

RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Support Pack

Welcome

We welcome you to the Royal Horticultural Society's It's Your Neighbourhood campaign and congratulate you for taking the first step towards making your local area a safer, cleaner, greener and an all round better place to be.

Whatever the focus of the project benefiting your community, the *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* campaign offers advice, guidance, support, recognition and feedback to all registered participants on an ongoing basis. This support ensures that there is a strong foundation to build upon and that projects like yours are appropriate, sustainable and make a direct and positive impact on local people.

Our assessors, who will visit your community to evaluate your project, recognise that many groups are in the early stages of greening up their local area. In their assessment, they will give as much consideration to how far you have progressed in improving your neighbourhood, as they give to the end result. They will be interested in the impact your efforts have made over time, and what your plans are for the future.

This support pack is written to help you work towards making your local area a better place to live in. Although it is not the intention of this pack to offer horticultural advice, we have included a support section with useful information to help you get the horticulture advice you need. We created this pack as guide to participation and also to explain the aims of the campaign. We hope you find it helpful.



Giles Coode-Adams
President
The Royal Horticultural Society

Contents

This information pack is set up as a resource for participating groups and has sections with information to answer the following questions:

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What is RHS It's Your Neighbourhood?

The Royal Horticultural Society's *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* campaign provides an opportunity to smaller community groups to get involved in the wider Britain in Bloom initiative.

It's a unique scheme for volunteer-led community gardening projects/groups which are focused on cleaning up and greening up their local area, whether that's the estate where they live, or the back alley they share, or the local community centre's outdoor space.

RHS It's Your Neighbourhood is an inclusive, non-competitive scheme, which welcomes projects/groups of all kinds, as long as they fit the criteria outlined under "Who can enter?"

There is no charge to participate in *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood*.

RHS It's Your Neighbourhood is all about bringing members of the community together to make a positive change to the place they live, work or spend their leisure time. Groups participating in the campaign are asked to focus on its three core pillars of:

Community Participation

Environmental Responsibility

Gardening Achievement

While participating groups are not judged against each other, they are visited by environmental and horticultural 'in Bloom' experts (our assessors), who provide valuable feedback and helpful advice on how to develop current activities and encourage on-going improvements. Based on the visit, each community will receive an RHS certificate of achievement reflecting how well participants have met the *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* aims as included in the three core pillars. There are five levels of achievement in the campaign - Establishing, Improving, Developing, Thriving and Outstanding - and groups who have done consistently well over time may be nominated to receive the *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* National Certificate of Distinction.

Who can enter?

RHS It's Your Neighbourhood is open to groups of all sizes and with a variety of projects, as long as they are focused on cleaning up and greening their local area and as long as they are:

A group

Hands on

Involved in community gardening

Representative of the community and/or getting input from the community

Benefiting the community

Volunteer-led

Sustainable over time

Owned by the community and the community takes responsibility for the work.

Some examples of *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* groups are:

A residents' group/association

A park Friends group

A group of neighbours

A community allotment group

What kinds of projects do *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* groups do?

The projects that *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* groups do will be entirely decided by the local situation. The group will choose their project based on the local needs and environment and what might benefit their local community. These will be the most important considerations when deciding on a project.

Some examples of what *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* groups have done are:

Restoring a churchyard

Converting disused space into useable green space

Taking over the improvement and maintenance of green spaces on their estate

Transforming a back alley from a breeding ground for anti-social behaviour into a community gathering space and garden

Adopting a square, roundabout or brownfield space and renovating it

Redeveloping all the front gardens on (part of) a street using any number of schemes (hanging baskets, window boxes for growing herbs etc.)

Forming a Friends group to look after (part of) the local park

Uniting local retailers to transform the high street/shopping area

What are the benefits of participation?

By participating in *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* your community will benefit from:

Cleaner and greener surroundings

Developing a sense of community and creating positive interaction between community members

Safer environments for the enjoyment of local people

Reduction in anti-social behaviour

Increased civic pride as local people take ownership of the improvements to the area

Positive effects on the local economy, such as increased commercial enterprise

Helping the environment, through recycling, energy conservation, reducing litter, improving/adding green spaces and other sustainable practices

Greater community contact/building relationships with the local authority

If you would like to learn more about how participating communities have benefited from taking part, please visit www.rhs.org.uk/itsyourneighbourhood to read the case studies.

