

**Press Release**  
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**For Immediate Release**

## **Carnegie UK Trust awarded funding to tackle lack of affordable rural housing**

**Carnegie UK Trust has been awarded money from the Empowerment Fund to continue vital support of the Community Land Trust National Demonstration Project.**

Carnegie is one of twenty-one projects that will receive part of a £9.25m Empowerment Fund to deliver on the key themes of the Communities in Control White paper and help to give a real voice to people in their communities.

Community Land Trusts allow concerned local people to acquire land and plan for the provision of housing and services such as workspace and community halls to be managed on behalf of the community in perpetuity. Carnegie UK Trust has championed this idea as an effective mechanism for the provision of affordable housing in rural areas by funding pilot schemes through the National Community Land Trust Demonstration Project.

**Carnegie UK Trust rural director Kate Braithwaite said:** “Carnegie has been proud to support the National Community Land Trust Demonstration Project since its inception and it is now a flourishing movement with cross-party backing and with families moving into the first hundred homes. This is fantastic news and will secure continued support for pioneer trusts.”

**Bob Paterson, co-founder and project director at Community Finance Solutions said:** “We are delighted with the announcement. The money will be used to empower communities to take the idea of community asset ownership into a reality.

These resources will enable us to move the community land trust work from experimentation to replication and eventually mainstreaming.”

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### **For further information contact:**

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**Notes to editors:**

**Carnegie UK Trust** is one of over twenty foundations worldwide set up by Scots American Andrew Carnegie, working to support a more just, democratic, peaceful and sustainable world.

Carnegie UK Trust supports independent commissions of inquiry into areas of public concern, together with action and research programmes. Carnegie UK Trust's rural programme examines and promotes ways in which rural communities across the UK and Ireland can be empowered to shape and influence change and work to ensure that rural priorities are fully recognised by decision makers. For more information on the rural programme go to <http://rural.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/>.

**The Empowerment Fund** supports third sector organisations with national reach that can help deliver on the key themes set out in the White Paper, [\*Communities in Control: real people, real power\*](#). Themes for delivery are: Community Voices and Leadership; Community Development; Community and Social Media; Community involvement in Planning; Improving communication between citizens and councillors; Social Enterprises and Social Entrepreneurship and helping small organisations to work together