# OUTDOOR COMMUNITY SPACES \*Foundation, FUNDING IN ACTION















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# MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

We're excited to share our very first *Funding in Action Report*. This marks a big moment for us — allowing us to share some of the amazing outcomes of our Outdoor Community Spaces programme, our first insight-led funding initiative of 2025.

This report reflects not only the outcomes achieved, but also the values that drive our work: empowering local community groups, building inclusive communities, and championing the power of accessible outdoor spaces to bring people together.

Over the past year, our research showed that communities are seeking safer, more accessible public spaces — with loneliness and isolation emerging as key concerns. We know that spending time outdoors and connecting with others has a powerful impact on health, wellbeing, and quality of life.

That's why we launched the Outdoor Community Spaces Fund — and the response was remarkable, enabling us to award £529,977 to 303 local groups dedicated to revitalising outdoor spaces in their communities.



karl Doyle

Grants of up to  $\mathfrak{L}3,000$  were used for range of projects, from cleaning up a green space, to delivering collaborative growing projects, to transforming an unused area for local people to use.

It's been truly inspiring to see the tangible impact this funding has made at a local level – bringing communities together and creating greener, more accessible spaces for everyone to enjoy. A heartfelt thank you to the incredible community groups leading this work — we hope you enjoy reading about some of the projects we've been proud to support.

### THE HEADLINES

# **£529,977 AWARDED**

683 Applications received

303

**Projects** funded

Average grant value

# **ACTIVITIES APPLIED FOR\***

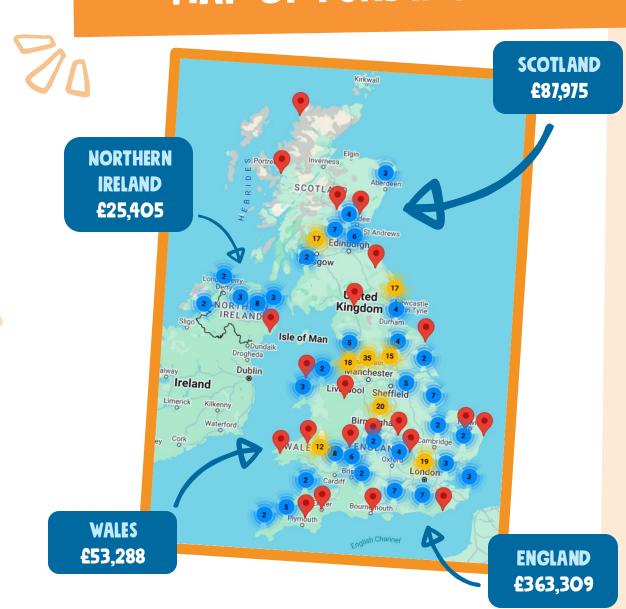


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Growing projects

50 Community clean ups

# MAP OF FUNDING



# TIRPHIL COMMUNITY CENTRE

TIRPHIL, WALES

£3,000 GRANT

Tirphil Community Centre in the Upper Rhymney Valley offers a warm and welcoming space, supporting and improving the lives of residents through activities such as crafts, cooking classes and gardening.

The hub told us it is in a highly deprived area with a high percentage of disabled people, elderly and families struggling with the cost of living. In addition, the area has hilly terrain and there are poor transport links.

The group received an Outdoor Community Spaces grant to develop a food growing and conservation area, making it more accessible for disabled users and helping to support with the cost of living and leading a healthier lifestyle.

The new garden has become a hub of activity offering volunteering roles, hands-on learning about sustainable food growing, and a peaceful space that boosts mental wellbeing. It's not just a garden—it's a place where people grow food, friendships, and confidence.



Our community hub is a lifeline for local people, with us supporting babies up to our oldest resident age 100! The newly developed garden allows residents of all abilities to enjoy all aspects of the outdoor space and improve many aspects of life. It gives residents a purpose and pride in the community and a reason to engage and instil healthy habits into their lives for longevity, while also addressing social isolation and mental health.