What support is available for registered groups?

All *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* groups receive the following support from the RHS:

Recognition for your achievements

A helpful campaign support pack (a guide for participants)

The opportunity to draw on the experiences of other local communities through a strong Britain in Bloom network

Access to a network of 3,000 local gardening clubs and horticultural societies which can offer their support and expertise

Product offers from selected suppliers

A quarterly community gardening review magazine

Special access to expert RHS advisors who offer individual advice (see below)

To access RHS Advice send an e-mail with your gardening question to advice@rhs.org.uk and write BiBIYN in the subject line and an expert RHS advisor will reply.

Plus the following resources are available on the RHS website:

RHS Plant Selector

Helps you to find appropriate plants for your area and needs Links to <http://www.rhs.org.uk/rhsplantselector>

RHS Plant Finder

Tells you everything you need to know about a particular plant <http://www.rhs.org.uk/rhsplantfinder>

RHS advice topics

Growing vegetables
<http://www.rhs.org.uk/growyourown>

Wildlife gardening

<http://www.rhs.org.uk/advicesearch>
OR have a look at our new site in partnership with The Wildlife Trusts:
<http://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk>

Soil and Composting

<http://www.rhs.org.uk/advicesearch>

Sustainable gardening

<http://www.rhs.org.uk/Gardening/Sustainable-gardening>

Gardening events

<http://www.rhs.org.uk/rhseventfinder/>

What to do in your garden this month

<http://www.rhs.org.uk/Gardening/calendar>

In addition, *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* groups have access to valuable support from their regional/national organisers (eg South West in Bloom, Beautiful Scotland etc.) such as:

Direct contact with national/regional co-ordinators

Access to seminars organised by your region/nation

Access to advice and guidance from your regional/national co-ordinators and assessors

A report with helpful feedback provided after the visit from your local assessor

How does a group get started in *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood*?

Step 1 Establish a group.

Form a group and decide on a name for your group (eg Kingston Road Community Garden). This doesn't mean all potential volunteers and/or members are signed up but you should at least have some key players to get you started.

Step 2 Identify a project.

What is your group going to do? Please bear in mind that even though the final aim of your project may be quite ambitious (eg creating a community garden from a derelict, neglected plot of land) it is not an expectation that you complete the project in the first year or even the first three years. Assessors don't expect to see only finished projects; they also look to help guide you along the way and to help you to see how you might continue to develop even a mature project further.

Step 3 Register.

Contact your national/regional Britain in Bloom co-ordinator (see contact details included here) and get registered. There is no charge to participate or for the support outlined in this pack.

That's it! Getting started in *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

What should an *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* group focus on when planning its project/work?

Everyone taking part in *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* should focus on the three core pillars of the campaign, which are:

- Community Participation**
- Environmental Responsibility**
- Gardening Achievement**

These core pillars are listed here in order of importance and form the basis for how each group's achievements will be assessed. Community Participation is worth 40% and Environmental Responsibility and Gardening Achievement are each worth 30% of the final score. There is a sample assessment form at the end of the next section but you will find below some practical guidance on ways you might incorporate the core pillars into your project.

General Guidance

The suggestions that follow are examples of things that *MAY* be present in an *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* entry – they are *NOT* a list of things that must be done by every group! When you form an *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* group and begin work, you should set your own goals and these should be suited to your local needs. These ideas are to help show activities that may be relevant to each pillar, not rules to be followed or 'to-do' lists to be ticked off.

When deciding your goals you should consider whether these are realistic and manageable and whether the work ties in with the core pillars. If you are a newly formed group, your first set of goals may relate to things such as forming a group, deciding on a project, consulting with the wider community and so on.

Then, as the work of the group progresses, so should the goals, with the focus changing from doing the jobs that move the project from initial ideas and planning, to delivering actual results. The examples below are just suggestions. The assessors will consider where your group started, the challenges that you faced, and how far you have come.

And please don't forget that *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* groups have access to a variety of resources to support them. We strongly recommend groups make use of these resources. Please see the relevant sections of this support pack for further details.

