



## News Release

For immediate release  
1 July 2010

### **Grants to reduce litter at bathing beaches allocated**

Beach litter surveys and clean ups; painted murals highlighting the impacts of marine litter; and volunteer litter patrols will all be realised this summer as a result of four grants being awarded today, **1 July 2010** by Zero Waste Scotland.

The Scottish Bathing Water Litter Grant Scheme, which is administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful on behalf of Zero Waste Scotland, has allocated grants of up to £1,000 to four organisations across Scotland, two in Argyll & Bute - The GRAB Trust and Beachwatch Bute to help reduce coastal litter at Machrihanish Beach and Ettrick Bay, and two in the Tayside area – the Broughty Ferry in Bloom group, and Friends of the Earth Tayside and Tayside Recyclers for work associated with Broughty Ferry Beach, Montrose and Arbroath. **(Further details on the proposed projects of the successful applicants can be found at the end of this release).**

The grant scheme aims to encourage communities to reduce marine and coastal litter pollution at bathing waters and their associated beaches by carrying out clean ups, running litter prevention campaigns or supporting and promoting community action.

Donna Niven, Programme Manager (Litter and Flytipping) for Zero Waste Scotland, said:

“We are delighted to offer support in the form of small grants to four community groups based close to a Scottish bathing water.

“Even simple clean up events can help raise awareness of the issue of litter on beaches by designated bathing waters. And we know that communities do want to help remove litter from their local beaches and bathing waters because 11% of all clean up events organised as part of National Spring Clean this April took place on the coast. (1,406 took place across the entire country with 83,000 volunteers).

“We hope that the grants awarded today will help encourage communities by bathing water beaches to take a step further forward and raise awareness of the impacts of coastal litter on the environment.”

### **Ends**

For further information please contact Suzanne Roberts on 01786 468 236 / 07841 369 430 or at [suzanne.roberts@ksbScotland.co.uk](mailto:suzanne.roberts@ksbScotland.co.uk)

Media information can be found at:

<http://news.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org/Coastal.asp>

### **Notes to the editor**

- Zero Waste Scotland is the new programme created by the Scottish Government to support delivery of its Zero Waste plan. Zero Waste Scotland has been created to provide a one-stop-shop for support and advice to individuals, businesses and local authorities in order to help them reduce waste, recycle more and use natural resources more efficiently. It will integrate the activities of WRAP Scotland, Waste Aware Scotland, Keep Scotland Tidy, Remade Scotland, Envirowise in Scotland, NISP in Scotland, and some programmes delivered by the Community Recycling Network for Scotland.
- The Zero Waste Scotland Litter and Flytipping programme is delivered by Keep Scotland Beautiful – Scotland’s environmental charity which aims to protect, preserve and enhance the environment of town and country in Scotland for the benefit of the public. Further information can be found at [www.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org](http://www.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org)
- Bathing waters have been designated under the new Bathing Water (Scotland) Regulations 2008 which transpose the revised Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC). There are now 80 sites, three inland freshwater, the rest coastal. A full list is available at [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)
- For further information about the grant scheme please visit [www.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org/coastal](http://www.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org/coastal) and for information about National Spring Clean 2010 visit [www.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org/springclean](http://www.KeepScotlandBeautiful.org/springclean)
- The grant scheme was first proposed in Scottish Ministers’ bathing water strategy published in 2006. In November 2007 the Scottish Government consultation on the draft Bathing Waters (Scotland) Regulations 2008 outlined how the scheme might work. It has now run for a period of three years facilitating communities across Scotland.
- In 2008 five groups benefited from the Bathing Water Litter Grant scheme. These were: Beachwatch Bute for Ettrick Bay; The Dobromsyl Foundation for Lunan Bay, The East Grampian Coastal Partnership for Aberdeen, Balmedie, Cruden Bay, Fraserburgh Philorth, Fraserburgh Tiger Hill, and Peterhead Lido; The Group for Recycling in Argyll & Bute (The GRAB Trust) for Luss, Machrihanish and Ganavan Sands; and The Stonehaven Horizon Project for Stonehaven.
- In 2009 The GRAB Trust made three successful applications for coastal litter projects at Luss, Machrihanish and Ganavan Sands.

### List of organisations receiving a grant

Group Awarded	Summary of what the £1,000 grant will be spent on
Beachwatch Bute  Sandra MacMillan Tel: 07767 795 969	The grant will contribute to the running costs of the charity Beachwatch Bute which monitors and removes litter from Ettrick Bay. Beachwatch Bute does this through regular volunteer clean up events. Beachwatch Bute helps to keep the sandy beach clean for visitors to enjoy and use for a wide variety of activities.
The GRAB Trust  Aisa Nebreda Tel: 01546 604226	The grant will be used to purchase and install a new display board made locally using environmentally friendly materials. The display board will be used to display anti-litter promotional material at Machrihanish. The rest of the grant, will be used to contribute to producing a painted mural at Machrihanish toilet block - working with local schools and the community to design and paint it. The mural will help raise awareness of the problems caused by marine litter and ways to reduce it.
Broughty Ferry in Bloom  Mr Stan Nutt Tel. 01382 477782	The grant will be used to purchase litter pickers, gloves and hi viz jackets suitable for children and refuse sacks and rings for holding them open. A volunteer group will also be set up to litter pick the beach and surrounding area during peak times. Adult litter picking equipment and volunteer t-shirts/sweaters will be purchased for this.  A green dog walkers scheme will also be investigated to help raise awareness of the 'Grab it, Bag it, Bin it' message and to reduce dog fouling on the beach and surrounding areas.
Friends of the Earth Tayside / Tayside Recyclers  Doug McLaren Tel: 01382 228 986	The grant will be used to help encourage volunteers to take part in the Marine Conservation Societies Beachwatch and Adopt-a-Beach litter surveys through other Friends of the Earth groups. The target is to encourage six more beaches to be surveyed. Friends of the Earth Tayside will allocate experienced members to help at new beaches. Part of the grant will also be used to purchase sandwich boards to advertise clean-up activities and litter picking equipment such as bag hoops and gloves to assist with existing and new clean up events. There are also plans to use some of the grant to actively promote the 'Don't flush it, bag it and bin it' message with regards to sanitary waste.