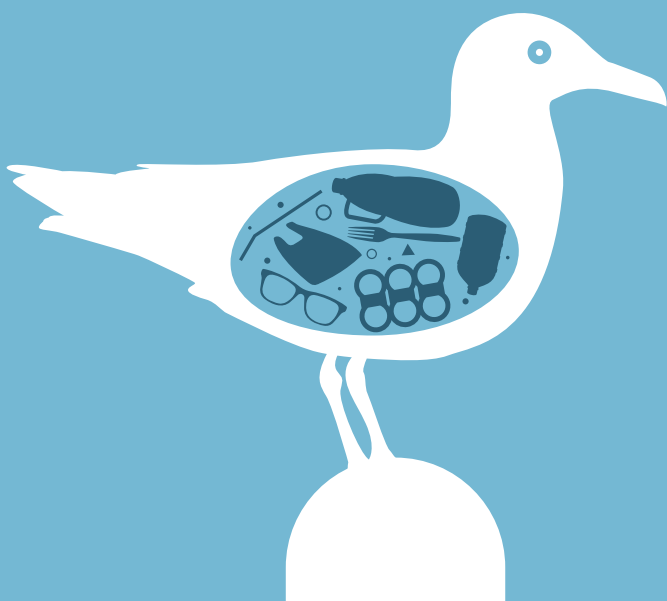
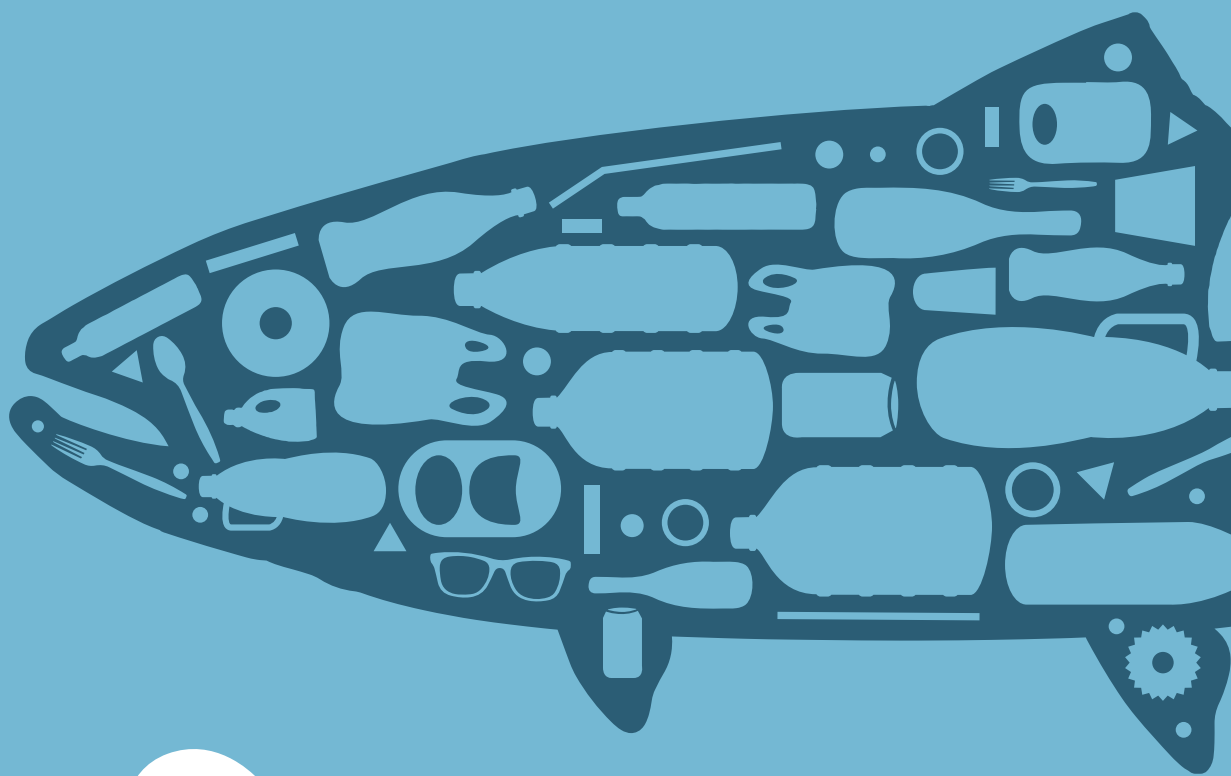