While *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* is part of the wider RHS Britain in Bloom initiative, it is not competitive; achievement awards are used to recognise and applaud the accomplishments of those taking part, as well as to provide them with some feedback and guidance for the future. The assessors should be welcomed as mentors and friends – not

as judges – and you should take advantage of their visit to get constructive feedback. They will evaluate your achievements in the areas of the core pillars by considering how much work you have already done and how much more you could do given your unique circumstances.

Community Participation

40% – 40 out of 100 total marks

Community participation is about working together for the benefit of the local area and it may or may not involve participants in the physical work; community participation can also include fundraising, moral support, provision of facilities and resources, publicising events and many other activities.

There are no size limits – a group is more than one! Larger groups may choose to divide into smaller sub-groups with particular objectives (eg involving children/young people; developing community gardening activities; providing refreshments, making leaflets/posters etc). A group may not have large numbers of active workers or “official” members but they may be engaging more people in their various projects and activities on a casual, drop-in/drop-out basis. In other words, groups will come in many sizes and have many different structures; the key consideration is that even if only one or two people drive the project, they are engaging with other members of the community or seeking ways to do this in the future.

Examples of community participation are things such as:

Being inclusive – the group is a part of the community and has an openness which enables any member of the community to support, contribute to or have a say in its work if they wish. This does not mean you could not have a group specifically for young people, for example. It simply means that even though most of the active participants in such a group would be the young people, those young people or that group would still engage other members of the community in what they were doing.

Being representative – the people involved with the group’s projects and activities are representative of the people in its community. For example, if the community is very ethnically diverse, those involved the local *RHS It’s Your Neighbourhood* project should be from a variety of ethnic groups.

Local ownership and direction – the decisions about what needs doing and how things are done are taken by the group after consulting the local community.

Making a difference to local people – evidence that the group’s work has the support of local people and is improving aspects of their daily life.

Partnership working – the group may also be working with any one or more of the following: Area Panels, Parish Councils, Neighbourhood Watch groups, Wildlife Watch groups, police/community support officers, residents’ associations, etc. as relevant.

Getting support – the group has succeeded in or is working towards getting the support of their local council or councillor and businesses in the community, finding sponsors or sponsorship-in-kind, securing grants or other funding, etc.

Evidence of planning for the future – the group has shown that it is thinking about, and planning ways, to maintain the work they have already done and/or make even more improvements.

Retaining local control – local people are involved with the planning and decision-making.

Communities in areas where there are issues with anti-social behaviour or similar problems may develop partnerships with local police and community support officers.

In communities where the issues may relate to the lack of routine interaction between people, your group should consider how it could use *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* to create opportunities for interaction and to create a sense of community.

It does not matter what type of community participation takes place – only that it is positive and involves local people in the process of improving their area.

Environmental Responsibility

30% – 30 out of 100 total marks

Environmental responsibility is about care for your local area and, where possible, minimising adverse impacts on the environment. It may encompass aspects such as cleanliness of the streets and pavements or reducing use of natural resources. It is about the direct effects that people working at local level can achieve, and not about factors such as waste collection by the local authority.

Examples of environmental responsibility are things such as:

Efforts to promote **responsible dog-ownership** and reduce dog fouling.

Efforts to reduce littering, graffiti, fly-posting and fly-tipping, and efforts to clean up areas spoiled by such activities.

Promotion of environmentally responsible practices – use of peat-free compost, composting of green waste, separation of waste in the local cemetery, minimising water wastage in plant containers, etc.

Development of community green spaces – increasing use of the spaces and developing the skills and involvement of users.

Conservation activities – promotion of wildlife through installation of bird and/or bat boxes, planting of wildlife friendly plants, etc.

Efforts to encourage a sense of local heritage – education and heritage-related projects/activities such as tree trails, history leaflets, signage/interpretation boards etc.

Gardening Achievement

30% – 30 out of 100 total marks

The contents of this section will be completely dependent on the nature of your local area and should always be relevant and appropriate to your needs and to the wishes of the community. At all stages there should be consideration given to good gardening practices that suit local needs. The gardening should enhance the locality for the community and should be within your ability to develop and manage over the medium to long term.

Examples of good gardening practices are things such as:

Good plant choices for the climate or soil, or which suit the heritage and local environment; balance of shrubs, perennials and annuals

Appropriate quality of maintenance – good pruning, mulching, lack of weeds, etc.

Creativity – the planting used for the area shows originality and local flavour.