Coral, Secretary, Tirphil Community Centre







LOCAL STORE: ASDA BLACKWOOD

#### LORD STREET IN BLOOM

**SOUTHPORT, ENGLAND** 

Following tragic events in Southport last year, the local community came together to support each other at such a difficult time.

People from all over the country laid flowers and teddies in the Town hall gardens, which became a memorial garden for families and friends to come together to reflect.

Local volunteer-led group, Lord Street in Bloom, spent every day tending to thousands of flowers and tributes left.

Our grant was used to revamp the gardens by installing new planters and filling flower beds full of colour to enhance the space and make the area somewhere to come together and be proud of.

Sharon, Community Champion at Asda Southport, said: "Lord Street in Bloom Volunteers have made a huge difference to our town centre, turning the Town Hall Gardens into vibrant, colourful gardens where families can come sit and reflect after the tragic events of last year."

£3,000 GRANT



Our volunteers have planted over 3,000 bulbs and thousands of flowers. It has been an immense job to get everything into the ground also stay on top of the watering. Asda Foundation funding has made a huge difference to our project – it's brightened up the gardens. Residents and visitors have said what a difference it's made and how much better it looks now.

Pauline, Lead Volunteer, Lord Street in Bloom

# KNIGHTS TEMPLAR GOODWILL CHARITY OF SCOTLAND

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**COWDENBEATH, SCOTLAND** 

Knights Templar Goodwill Charity of Scotland is committed to supporting veterans and individuals experiencing homelessness, poverty and social isolation.

At the heart of its work is a community hub and orchard, which provide a safe and welcoming space where people can access support, learn new skills and connect with others.

The orchard has become a valuable resource, providing a peaceful outdoor environment for reflection and relaxation. However, feedback from visitors highlighted a lack of seating as a barrier to fully utilising the space, particularly for individuals with mobility challenges.

A grant from Asda Foundation enabled the group to purchase recycled picnic tables which can accommodate wheelchairs and push chairs, transforming the orchard into an inclusive space for all.

£3,000 GRANT



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We applied for funding to help make our orchard an inclusive and accessible place where everyone feels welcome, including those with mobility needs and young families. The impact of the grant is already being felt, with people able to engage with the space more fully!

Katie, Operations Manager, Knights Templar Goodwill Charity of Scotland





# THE FARMING MOTHER CIC

ST AUSTELL, ENGLAND

The Farming Mother CIC is delivering something truly special — a safe, nurturing animal therapy farm and education centre where families with children who have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) can thrive in a supportive setting.

With the support of an Outdoor Community Spaces grant via Asda St Austell, they've brought new life to their space by adding raised beds, soil, and seeds - transforming it into a vibrant, inclusive garden where children can dig, plant, and grow together.

Keeley, Director, said: "The impact of Asda Foundation's contribution cannot be overstated. It has empowered families who might otherwise feel isolated and overwhelmed to build resilience, forge meaningful connections with nature, and find joy in shared experiences. Thank you, Asda Foundation, for believing in our mission and for your commitment to supporting the lives of children and families in Cornwall. Together, we are sowing the seeds of change and creating a brighter future for those who need it most."

What an amazing project – we can't wait to see what blossoms next.



### GRWP CYMUNEDOL #CARUAMLWCH

**AMLWCH, WALES** 

Grwp Cymunedol # CaruAmlwch was founded to tackle local challenges like deprivation, unemployment, and low morale by bringing people together through community-led events and initiatives. One of its proudest achievements has been the creation of an allotment which is now a thriving 'community within a community'.

We're thrilled to have supported this meaningful project through an Asda Foundation grant, which helped the group create a peaceful, private space within the allotment.