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Marine Litter Capital Grants

2023/24 Guidance Notes



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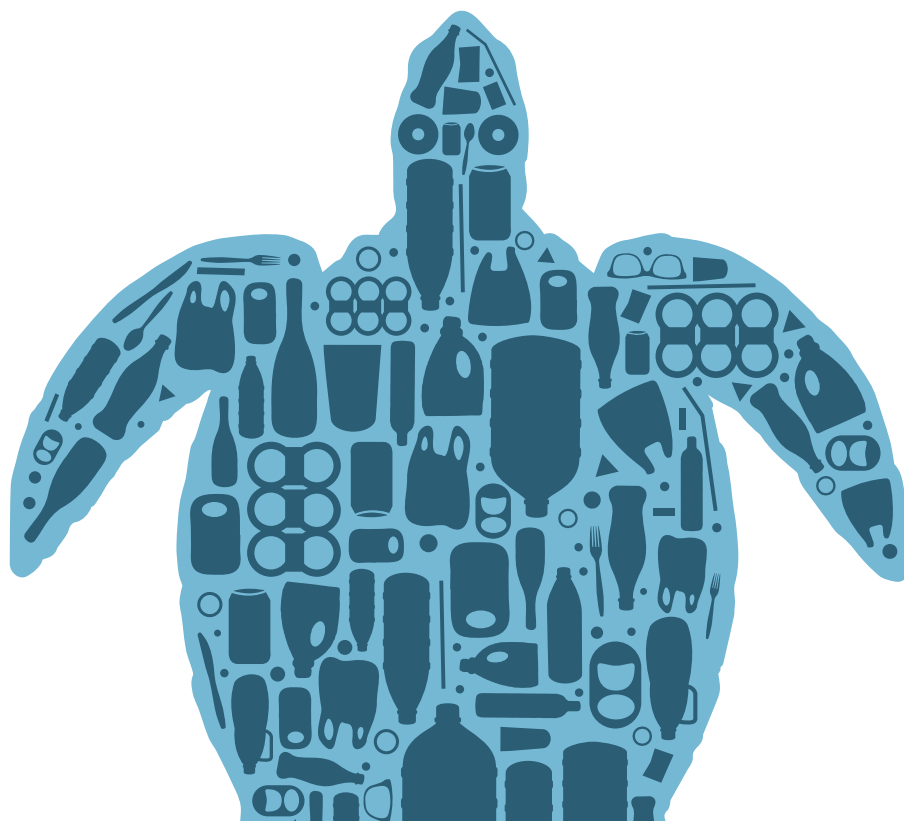
DAERA
Department of Agriculture,
Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Marine Litter Capital Grants

Thank you for your interest in applying for the DAERA funded Marine Litter Capital Grants. You are strongly advised to read all the guidance notes before you complete an application.

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What is Marine Litter?

Marine litter refers to any solid, manufactured or processed material that enters the marine environment, either intentionally or unintentionally. It encompasses a wide range of materials, most commonly plastics, but also includes items like glass, metal, rubber, paper, textiles, and more. Marine litter can be broadly categorised as having two main sources:

Land-based sources:

Urban and Rural Litter

Trash and debris from urban and rural areas, including streets and parks, can be carried by wind or runoff into rivers and oceans.

Improper Disposal

Litter that is not properly managed or disposed of can find its way into water bodies and contribute to marine litter.

Stormwater Runoff

Heavy rainfall can wash litter from streets and urban areas into storm drains and eventually into oceans.

