# Welcome to Connecting Communities





KEEP NORTHERN IRELAND BEAUTIFUL



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Environmental Education

Eco-Schools 30 under 30 Live Here Love Here

Community Action Volunteer Awards Grants

Tackling Textiles

Climate Action

Training

Local Environmental Quality

Surveys & Statistics
Place Awards

**Fashion Forever** 



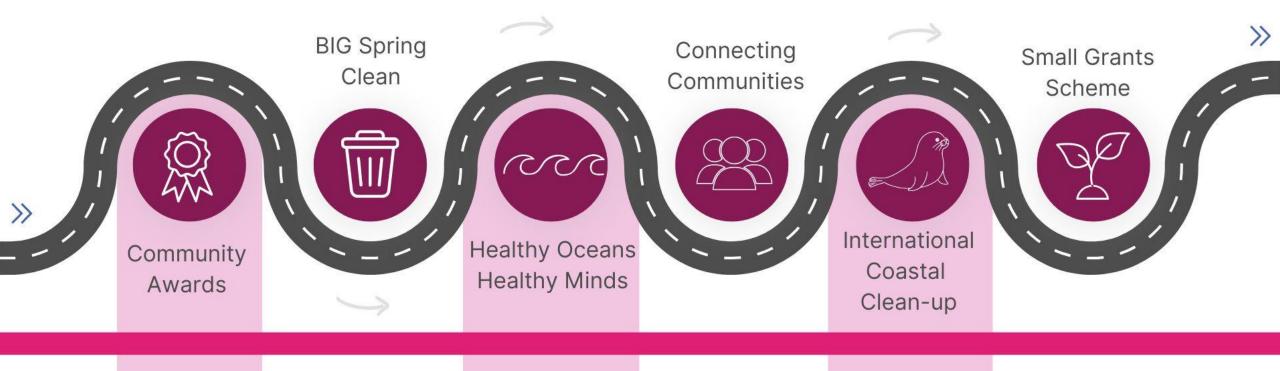
**February** 

March/ April

## Annual Activity 2024/25







Aug/Sept

September

Aug-March

August

### **Small Grants Scheme**

The Live Here Love Here Small Grants
Scheme is an incredible opportunity for local communities to apply for a grant between £500 to £5000 to improve their environment and promote a cleaner, green and safer place to live.

It is aimed at promoting civic pride within communities and improving the environmental quality of shared community spaces.







Funded by 9 Local Councils, Northern Ireland Housing Executive and supported by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful, the Small Grants Scheme empowers volunteers to transform shared greenspaces for the benefit of the community and the environment.



## Aims and objectives

Projects must meet **one** or more of the following objectives:

- Contribute to the development of civic pride within a community
- Enhance the environmental management of a local area
- Improve the health and wellbeing of communities whilst helping to improve and/or maintain public spaces
- Improve the quality of the local environment by reducing littering and dog fouling through community action
- Support environmentally focused actions that help support people impacted through reduced contact with society



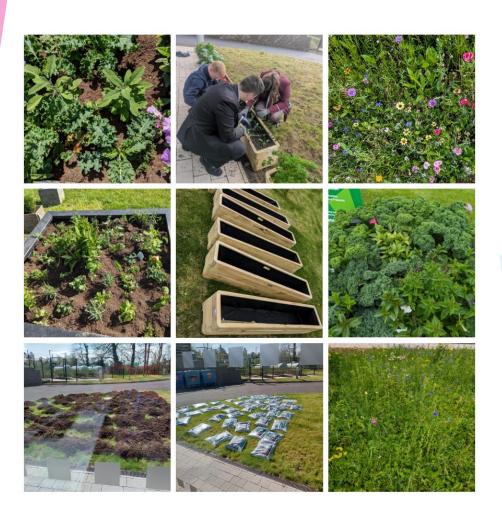
### Who is it for?

The Scheme supports environmental improvement projects for the benefit of the wider community.

#### Applications are welcome from:

- Volunteer and community groups (including non-constituted)
- Youth groups, sports clubs, churches
- All schools and third-level education organisations
- Not-for-Profit Organisations

## Types of projects we fund:

















#### Welcome

Log in to Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful to continue to Submittable.