#### Ann, Chair of the Committee, Grwp Cymunedol #Caruamlwch

"The Asda Foundation grant has enabled us to create a new peaceful 'healing garden', where people may just sit and contemplate, plant a few vegetables or weed a small area if they wish. An area of mindfulness and positivity - a place to be on your own in the fresh air, or chat to others if you so wish, a place to help with both emotional and physical health and boost wellbeing. We would not have been able to achieve this area for well-being without the funding from Asda Foundation."

Since coming to the nature park, my life and mindset and changed dramatically in a positive way. Prior to volunteering here, I hadn't left the house for five months following a nervous breakdown, but being able to walk around the ponds, chat to a friendly person, and help weed other people's plots has given me hope and trust in people and life again, and I'm starting to feel like my old self once again.

Service User & Volunteer



**£2,140** GRANT



# CITY OF CHELMSFORD MENCAP

CHELMSFORD, ENGLAND

With an Asda Foundation grant, City of Chelmsford Mencap is working to enhance its community allotment - run by adults with a learning disability - transforming it into a more accessible and welcoming space for all. The grant funded a new greenhouse and shed, the expansion of fruit beds, and vital improvements that are making the site more inclusive.

This green oasis isn't just about growing produce—it's about growing potential. Students lead the project, gaining hands-on experience that builds essential work and life skills while gaining horticultural knowledge. The initiative also feeds into the group's vibrant Pop-Up Café, where the 'Fork to Plate' programme connects the allotment's harvest directly to the kitchen.

City of Chelmsford Mencap continues to be a cornerstone of support in mid-Essex, offering lifelong learning, work placements, and community services that empower individuals and improve lives.





The enhanced space will be brilliant and allow adults with a learning disability to continue making a meaningful difference to our community - improving communication skills, confidence and wellbeing. The wider local community can enjoy the natural surroundings, benefit from ecotherapy and connecting with others and learn basic horticulture skills.

Grace, Services Manager, City of Chelmsford Mencap





#### **KEEP WASHINGTON TIDY**

**WASHINGTON, ENGLAND** 

In Washington, a dedicated group of volunteers is transforming their community - one litter pick at a time. Keep Washington Tidy not only organises regular clean-ups but also visits schools, businesses, and local groups to raise awareness about environmental responsibility.

The group told us littering and fly-tipping have long been challenges in the area, so, using an Asda Foundation grant, they purchased essential equipment and protective clothing - empowering more volunteers to join the cause and make bigger impact.

#### Elizabeth, Secretary, Keep Washington Tidy, said:

Volunteers get immense satisfaction from cleaning up the area, they tell us that it has a positive impact on their physical and mental well-being. they benefit from being part of an active community group with a real and lasting purpose. the children and young people benefit from contributing to society and caring for where they live and the wider environment.





#### SPRINGBURN WINTER GARDENS TRUST

**GLASGOW, SCOTLAND** 





£754 GRANT

Springburn Winter Gardens Trust is on a mission to restore the local A-listed Winter Gardens - bringing it back into community use for the benefit of local people, past, present, and future.

Now moving forward with an exciting vision to create a 'Living Ruin and Urban Croft', the Trust is transforming the space into a vibrant hub for leisure, learning, and play.

With support from Asda Foundation, the group organised a series of community clear-ups and secured garden storage for litter-picking tools and gardening materials - empowering volunteers and laying the groundwork for a greener, more welcoming space.



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The funding is not only helping us improve the gardens—it's also enhancing the health and wellbeing of our volunteers and the wider community. There's a strong sense of pride, enthusiasm, and deep-rooted connection that local people feel toward Springburn Winter Gardens. At our most recent open day, many residents described Springburn in one powerful word: resilient."

Paul, Chair, Springburn Winter Gardens Trust

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**LOCAL STORE: ASDA ROBROYSTON** 

#### **TIDY RANDALSTOWN**

RANDALSTOWN. NORTHERN IRELAND

£455 GRANT

Tidy Randalstown, based in Antrim, is an environmental group on a mission to preserve and enhance the local area for current and future generations.

With over 60 committed volunteers, the group leads initiatives that promote sustainability, including clean-ups, planting, and education around reducing carbon emissions and conserving water.