Development of community gardening activities – developing areas in partnership with village halls, church groups, allotment societies, residents' associations, etc. and/or undertaking group planting events for window boxes, hanging baskets, bulbs, wildflower areas, etc.

Taking on the maintenance of neglected areas such as barren verges or waste ground.

What are the achievement awards and how are they assessed?

In the *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* campaign there are five levels of achievement and they are as follows:

Level	Description	Points
Level 1	Establishing	0-35
Level 2	Improving	36-52
Level 3	Developing	53-68
Level 4	Thriving	69-85
Level 5	Outstanding	86-100

The marks are decided by the assessor, who will come to visit your project; all assessors' visits are arranged by the regional/national co-ordinators and generally they take place in late June and July. Assessors will evaluate what you have achieved using the assessment form which is included at the end of this section. There is a total number of marks allocated to each section and the sections correspond to the three core pillars of *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood*. There are no sub-sections with allocated scores; the assessor evaluates each section as a whole.

The items listed within each section of the assessment form are simply suggestions of things that you could/should be doing for that core pillar; you do not have to be doing all or even most of them to earn a top mark for the section. The assessor needs to gauge how much has already been done against how much could be done by your group and under the conditions present. The assessor will then consider if, in relation to the core pillars, you seem to be just starting out (Establishing) or if you have achieved something truly remarkable (Outstanding), or if you are somewhere on the spectrum in between (i.e. Improving, Developing, Thriving).

RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Assessment Form

Section A - Community Participation (40% or 40 points)

The group is working towards things such as:

Being inclusive of local people
Local ownership and direction
Making a difference to local people
Involving local people with planning, decision-making, communication & implementation
Being representative of the local community
Getting support (e.g. from local council, grant aid, sponsorship, in-kind aid etc.)
Planning for the future
Working in partnership with other organisations (i.e. police, community support officers, environmental groups etc.)

Total points assessed for Section A (out of 40)

Section B - Environmental Responsibility (30% or 30 points)

The group is engaged in environmental activities such as:

Conservation (e.g. resources, heritage, wildlife, built environment)
Composting
Recycling
Creating, maintaining or improving green space
Sharing knowledge and skills

The group is engaged in addressing environmental issues such as:

Fly-tipping
Fly-posting
Litter
Graffiti
Anti-social behaviour
Dog fouling

Total points assessed for Section B (out of 30)

Section C - Gardening Achievement (30% or 30 points)		
The group is employing good gardening practices appropriate to the area, such as:		
Good plant choice		
Good maintenance, presentation and management		
Creativity		
Innovation		
Overcoming site difficulties		
Enhancing the area through gardening		
Total points assessed for Section C (out of 30)		
Grand total points assessed		
LEVEL ACHIEVED		
Areas of achievement:		
Areas for development:		
Results		
Level	Description	Points
Level 1	Establishing	0-35
Level 2	Improving	36-52
Level 3	Developing	53-68
Level 4	Thriving	69-85
Level 5	Outstanding	86-100

How does a group get the additional support it needs?

“Support” for your group/project means a variety of things:

Community support – which can be active volunteers, consultation, feedback, endorsement etc.

Financial support – financial support can come from a variety of places such as from your own fundraising efforts, sponsors (commercial, corporate), grants, government funding etc.

Political support – either the endorsement of and/or actual help from your local council or local councillor

Support-in-kind – these are donations of products, equipment or services you need in order to get things done and can range from someone donating a venue for your fundraising event or committee meeting, through to donations of tools and plants or services (eg heavy equipment and a team to operate it, to clear brush) etc.

ALL support is valuable so don't underestimate how much any of it might help you in achieving your goals.

Whether you are approaching other community members, your local authority, local businesses or big corporate types, there are a few key things to have in place before you speak with them. These things should be in place whether you are simply asking for them to volunteer or asking them for money or even products/equipment.

Have a clear action plan – Potential supporters will want to know what you want to achieve, what the priorities are and how you are going to make a difference to your local community.

Make a “shopping” list – Identify what you need to complete your project; whether it's plants, tools or professional help for bigger more specialist jobs, as you will need to show that you understand the practical needs.

Create a budget – Even if it is not exact or very elaborate, it's very important to have some idea of what the costs are to make your project a reality and to be able to show this to people you approach for help (as appropriate).