Sewage and Wastewater

Inadequate sewage and wastewater systems can release trash and debris into marine environments.

Tourism and Events

Waste generated by events, like disposable items can become marine litter.

Sea-based sources:

Shipping and Vessel Operations

Discarded fishing gear, cargo packaging, and other materials from ships and vessels can contribute to marine litter.

Illegal Dumping

Deliberate disposal of waste at sea, coastal areas, or water bodies adds to marine litter.

Aquaculture and Fisheries

Lost or abandoned fishing gear, ropes, and equipment can become marine litter.

Notes:

- 81% of marine litter comes from land sources so the grants are open to all Northern Ireland geographical areas.
- More information on Northern Ireland's marine litter problem can be found [here](#).

Who is eligible?

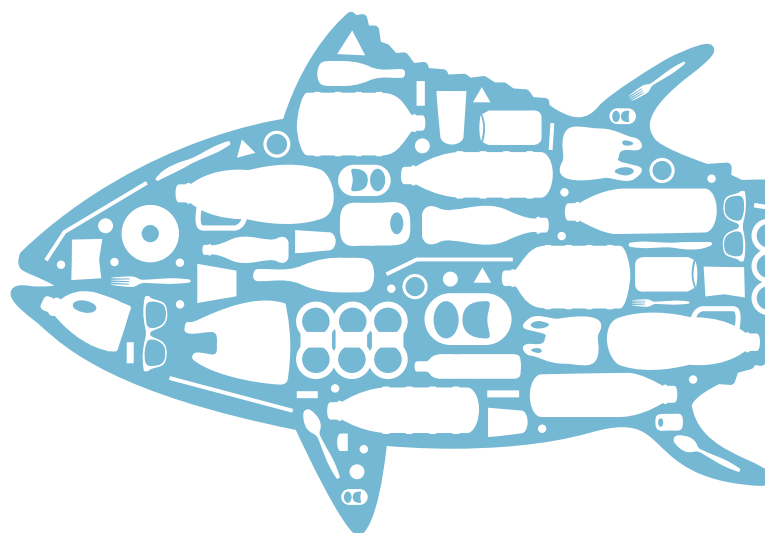
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To be eligible:

- Your organisation is likely to be involved in managing and/or owning free to access public open space, or if not, you will have a clearly defined role in managing the local environmental quality of such space and this will be formally agreed with the landowners (note: for the purposes of this grant, school's grounds are considered as public open space).
- Your project must be located on free to access public open space, or you must show how it is applicable to free to access public open space.
- You must clearly demonstrate how the project will decrease the amount of litter and plastic entering the marine environment.
- You must clearly demonstrate commitment and the ability to provide for the ongoing management of any physical assets purchased as part of the project (e.g., regular and timely emptying of bins)
- Funding must only be used for the purchase and/or installation of eligible capital items.
- Schools must demonstrate how they will use any assets purchased in an educational context.

Notes:

- Collaborative applications between two or more of the above categories are welcome.
- If you were previously granted funds in past years but didn't utilise them, your application may have points deducted during evaluation.



What is the value of grants awarded?

Financial support of between £500 and £40,000 will be available to constituted groups, businesses and statutory bodies meeting the eligibility criteria. Financial support of between £500 and £5,000 will be available to non-constituted groups.

Each applicant organisation can submit only one application with the exception that an applicant may also be named as a partner in a second collaborative bid. Each application will be judged on its own merit.

