

Glossary of Terms for COSS Empowerment Act webinars

Anchor organisation	An organisation that pulls things together at community level to support wide regeneration and community development outcomes.
Asset	Land or building
AT	Asset transfer of publicly owned assets (interchangeably referred to as 'CAT'). Part 5 of the Community Empowerment Act.
ATR	Asset Transfer Request.
CAT	Community Asset Transfer of publicly owned assets
CBS	community benefit society. A form of cooperative structure (a co-op) that exists to benefit a community, rather than its members. Reports to the FCA (Financial Conduct Authority)
CCB	Community Controlled Body (community group controlled by the membership)
CEA	Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015. Sometimes called 'the Act'.
CLG	A private company limited by guarantee ie. not limited by shares or existing to generate profit for individuals. (Reports to Companies House)
Community of interest	A community made up of people who share the same interest e.g. a church or sports club.
Community of place	A geographic community e.g. Croy
Constitution	A set of agreed rules for the organisation.
COSS	Community Ownership Support Service. Funded by Scottish Government to help community groups with asset transfer.
CRTB	Community Right to Buy Part 4 of the CEA
CSS	Community Shares Scotland. Support organisation for people looking to form a CBS and do a community share offer to raise finance for projects, most of which involve an asset (also based in DTAS)
CTB	Community Transfer Body (CCB eligible for AT)
DTAS	Development Trust Association for Scotland. A membership organisation supporting anchor organisations in communities across Scotland (also where COSS is based)
Governance structure	The rules that an organisation uses to set out why it exists and what it does.
Incorporated	Has a corporate, ie. formal business, structure e.g a company
LA	Local Authority ('the council')
PR	Participation Request. Part 3 of the CEA
RA	Relevant Authority (the term for all the public bodies that are affected by the CEA)
SCIO	Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. A not for profit limited company that is also a charity. Reports annually to OSCR (the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator).
SLF	Scottish Land Fund. The most grant fund most commonly applied to when you want to own an asset (and not lease or manage it)
Third sector	The part of an economy or society made up of non-governmental and non-profit-making organisations or associations, including charities, voluntary and community groups, cooperatives, etc. (the private sector is engaged in activities with the primary aim of making a profit, they would be the first sector. The public sector is primarily about providing public services and they would be the second sector).
Unincorporated	Functions without a formal governance structure.