Create a “prospects” list – Identify all the individuals, organisations, companies, businesses etc. that you can contact for support AND identify the best person to speak to if the prospect is not an individual. Once you have the list, organise it in order of priority with those you think are most likely to support you at the top.

Understand your audience – You should have a specific plan for each individual, organisation, company, business etc. that you approach. Think

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about who they are what they do, how they might help you and even why they might want to help you.

Once you have done the initial preparation work and you're ready to start contacting potential supporters, there is one more thing you should do: Prepare your pitch!

There is no doubt that any project an *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* participant is working on is a worthwhile endeavour but the potential supporter will still want to know how they might benefit by supporting you. This means that for each contact you must be able to tell them what they can get out of the partnership. For example, according to NatWest's recent television advertisements NatWest are a local bank focused on supporting local people. What better way for the local branch to embody this mission and ethos than by supporting a local initiative – your *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* group - which is going to improve the community? Or is there a company near you that advertises how “green” or environmentally responsible they are? That would be another reason for a company to support their local *RHS It's Your Neighbourhood* group, as after all, environmental responsibility is a core pillar of the campaign and should feature in the work of any group.

In addition you should be sure to:

- Give the name of your group and its status (i.e. whether you are a voluntary group or a charity) and the main contact details

- Describe the purpose of your work with aims and objectives

- Provide a timetable of work and when the likely date of completion will be

- Mention any special events you might have planned

- State clearly what you are asking for (volunteers, a specific amount of money, goods, services etc.)

- Make the person you are speaking to aware of any support you may already have secured or that has been pledged

- List any local celebrities or well-known local characters or “VIPs” who are supporting you

- Clearly explain the benefits to them of supporting your activities and how you will be publicising and acknowledging their support

- If you are submitting a financial report showing how you would spend the money you are asking for, check the figures to avoid any embarrassing mistakes

- Keep copies of whatever you send to a potential sponsor

- Seek feedback on any failed bids or applications; this is a useful way of improving and making a more appropriate case next time

And last but not least... do not underestimate the power of positive publicity!

Communicate about what you are doing as much as you can. First of all, it is important to have a dialogue with other community members to ensure you have their support even if they don't actively get involved. Second, you never know who might hear about your efforts and then come to you to offer their support. Talk or write to other residents, businesses, the local paper etc. to inform them about '*RHS It's Your Neighbourhood*' and your project to improve your area.

FUNDING RESOURCES

The Directory of Social Change (DSC)

Purpose: The DSC publishes a range of useful publications including:

The Complete Fundraising Handbook £16.95

Tried and Tested Ideas for Raising Money Locally £14.95

Contact: The Directory of Social Change
24 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2DP
Tel: 020 7391 4800

Fundraising UK Ltd

Purpose: This organisation hosts a helpful website linking to potential sources of grants and information about them.

www.fundraising.co.uk/grants.html

Fund Finder

Purpose: This is a computer programme that is a shortcut for overworked fundraisers! You simply type in the characteristics of your project (e.g. how much you are applying for) and it prints out a list. You then have to look up directories for the addresses and further details, so you will need to buy directories as well. However, many local authorities and larger voluntary groups have this programme and let community groups and others use it.
www.fundfinder.org.uk

Landfill Communities Fund (LCF)

This tax credit scheme, introduced in 1996, enables operators of landfill sites to contribute money to organisations to carry out projects that meet environmental objectives contained in the Landfill Tax Regulations. Your project is likely to have to be within 10 miles of any landfill site, or closer, ensuring the money is spent locally to their landfill operation.

Contact: information@entrust.org.uk or download material and search the online funders directory at www.entrust.org.uk

WREN Grant Scheme

WREN can offer funding of between £2,000 and £50,000 for the provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or other public amenity in the vicinity of a landfill site and the delivery of biodiversity conservation for UK species or habitats. All projects must be located within WREN operating areas and be available to the general public. For information on operating areas or to download an application form visit www.wren.org.uk

Co-operative Community Fund

The fund's purpose is to enable voluntary, community and co-operative groups to undertake a range of schemes that benefit the community including environmental schemes.

