

Wildflower Planting for Biodiversity

Cur Dhìthein Fhiadhaich airson Bith-iomadachd

Guidance
Stiùireadh



This guidance is designed to support local groups to deliver wildflower planting projects within our Highland communities

Project Planning

Planadh Pròiseict

Setting up a group and managing volunteers

Setting up a group takes a lot of work but there is help available. Getting the right structure in place from the start can help avoid issues in the long run and put you in a good position to raise funds. Volunteers are vital to any community project and being active in recruitment and support is integral to the longevity of any project.

You can also ask around to see if you can link in with an existing community group.

Highland Third Sector Interface can offer support: Set-up and running of groups; volunteer management; training and capacity development and funding for more information visit:

www.bit.ly/HighlandTSI



Identifying land

There is no single solution for identifying suitable land. However, there are people and organisations who can support communities. Firstly, decide on where you want to create your wildflower area.

If you think the land may be owned by Highland Council, you can check at:

www.bit.ly/arctgis-checklandapp

If you think the land is in private (or other ownership) ask around – local people may know, but to make certain you can search the Registers of Scotland (for a small fee):

www.ros.gov.uk

If land is Highland Council owned, email the property management team with details of the project and to request permission for land use.

Property.AssetManagement@highland.gov.uk

If land is not Highland Council owned, contact landowner to discuss your project and to request permission for land use.

You can check the area identified is not part of a Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or have any other designation by using this link:

www.sitelink.nature.scot/map

Enquiries regarding contaminated land can be emailed to:
land.contamination@highland.gov.uk

Photo by master1305 for Freepix

Funding your project

Work out what budget you will require and raise funds required, you can do this by fundraising or applying to funders.

For fundraising ideas visit websites such as **130 Fundraising Ideas to Help You Raise Money:**

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Funding Scotland:

www.funding.scot

Highland Council grants for community groups:

www.bit.ly/THCGrants

Scottish Land Fund:

www.bit.ly/ScotLandFund

Funders will need to know you have permission from the landowner and/or that you have control over the site for a reasonable period of time e.g. 10 years +.

They will expect you to have thought about:

- **Have you have costed the project (all the start-up costs)**
- **How will the area be maintained and how additional costs will be raised yearly if needed**
- **Are risk assessments required and does the group need insurance (both volunteer and public liability etc)**
- **If planning permission is required.**



Photo by Josephine Amalie Paysen on Unsplash & The Highland Council

Developing your project



Developing and implementing a community growing project can be a steep learning curve but there is help available. It is a good idea to speak to organisations that have experience of your specific type of project.

It is important to consult with the wider community on your project plans, you might think your project is a great idea – but does the community agree?

Here are some ideas on how to gather feedback!

- Attend a Community Council meeting
- Arrange your own community meeting or event
- Create a survey and share within your community



Photos by The Highland Council, Michi from Pixabay



Wildflower Planting advice links

What to plant? Not all plants will thrive in all areas of Highland – east and west coasts often have very different climates and ground conditions: for advice see links below:

www.bit.ly/nature-scot-wildflowerplanting

www.bit.ly/SWT-SowingWildflowers

www.bit.ly/WWF-GrowingWildflowers

Flow Chart Clàr-srutha

