

**Caithness Citizens Advice Bureau**

1a Beach Court, Thurso, Caithness KW14 8AD

Tel 01847 894243

Email: [bureau@caithnesscab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:bureau@caithnesscab.casonline.org.uk)

EXTENSION BUREAU: 123 High Street, Wick, Caithness KW1 4LR Tel 01955 605989

Scottish Charity Number: SCO02849

27<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**Coastal Communities Funding**

We are writing to support the funding request by Thurso Community Development Trust (TCDT).

The Trust has worked continuously, and in particular with the pandemic over the last year, to support many local initiatives, which has had a hugely positive impact on everyone in our local community, especially our vulnerable groups.

There has been a lack of community spirit in our remote community over the last 10 years and for the past 2-3 years TCDT have worked tirelessly to improve this. Their projects include organising social events, fundraising, preparing a community magazine, implementing a sharing shed for the most vulnerable in our community as well as delivering meals, doing shopping, collecting prescriptions. In addition to this, they have a 'Thurso Grows' project which educates and develop people to grow their own fruit and vegetables. There is so much enthusiasm with this project, the community would like to see it grow to a bigger scale which would employ local people, develop skills as well as to bring in income from the sale of their produce.

The other key aim of TCDT is to combat isolation and mental health challenges within our community. It is hoped, when the pandemic is over, we have a central point which would have lots of community information to share as well as encouraging people to pop in for a coffee / chat which would have a positive impact on mental health.

About us! The aim Citizens Advice Caithness is to provide advice which is free, independent, confidential, impartial and available to everyone. We look at the problems people bring to our advice services and campaign for change where it's needed most. We are very much part of our local voluntary community and TCDT has supported many of our clients and we would love this to continue.

In conclusion we fully support the efforts of TCDT as they seek external funding to continue to be a valuable asset to our community.

Yours faithfully.

Isobel Mackay

Bureau Manager