Matching funding requirements:

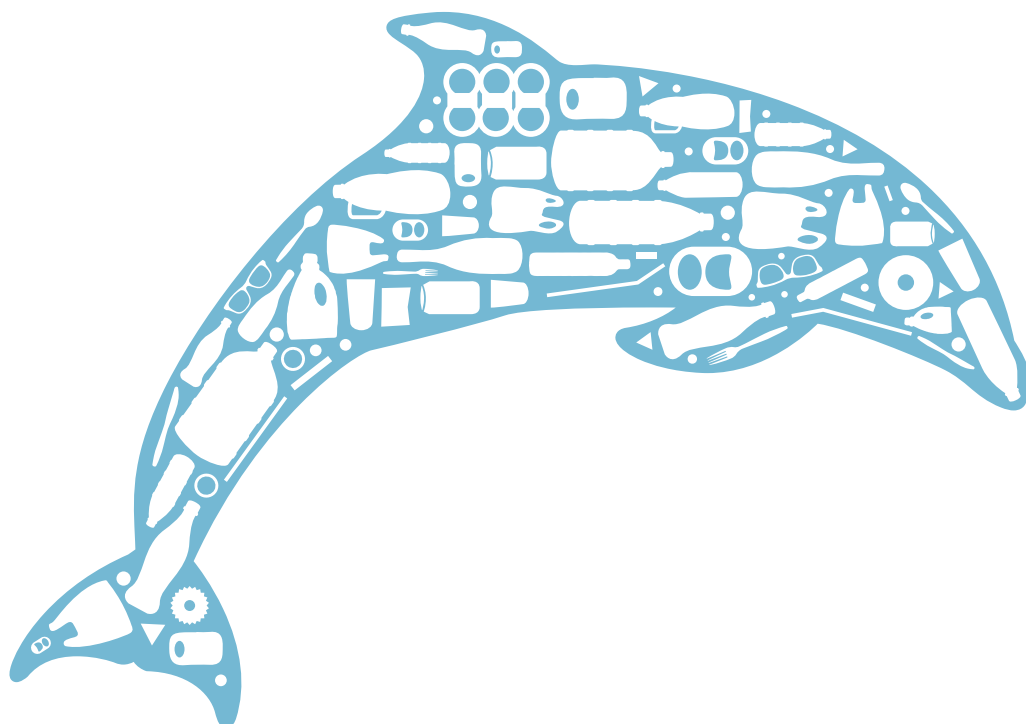
There is no requirement for applicants to obtain match funding for projects, with two exceptions:

- Councils must provide 50% match funding.
- Businesses must provide 50% match funding.

Council and business match funding must be for the purchase of capital items. Ongoing maintenance and servicing costs cannot form part of the match funding. Irrespective of applicant, projects that deliver a higher level of match funding than required, and/or in-kind expertise, volunteers etc. are strongly encouraged.

Note:

- This is a competitive process; successful grant awards may be offered less than the maximum bid applied for.



What will and won't be funded?

What will be funded?

This grant aims to support innovative projects that prevent marine litter and promote sustainable marine ecosystems. We encourage diverse stakeholders, including local councils, NGOs, businesses, community groups, and educational institutions, to collaborate and share their creative proposals. Some examples are detailed below:

- Artwork that is also a bin.
- Beach cleaning machines.
- Capital equipment to clean beaches/rivers.
- Capital items required to collect and transport litter for suitable disposal.
- Community-Based waste reduction programmes.
- Creative projects that capture litter before it reaches water courses.
- Creative projects that reduce marine litter.
- Digital videos for awareness of marine litter.
- Enhanced Port waste prevention or recycling facilities.
- Floating litter traps or booms.
- Permanent or mobile drinking water refill stations.
- Reasonable construction, delivery and installation costs.

Note:

- All items purchased through the Capital Grant must not be for personal gain.

What won't be funded?

The primary focus of the Marine Litter Capital Grants is to equip organisations and people who manage public open spaces to reduce marine litter.

While the items below may be part of your project, the Capital Grants will not fund these items:

- Project running costs e.g salaries, insurance, mileage, office overheads, administration, project management fees, advertising and promotional costs.
- Volunteer expenses.
- Professional fees of more than 25% of an awarded grant.
- Structures requiring maintenance from a local authority unless management/ maintenance agreement can be evidenced.
- Murals, posters, banners, leaflets and literature.
- Match funding for other projects.
- Indoor bins / projects.
- Dog fouling bins.
- Litter-pickers (available through [Live Here Love Here](#)).
- Waste removal costs.
- Any items not deemed to be capital expenditure.
- Retrospective costs, that is, only items purchased after the Letter Of Offer is issued are eligible.

