.

Key points to note:

Income:

- £3316 has been received in donations, including £2926 from those attending Community Lunches
- £500 was granted by Tesco Stronger Starts
- £333 has been generated through fundraising activities

Expenditure:

- £2634 was paid out on costs for the Community Lunches
- £1000 was spent on completing our website
- £581 was paid out in grants, £300 on behalf of the Buckie Locality Plan and £281 related to The Hub

### Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We do not yet have a policy on reserves as we have no employees and no significant recurring expenditure.

### Details of any deficit

None

### Donated facilities and services

We have not benefited from any donated facilities or services.

### Future plans

Our goals for the next 12 months include adding to our membership, strengthening our board, further developing our organisation, building our funds and progressing key projects with our partners.

### Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

*Susan Chalmers*

Print name Susan Chalmers

Designation Chair

Date 25.03.26