Grant size: £100 - £5,000

Contact: 0161 827 5879 An application form can be downloaded from www.co-operative.co.uk or E: community.fund@co-op.co.uk

B&Q One Planet Living Grant

Schools, community groups and charitable organisations can apply to their local B&Q store for funding to support a local community project. The scheme provides £50 to £500 (at retail cost) of B&Q materials, for example, pond liners, plants, peat-free compost for projects such as a pond/wildlife garden to get a sustainable community project up and running.

Contact: Applicants to apply to the Store Manager at their local B&Q store. For further details visit www.diy.com

Heritage Lottery Fund

The fund's purpose is to support a wide range of projects involving the local, regional and national heritage of the UK.

Range: Various, depending on project

Contact: 7 Holbein Place, London SW1W 8NR

T: 020 7591 6000 or E: enquire@hlf.org.uk

www.hlf.org.uk

Awards for All

Grants of between £300 and £10,000 are awarded for people to take part in art, sport, heritage, community activities, and projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community.

Contact: 0845 600 20 40

E: general.enquiries@awardsforall.org.uk for general enquiries or an application form. Or download forms and guidance notes from www.awardsforall.org.uk

Parks for People

This three-year joint initiative between Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery Fund (BIG) provides grants of £250,000 to £5 million to help with the restoration and regeneration of public parks and gardens, including squares, walks and promenades in England.

For further details visit: www.hlf.org.uk

O2 it's your community

They offer awards of £100 to £1000 to support projects that bring people together to benefit their community. If your project is small enough that £1000 will make a difference then visit www.itsyourcommunity.co.uk

CABE: SEA CHANGE (Coastal only)

Sea Change places culture at the heart of regenerating England's seaside resorts by investing in arts, public, cultural assets and heritage projects. It will drive cultural and creative regeneration and economic growth in seaside resorts by funding inspiring, creative and innovative projects, bringing a sense of pride, enjoyment and celebration. For more information visit: www.cabe.org.uk

B&Q One Planet Living Awards

Community projects can secure up to £10,000 across the UK and Ireland for projects that support the environment, energy saving, natural habitats, wildlife and local culture or heritage. The awards are launched every January. For further information, please visit www.diy.com/awards

Groundwork Community Spaces Fund

A £50 million open grant programme run by Groundwork UK aims to help community groups improve green and open spaces and the quality of life in their neighbourhood. Projects could include community gardens, parks, wildlife areas and village greens. Grants start at £10,000. For further information, please visit www.community-spaces.org.uk

Local Food Fund

A £50 million open grant programme run by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts will award grants of £2,000 - £500,000 to a variety of food related projects to help make locally grown food accessible and affordable to local communities. Projects could include growing, processing, marketing and distributing local food; composting and raising awareness of the benefits of such activities. For further details, visit www.localfoodgrants.org

Lottery Funding

From the National Lottery Funding website you can search for all the funding programmes available from all the National Lottery distributing bodies.

www.lotteryfunding.org.uk

BIG Lottery Fund

The New Opportunities Fund and Community Fund merged in 2004 to become the Big Lottery Fund.

For funding information or general enquiries about Big Lottery Fund grant programmes, call the BIG advice line on 0845 4 10 20 30 or

E: general.enquiries@biglotteryfund.org.uk

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

In Wales

Awards for All (Wales)

Awards for All Wales is supported by Big Lottery Fund and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Grants of between £500 and £5,000 are awarded for people to take part in heritage and community activities, and projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community.

For an application pack, please contact 0845 600 20 40

For information about Awards for All Wales, use the following contact details: T: 01686 611740; Textphone: 01686 610205

E: enquiries.wales@biglotteryfund.org.uk

www.awardsforall.org.uk

BIG Lottery Fund (Wales)

The New Opportunities Fund merged with the Community Fund to become the Big Lottery Fund in 2004. For funding information or general enquiries, please call the BIG advice line on 01686 611 700 or E: enquiries.wales@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Newtown office:

2nd Floor, Ladywell House, Newtown, Powys, SY16 1JB

T: 01686 611700

Textphone: 01686 610205

F: 01686 621534

Cardiff office:

6th Floor, 1 Kingsway, Cardiff, CF10 3JN

T: 029 2067 8200

Textphone: 0845 6021659

F: 029 2066 7275

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/wales

Heritage Lottery Fund (Wales)

The fund's purpose is to support a wide range of projects involving the local, regional and national heritage of the UK.

