



DORNOCH BID NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN HIGHLAND FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT



Thank you to all who were able to support the Autumn Highland Festival either by hosting an event, promoting the festival or taking part yourself!

Plans are now underway for the Spring Festival taking place from **8 to 22 April**. We hope to improve the programme and strengthen marketing activity and would appreciate your feedback to help us understand:

- How the festival affected footfall, bookings, and sales
- The experience of businesses that hosted events
- How effective the marketing and promotion channels were
- What improvements you feel would be most valuable next year

All responses are confidential and the survey available [HERE](#) should take no more than **3 minutes** to complete. **Thank you!**

AUTUMN TOWN TIDY



The final Dornoch BID Town Tidy for the year took place on the 1st of November. **Thank you** to all who were able to help make Dornoch look at its very best once again and to Watson Bell for kindly providing his trailer to transport the leaves to the Community Garden. Thanks also to **Dornoch Castle Hotel** for kindly providing teas/coffees and cake. The 2026 Town Tidy dates will **be agreed** in the New Year.

BID MEMBERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

(19th DEC.)

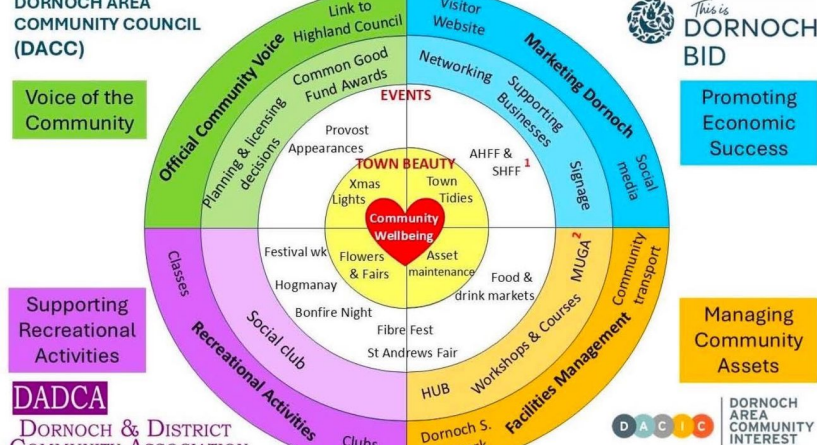


Tickets for the Christmas Party in the brand new Royal Dornoch Golf Club are selling fast **so hurry** and buy yours! Not only will this be an opportunity to have a great night out and enjoy wonderful food, dancing and Christmas cheer, it's also a great chance to explore the stunning Clubhouse!

Tickets can either be bought by employers or staff members, if preferred. For more details about the event and/or to buy tickets click [HERE](#).

RDGC members will be able to use their 10% member discount at the bar and/or in advance when placing orders for drinks at the table. There will be a raffle prize draw with the proceeds going to the **Highland Hospice**. Any prize donations are welcome.

DORNOCH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS



Dornoch BID has created a chart that explains how the town's four key community organisations fit together and to clarify what each one does and how they contribute to community life. This visual guide shows how the principal organisations connect within the town's civic and cultural framework. A larger version can be viewed [HERE](#).

The chart's purpose is to map out the local community structure, and reduce confusion among residents about who does what.

HIGHLAND HOUSING NEEDS AND DEMAND ASSESSMENT



The Highland Council is asking **all businesses to take part in a wide-scale survey** about housing shortage and its impact on the Highland economy. The survey aims to assess whether local businesses are struggling to recruit or retain staff due to a lack of housing, and whether a housing shortage is a barrier to growing the economy.

The results will help Highland Council understand the number of new homes needed to support growth. Please submit the survey [HERE](#) by 1st December.

MAJOR INCREASES TO ELECTRICITY STANDING CHARGES



From April 2026, businesses with Half-Hourly or large-consuming Non-Half-Hourly electricity meters will see a sharp rise in standing charges, in some cases by £1,000 - £3,000 per year. Part of the Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement programme, the changes will reshape how energy use/network costs are calculated. This update is for businesses whose contracts include pass-through charges such as Transmission Network Use of System.

If your contract is due for renewal/runs beyond April 2026, it's important to review now, as costs may increase mid-term or at your next renewal. To help BID members prepare, [Eyebright Utilities](#) offer free reviews to:

- Confirm your meter classification and whether you'll be affected
- Review contract terms and highlight any pass-through costs
- Forecast potential cost impacts to support budgeting
- Identify and avoid double-charging risks

To book a free review, contact Michael Dogan at m.dogan@eyebrightutilities.co.uk

Disclaimer: This information is for guidance and is not to be taken as financial advice

AUTUMN BAROMETER SURVEY



The Association of Self Caterers Autumn Barometer Survey is now live and input from the self catering sector is vital. The data collected helps inform decisions made by the Scottish Government, VisitScotland, and industry leaders, and provides valuable insight into current trends, challenges, and opportunities within the sector.

Help build a stronger future for Scotland's self-catering sector and complete the survey [HERE](#) which closes at midnight, 1st December 2025.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Stay up to date - The Minutes of the monthly BID Board meetings are saved at the base of the website homepage in the Business Section.

WhatsApp Groups - There are Retail, Accommodation, Restaurant and Professional Services WhatsApp groups. Please text the BID on **07471 200103** to have your number added to the relevant group.

Dornoch BID FB Page - This is the FB page for Industry Updates. Please give it a like and follow/comment or tag us to re-share your updates.

Get in touch - Email DornochBID@thisisdornoch.com to discuss any membership matter and/or to arrange a call/meeting with Sharon, Dornoch BID Manager.



This is
DORNOCH

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