Email address\*

#### Continue

Don't have an account? Sign up

## Applying

- ► Available; £500 £5,000
- ► Non-constituted groups; £1,500
- ► Match funding is not required
- ► Lead volunteer should apply
- ► Second contact required
- ▶ Quotes needed for application
- ▶ 70% upfront can be requested
- Register and apply through Submittable
- Feedback on application not available



## Tips for a great application!

Research your costs carefully

Have 2nd quotes for anything over £500

Have a clear project idea

Be concise & specific to your project.

Ensure your project is scalable

Include partnership working

Be passionate!



## TACKLING TEXTILES GRANT

Funding of up to £3,000 for innovative projects Do you have an idea that supports tackling textile waste through prevention, reuse, repair and reimagine?



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## Skills and Innovation Fund

Amount Available; £1000 - £3000

Open now until 20th September

Apply via Submittable

Details on KNIB website (read the Guidance Notes)

## Who can apply;

- Small and Medium Enterprises (under 250 employees)
- Social enterprises
- ▶ Charities
- ► Not for profit organisations
- ► Community & voluntary groups



## **Funding Criteria**

Your project must meet 2 of the following;

- Support the development of new skills around reuse, repair and reimagine of clothing and textiles within the wider community.
- Encourage individuals and communities to reduce the amount of clothing and textile waste generated.
- Provide jobs, skills, or training opportunities for individuals and/or communities which support the reduction of textile waste.
- Explore new approaches to tackling textile waste which could include IT, Fabric Choice and Design, Learning/elearning, Sustainable Garment Design or Research

(This list is not exhaustive).



#fashionforeve ni

## Past Projects





- Funded to deliver sewing sessions to kids
- Increased awareness of textile waste
- Demonstrated ways in which you can reduce waste at home.

- Workshops, talks and events to upskill & educate
- Reimaging clothes, core mending & sewing skills & how to host clothing swaps

More info at www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

**ENHANCED PRIDE AND REPUTATION** 

SHOWCASING YOUR AWARD

IMPROVEMENT TO YOUR COMMUNITY

**REGENERATION** 

PR/ MARKETING/ BOOST TO FUNDING APPLICATIONS





## **Green Flag for Communities**

#### What is it?

A nationally recognised award celebrating high-quality green spaces managed by voluntary and community groups.

#### Who is it for?

► Community spaces open to the public

► Gardens, Woodlands, Nature reserves, Allotments, Churchyards

#### Why apply?

- ► Celebrate amazing green spaces
- ▶ Reward volunteer action





## **Applying**

#### What is involved?

- Simple application on National GF site
- Submit a management plan (we can help!)
- Assessments in Springtime based on criteria such as community involvement, health & safety and how welcoming the site is
- Feedback provided on your application
- Successful applicants will receive their Green Flag in Summer 2025



## LEQ Green Flag for Communities

How do I apply?

Register for the award via the application portal (QR code)

For more information:

Contact

leq@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

Or visit

www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

#### Training opportunities



- Community Conversations
- Can be adapted to your group needs
- Helps trigger discussion and sharing ideas
- DAERA funded free to book
- Q/A session included
- No previous knowledge required
- Suggestions/ideas for climate action



- Climate Smart
- Introduction to climate change
- 2.5hr session
- DAERA funded free to community groups/members
- Additional modules for certification (optional)
- Suggestions/ideas for climate action
- CPD certified





- Carbon Smart Communities/Schools/Youth Groups
- 1 day of training 9.30-4pm
- Fully funded by DAERA, including certification (optional)
- In-person or online
- Large or small groups
- Accessible format, no previous knowledge required









#### Next Steps

#### For more information

- Visit our website
- Get in touch to find out more or discuss the training, carbonenquiries@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org
- Drop your details on to our sign-up sheet and we will send you further details.

#### To book your place

- Visit our website and look for Communities or Climate
   Smart programmes (open courses).
- To book a course specifically for your group, contact us at <a href="mailto:carbonenquiries@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org">carbonenquiries@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org</a>









## Thank you for your continued support!



For any more information visit;

https://www.liveherelovehere.org

https://www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

Please complete the Community Survey