Each spring, Tidy Randalstown mobilizes its volunteers to rejuvenate public spaces that have suffered during the winter months. An Asda Foundation grant was used to purchase equipment and refreshments to support this initiative, helping to bring people together, increase community pride and demonstrating the powerful impact of local support and collective action.

"Our volunteers work all year round but our spring cleanups act as a kick start in getting the town ready for the summer season as well as giving the wider community the chance to get involved. We were delighted to receive a grant from Asda Foundation to help us to provide essential equipment for our volunteers to use. We also thank Ashley, Community Champion at Asda Antrim for her enthusiastic support and encouragement."

Linda, Trustee, Tidy Randalstown





# REFLECTIONS AND LOOKING AHEAD

The Outdoor Community Spaces Fund has been a powerful catalyst for positive change across the UK. It has enabled over 300 community groups to reimagine and revitalise local outdoor areas—creating vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming spaces for everyone to enjoy.

These projects have not only enhanced the physical environment but have also fostered stronger community connections, a sense of pride, and improved wellbeing.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the incredible community groups who brought this funding to life. Your dedication and creativity are truly inspiring, and we're proud to support your work.

This summary offers just a snapshot of the impact made possible through this grant. We look forward to sharing more stories, data, and insights through our social channels and in the full Asda Foundation 2025 Impact Report, coming in early 2026.

To close, we'd like to share a quote that beautifully captures the spirit and significance of this programme.

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Before coming to the allotment, I barely left my house. Now, it's my favourite place. I've made friends, I feel healthier, and I've even started growing my own vegetables at home. It's more than just gardening — it's therapy for me."

Service User, Mind Aid UK CIC







Abingdon Carousel

Action 2 Inspire Oldham

Action Station South Tyneside Ltd

All Saints Community Project

Anchoreach CIC

Apron Creative CIC

Ash Tree Leisure Garden Society

Asian Community Concern

**Aspiration Trust** 

Barnsley Museums and Heritage Trust

Beacon Dementia & Well-being

Beaford Village Hall

Beckton Itchycoo Pond Ecology Group [BIPEG]

Bee Together Community Centre and Garden

Beech Court Tenant and Resident's Association

Beighton Allotment Association

Belgrave Community Allotment and Garden

Big Local Gateshead

Blyth Riverside Resource Centre Amenity Fund

**Bootle Action Group CIC** 

Bosavern Community Enterprises Ltd.

**Boston Green Volunteers** 

**Botcherby Community Association** 

Bowlee Community Organisation

**Brading Community Partnership** 

Brigg Methodist Church

Brighten Ryton Local Environment Group

Brighter Futures CIC

**Bulwark Community Centre** 

Burnside Centre

C2U Gosport CIC

Caldmore Village Festival Ltd

Camp Hill Community CIC

Carlton on Trent Village Hall

Cartwheel Youth and Community Centre (Elland Community Hub)

CherishED.

Chesterfield Litter Pickers (CLP)

Chorley United Reformed Church Charity

Circularity.org

City of Chelmsford Mencap

ClayTAWCLtd

Collingwood Centre Ltd

Colne Open Door Centre

Coltman Area Community Association

Community Orchard Greenside

Cooking Champions

Creative Waves Community Arts CIC

Crossley Community Association

Croxteth & Gillmoss Community Foundation

**Cuddington Parish Council** 

Curo Social Enterprise

Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Darwen Community Helpers CIC

Diggit





East African Education Foundation

East Liverpool Riding for the Disabled

**Eccleston Recreational Parks** 

Eden-Rose Coppice Trust

Elliott Hall For Youth & Community

**Endure Mentoring** 

Epsom Wells Community Association

Fairfield Links CIC

Featherstone Rovers Foundation

Final Straw Foundation CIO

Forum for Aspull, Whelley and New Springs

Frank Street Community Garden

Friends of Cassiobury Park

Friends of Crofton Park Railway Garden

Friends of Field of Os Pocket Park

Friends of Honley

Friends of Norton Canes Library

Friends of Oak Tree

Friends of Perry Hall Park

Friends of Rhyddings Park

Friends of the North and South Marine Parks

Friends of the Woodland Garden (Peacocks Meadow)

