

Support for your It's Your Neighbourhood entry

As well as being at the end of the phone or email for any queries your group may have, KSB provides a range of support to entrant groups throughout the year:

1.1 Information, resources and funding

1.1a Newsletter

Every entrant group will receive an e-newsletter every two months, packed full of useful information and funding advice. Typically the newsletter will contain information about KSB campaigns your group can get involved in to increase community participation; KSB funding and funding available from external sources; your stories; updates from the [RHS](#) and [The Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society \(The Caley\)](#); and interesting events and information that will hopefully benefit your group.

We would love to hear from your group so, if you have any stories you would like to share with others, or there are subjects you would like to see covered in the e-newsletters, please let us know.

The e-newsletter will be sent to both contacts for your group, but please let us know if others wish to receive it.

1.1b Community Projects resource

KSB's Community Projects resource includes activities ranging from projects encouraging biodiversity, to 'Young Reporters Scotland' and gardening for wildlife. The aim of the resource is to help communities re-engage with Scotland's environment and to improve local environmental quality. Check out the free advice and resources available [here](#).

1.1c Clean Up Scotland resources

The It's Your Neighbourhood campaign is the celebration of KSB's Clean Up Scotland campaign, proving what can be done when you involve the community. Many It's Your Neighbourhood groups already register Clean Up events with KSB and have organised Clean Up events during Spring for years. We would like all groups to register at least one Clean Up event a year with KSB's Clean Up Scotland campaign – your group can hold your event(s) at any time during the year, and KSB will provide you with a free Clean Up kit and support materials. To register, please visit www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/CUS. Organising a Clean Up event in your community is a great way to promote the work your group does and may also lead to new volunteers.

To ensure your Clean Up event is successful and you maximise its impact, download our Litter pick Plus toolkit [here](#).

There are lots of other ways you can also get involved with the campaign, including organising a dog fouling campaign and promoting responsible dog ownership (visit our '[Get Involved](#)' page, or '[Make a Dog Share Station](#)' page for some fun ideas).

1.1d Logos

Each group registered for It's Your Neighbourhood is entitled to use the It's Your Neighbourhood logo for any of its publicity materials and signage. Please email beautifulscotland@keepsotlandbeautiful.org for the logo.

We can also provide 'Clean Up 'x'' logos (for example, Clean Up Coupar Angus) for your use – please contact beautifulscotland@keepsotlandbeautiful.org for more information.

1.1e Media and social media support

KSB offers a variety of media and social media support throughout the year for It's Your Neighbourhood groups – please see [this document](#) for detailed information.

We love to hear and share what your group is getting up to – so if you have a Facebook or Twitter page for your group, then do let us know, and make sure to like and post things on the KSB [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages too.

1.1f Assessor support

As part of the It's Your Neighbourhood campaign, your group will be visited by a trained volunteer assessor at some point between May and September - you and the assessor will work out a time that suits you best. The visit is informal and is a chance for you to show the assessor around your project and for the assessor to ask questions about who is involved, who benefits from the project, and any future plans, etc. The assessor then writes up a report which highlights achievements and also gives useful suggestions and advice. This report is then emailed to you by KSB.

Please note: the campaign is non-competitive, and projects are not assessed against each other – the visit should be enjoyable for you, the group, and the volunteer assessor, and at no time should you feel stressed or under pressure by it.

KSB is always on the lookout for new volunteer assessors - if you love Scotland, the environment, gardening, meeting new people, visiting inspiring projects, and being part of a team, and want to support KSB's aim to make Scotland clean, green and more sustainable, please email your interest to beautifulscotland@keepsotlandbeautiful.org

1.2 Seminar and presentation of certificates

Each group taking part in It's Your Neighbourhood will be allocated two free places at the Beautiful Scotland and It's Your Neighbourhood Seminar and presentation of certificates taking place on Thursday 29 October in the [Albert Halls](#) in Stirling. The seminar is a great chance to pick up hints and tips for taking back to your group, networking with groups from across Scotland, and to view exhibition stands from a wide range of environmental organisations. Please visit our [Seminar Presentations](#) web section for past speaker presentations.

It is at the seminar that your group will be presented with its well-earned It's Your Neighbourhood certificate. There will also be the presentation of five RHS Discretionary Awards, available to both Beautiful Scotland and It's Your Neighbourhood groups, and a 'Pollinator Friendly' Award from Scottish Natural Heritage which is available to It's Your Neighbourhood groups only. More details about how to apply for these will be emailed out to you.

The seminar is an extremely popular event - additional places may be available but please contact us at beautifulscotland@keepsotlandbeautiful.org or 01786 477 171 for further information.

1.3 Online resources

KSB has a dedicated web section for It's Your Neighbourhood – www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/IYN. Included are the [assessor profiles](#) and individual pages for each entrant group. The individual group pages are a great chance for you to promote the

work your group is doing and for sharing achievements and good practice. You can find the group pages for 2019 by clicking [here](#). If you would like to contribute text, web links etc. to your web page please let us know.

In the '[Enter It's Your Neighbourhood](#)' section you will find useful websites, previous annual seminar presentations and a resources section which includes promotional material, reports, case studies and guidance documents such as an [environmental sustainability guide](#) to help you with your projects and advice on how to get [extra support](#) for your group.

To find out if there are any Beautiful Scotland groups in your area, which you could get in touch with to support or to work with to 'join-up' activities in your community, click [here](#).

1.4 Support available from the RHS

Through KSB's membership of the RHS Bloom Federation, groups registered in It's Your Neighbourhood will receive the RHS quarterly Grass Roots magazine, and are able to access the following RHS support:

1.4a Discounted insurance

All groups registered with It's Your Neighbourhood are eligible for discounted insurance provided through the RHS – please click [here](#) for further information.

1.4b Horticultural advice

It's Your Neighbourhood groups have free access to the RHS advice team who can answer a wide range of horticultural questions relating to your group's activities. Simply email: advice@rhs.org.uk, quoting BiBIYN in the subject line, or call 0845 260 8000 (Mon – Fri 10am - 4pm). Alternatively, you can post enquiries and samples to: Advisory Services, RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB. Please note that advisors can only help with queries relating to your group's activities.

1.4c Online resources

The RHS has launched a new 'Community Resources' section under its Britain in Bloom web pages. You can find a wealth of resources such as 'promoting your group or project', 'creating a sensory garden', through to 'working with volunteers'. You can find the pages [here](#).