Range: Various, depending on project

Contact: Suite 5A, Hodge House, Guildhall Place, Cardiff, CF10 1DY

T: 029 2034 3414; F: 029 2034 3427;

E: enquire@hlf.org.uk; www.hlf.org.uk

People and Places

People and Places aims to bring people together to make their communities stronger and to improve their rural and urban environments. This programme will support local and regional projects throughout Wales. People and Places can fund £5,001 to £1 million for projects that achieve one or more of the following programme outcomes: revitalised communities, improved community relations and enhanced local environments and community amenities.

In Scotland

Forward Scotland

For sustainable development and conservation.

Grants will normally provide up to 75 % of project costs but will not exceed £30,000.

Contact: Forward Scotland

The Lodge

Earlsgate House

St. Ninian's Road

Stirling, Scotland

FK8 2HE

T: 056000 10560

E: enquiries@forward-scotland.org.uk

www.forward-scotland.org.uk

Are there other additional recommended resources?

CIVIC TRUST

This promotes progressive improvements in the quality of urban life for communities throughout the UK. It works to enhance the quality of life in cities, towns and villages, the place people live, work, shop and relax.

Contact: The Civic Trust, 17 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AW.

T: 020 7930 0914

www.civictrust.org.uk

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

This Foundation believes that communities are strengthened when local people participate in determining the conditions that affect their lives. The CDF works to foster this belief by supporting community initiatives, promoting good practice and informing policy making at local and national level.

Contact: Community Development Foundation,
60 Highbury Grove, London, N5 2AG

T: 020 7226 5375

www.cdf.org.uk

COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

This is a UK charity dedicated to giving everyone a chance to play an active part in their community through volunteering, training, education and via the media.

Contact: CSV Head Office, 237 Pentonville Road,
London N1 9NJ

T:020 7278 6601

www.csv.org.uk

Who does a group contact with its questions?

Your first point of contact with questions should be your region/nation; please refer to the enclosed list of contact details. Alternatively, please contact the RHS Community Horticulture team on:

britaininbloom@rhs.org.uk
020 7821 3360

How does a group contact its Region/Nation?

Anglia (for Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire)

Sue Hacon

01493 650 924

sue_hacon@hotmail.co.uk

Beautiful Scotland

Anne Strachan

01786 463 485

anne.strachan@ksbscotland.org.uk

Cumbria

Elaine Dickinson

01900 63880

Dickinson12345@excite.com

East Midlands (for Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire,

Northamptonshire, Rutland)

Irene Bates

01332 679 598

info@eastmidlandsinbloom.co.uk

Guernsey

Sarah Brouard

01481 238 463

floralguernsey@cwgsy.net

Heart of England (for Shropshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, Hereford & Worcester, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire)

Jenny Redfern

07775 930 182

info@heartofenglandinbloom.co.uk

Isle of Man

Rachele Quayle

01624 686 806

rachele.quayle@gov.im

RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD Support Pack

Jersey

Abbie Fox
01534 448 823
abbie@jersey.com

London

Anne Holman
020 8662 1021
anne@sseib.com

Northumbria (for Northumbria, Tyne & Wear, Durham, Cleveland)

Paula Darrington
01434 673 440
darringtondesign@hotmail.com

North West (for Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Cheshire, Merseyside)

Trevor Leese
01204 468 126
trevor.leese@btinternet.com

South & South East (for Hampshire, South Wiltshire, Isle of Wight, Eastern Dorset, Kent, Surrey, Sussex)

Anne Holman
020 8662 1021
anne@sseib.com

South West (for Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Avon, Wiltshire, Western Dorset)

Jon Wheatley
07879 640 518
jonswheatley@aol.com

Thames & Chilterns (for Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Berkshire)

Sally Swift
01189 545 796
sallyswift08@yahoo.co.uk

Translink Ulster (for Northern Ireland/Ulster)

Ken Powles
028 9079 8972
k.powles@nilga.org

RHS IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD Support Pack

Wales

Sheila Lewis

01492 533 363

walesinbloom@yahoo.co.uk

Yorkshire (for North, West & South Yorkshire, East Riding of Yorkshire, North and North East Lincolnshire)

Trevor Hoyle

01422 885 222

admin@yorkshireinbloom.co.uk