Friends of Valley Park

Full Circle Food Project

Future Foundry CIC Ltd

Gallows Close Centre

Generation Impact

GIA (Gardening In Action) CIC

Good Food Matters

**Green City Action** 

**Greening Wymondham** 

Green's Windmill Trust

Greenspace Volunteers

Growing Local CIC

**Growing Mansfield** 

Grow-Wellbeing CIC

Gwealan Tops Adventure Playground

Happy Somedays

Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project

Hazelnut Community farm

Headspace

Heartland yoga and wellness

Higham Hill Hub CIO

Hollins Conservation Group

Hoole Community Development Trust

Hope beyond Borders

Ignite Life

Inkberrow Millennium Green Trust

Inspire Youth Yorkshire (IYY)

Jigsaw (Bury)

Joie De Vivre Ventures Community Interest Company

Jubilee Craftivists

Just Let Your Soul Grow CIC

Keep Washington Tidy





KeepAbility

Kibblesworth Village Millennium Centre

Lancing Community Garden

Layton Methodist Forward Project (Layton Methodist Church)

Leeanna's Wish

LionMouth CIC

Litter Watch

Little Chalfont school PTA

**Local Organic Growers** 

LOOSE

Lord Street In Bloom

Lotus Brook Limited

Make, Do and Mend

ManHealth

Meadowbrook (Wiltshire) CIC

Mid Suffolk Voluntary Organisations Forum

Migrant English Project

Millfield Community Collective CIC

Mind Aid UK.CIC

MK Melting Pot

Nature Play

**Newington Community Association** 

**Newlands Community Group** 

No Fuss Meals for Busy Parents CIC - The Countryside Kitchen

North Blackpool Regeneration Community Interest Company

Oadby Youth Centre

Oxford City Farm

Par Bay Community Trust

Pars Community

Pelsall Community Association

Phoenix Cultural Centre CIC

Pitch 2 Progress CIC

Poulton In Bloom

Pretoria Road Allotment Society

Residents Association of Paradise and The Ramsgate Historic Quarter

Regeneration Scheme

ResidentsRUs

Riverside Community Association Limited

Roberttown in Bloom

Rockingham Estate Tenants and Residents Association

Roots to Branches Forest School CIC

Sincil Community Land Trust

Sisters of Support

Slough Fort Preservation Trust

Spark Burntwood

Springbank Community Group CiC

Stacksteads Countryside Park Group

Tameside's People 4 Wildlife

Team Rise Place

Telegraph Woods Nature Recovery Group

The Bolton Woods Centre

The Bridge East Greenwich CIC

The Drop In Bereavement Centre

The Farming Mother CIC

The Friends of Chorlton Park

The Friends of Gledhow Valley Woods

The Friends of Hednesford Park

The Friends of Rowntree Park

The Gateway Collective CIC

The Good Shepherd Centre

The Growing Space (Wincanton) Ltd

The Inclusive Hub

The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Helens (Church St Helens)

The Real Junk Food Project Brighton

The Shaw Lane Foundation

The Space

The Together Centre

The Walpole Parish Foundation and Recreation Trust

The Well Piece Community Garden

The Box.TV (Bolton) CIC

Tidy Up St Leonards

Together in the Community

Torridge Growing Together CIC

Townend Community Garden

Townsend Community Association

Tregovenek

Truro Nourish Hub CIC

Tydd St Mary Playing Field Committee

UDevelop CIC

Unit 12 CIC

Urban Health UK

Veterans Response CIC



Wallasey Village Library and Community Centre

Walsall Arboretum User Group

**WAVE** Adventure

Wecock Community Association

West End Impact

Whaplode Playing Field Association Ltd

Whitehall Park Supporters Group

Wilberfoss, Kexby and Newton Playing Fields Association

Wild and Fruity Community Garden

WildSpaceProject CIC

Williby Roc's CIC

Willoughby Road Allotments

Windmill Hill Community Centre CiC

Woodland Tribe CIC

Woodvale and Ainsdale Community Association

Wrenthorpe Environmental Society

Wycombe Multicultural Organisation

Yarm Wellness

Zero Mile Gardens CIC

Zion Community Garden (Morley Community Church)