What objectives should be met?

Proposed projects must meet one or more of the following objectives:

- A.** Enhance the environmental management and quality of a local area by preventing litter and plastics from directly entering the sea.
- B.** Enhance the environmental management and quality of a local area by preventing litter and plastics from entering rivers, water courses, drains, etc. that lead, ultimately, to the sea.
- C.** Improve the health and wellbeing of communities and marine biodiversity whilst helping to improve and/or maintain public spaces.
- D.** Contribute to a strategic approach to reducing litter pollution in our rivers and seas.
- E.** Design and create new, aesthetically appealing or engaging, innovative assets for deployment.
- F.** Demonstrate collaborative working (applicable to all criteria A-E). Applicants should note that projects do not need to meet all the objectives but applications should strongly indicate those objectives that are being met.

Projects will be assessed in the following areas:

- Impact on reducing marine litter;
- Project need;
- Long term management;
- Value for money and leverage;
- History of success/involvement/collaboration; and,
- Meeting objectives.

Project monitoring and evaluation

Each grantee will have specific Monitoring and Evaluation terms related to their project outlined in their Letter of Offer. These could include but are not limited to the following:

- Reporting Schedules.
- Progress Reports.
- Financial Reporting.
- Site Visits. Your project will be visited within 6 months of issue of Letter of Offer.
- All items funded through the programme must be in regular use for a minimum of 2 years.
- Assistance developing awareness materials for the public, i.e case studies.
- Where possible, grantees will be required to promote their project at an event/s etc (identified before hand in the Letter of Offer).

How can the grant be claimed?

Partial payment of Grants will be available and funding will be released upon confirmation that elements of the project are complete and grant claim documents are submitted.

Ensuring value for money

- No quotes are required for items under £500.
- Two quotes for items £500 to £5,000.
- Three written quotes for items exceeding £5,000.
- Tender process for items/work from a supplier exceeding £30,000.
- Receipts/invoices and proof of expenditure must be submitted with **ALL claims for ALL items** purchased (evidence of online quotes will be accepted). Failure to comply will result in grant funding being withheld or withdrawn.
- Information about the online claim process will be circulated to successful projects during November 2023.
- Council and business applicants will be required to provide proof of the full expenditure in advance of the 50% payment being released. No advance payment is available.

Up Front Payments

Applicants (excluding business and council applicants) may be able to claim 80% of funding upfront with the final 20% paid on receipt of a completed and satisfactory progress report and satisfactory site visit. This will be outlined in your Letter of Offer and will be assessed on a case by case basis and approved only where all relevant additional information has been supplied to Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

What are your responsibilities?

Insurance

It is your responsibility to ensure that all of your activities, including all assets purchased and installed, project materials etc. arising from this project are properly and fully insured for public, employee or any other liability.

Landowner permission

It is your responsibility to ensure that all permissions, consents, legal requirements, etc. are complied with before you commence your project.

Key dates

Partial payment of Grants will be available and funding will be released upon confirmation that elements of the project are complete and grant claim documents are submitted.

Application stage	Deadline
Applications open	Thursday September 28th 12.00pm
Applications close	Thursday November 9th 5.00pm
Assessment completed and Letter of Offer sent	TBC
Projects completed and all financial claims submitted	TBC

Who sponsors this grant?

The Marine Litter Capital Grants are being provided by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (Waste Prevention Policy Branch) and is administered by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

Application support and how to contact us

Email: marinelittergrants@liveherelovehere.org

Keep Northern Ireland phone: +44 28 9073 6920

We are happy to provide support in the completion of applications. We recommend availing of this as soon as possible after applications open. Please contact us using the above email.

How to apply

Apply via [Live Here Love Here website](https://www.liveherelovehere.org).