# FUNDED GROUPS: SCOTLAND

Abernethy in Bloom

Allison Cargill House, Girlguiding East Lothian

**Amisfield Preservation Trust** 

Aproxima SCIO

Ayrshire Communities Education and Sport

Balmacara

Blooming Bairns

Bridge of Don Men's Shed

Camperdown Growing Collective

Community Open Gardens Shortlees

Dalry Community Sports Club

East Renfrewshire Additional Needs Parents Action Group

Families of Auchinairn Coming Together

Forfar Open Garden

Friends of Coldstream Primary School

Friends of Inchyra park

Friends of King's Park

Friends of Linn Park

Friends of Maryhill Park

Friends Of Monkland Canal

Gairn Community Garden

**Greater Pollok Services** 

House of Hope (Scotland)

Jock Tamson's Gairden

Juniper Green and Baberton Mains Community Council

Knights Templar Goodwill Charity of Scotland

Lochside Neighbourhood Group

Overmills Allotment Association

Pitlochry Path Group

PLUS Perth & Kinross

Polmont Together

Portlethen & District Community Allotment Association

Priesthill United Reformed Church

Ramekin & Rolling Pin

Roslin Guerrilla Gardeners

Scots Recovery from Childhood Abuse

Scourie Community Development Company

Springburn Gardens Association Ltd

Springburn Winter Gardens Trust

St Angela's Parent Council

The Organic Growers of Bothwell

The Scheme

Touch Community Garden Ltd

Wimpy Park Community Group



# FUNDED GROUPS: WALES

Abercrave Rugby Football Club Barry Veteran's Group Beechwood Ministry Area - Alway BronFair Allotments Association Canolfan Pentre CIO Cwmdare For Cwmdare Cwmni Bro Antur Aelhaearn est 1974 Cynon Valley Organic Adventures Friends of Cae Derw Parc Friends of Westshore Gelligaled Park Community Action Group Gerddi Rhandir Cymunedol Dwyfor **Grow Cardiff** Grwp Cymunedol #Caruamlwch Horn Development Association CIC Jubilee Beau Unicorn Equine Project CIC

Libanus Lifestyle (Wales) C I C
Llanybydder Old School Community Centre
LYNX Workshops
Nantymoel Boys & Girls Club and Community Centre
Pwyllgor Cae Chwarae Aberdaon
Rainbowbiz C.I.C.
Salvaged Creations Wales, I-MAKE, C.I.C.
Simpson Cross Activities Group
Six Bells Community Centre
Splice Child and Family Project Ltd
Stiwdio 37 CIC
The Hangout
The Shed & Beyond (Pembrey & Burry Port Men's Shed)
Tirphil Community Centre
Tree Society Community Interest Company





# FUNDED GROUPS: NORTHERN IRELAND

AEON Community Arts

**Ardglass Festival Association** 

Ardmonagh Family & Community Group

Ballynahinch Men's Shed

Boho Youth Club

Conlig Community Regeneration Group

Creggan Country Park

Donaghadee Community Development Association (DCDA)

Erne Gaels GAC

Friends of Antrim Castle Garden

Higher Ground Community Gardening Group Dromore

Kitsch Sisters CIC

Loughries Men's Shed

Mid Ulster Victims Empowerment Group

Newmills Wildlife Gardening Club

Superstars Club

The Sanctuary

Tidy Randalstown

Triax Social Economy Project

























