



EVALUATION AT A GLANCE

2015-2020

Since 1997, Biffa Award has awarded grants to community and environmental projects across the UK. To date, nearly £180 million has been awarded to projects.

An evaluation was delivered which focused on the impact the fund has had on projects from 2015 to 2020. Biffa Award was measured against the following set of objectives:



To positively impact the local community



To increase cohesion & reduce anti-social behaviour



To increase local community amenity usage



To lead to an increase in further funding secured since Biffa Award



To protect land for the benefit of wildlife & improve environmental status



£22.7 million awarded to **300 projects**

22% of projects were in areas with high levels of **deprivation**



10,258 people, on average, per project are benefitting per year since Biffa Award
21% increase on average per project

KEY FINDINGS



- It has **helped people to connect** with resources in the community and has provided additional support to existing community infrastructure.
- It has helped to address some of the factors that **influence the wellbeing of communities** such as improving the level of social support available and the physical environment that people access.
- It has helped **improve social cohesion** through **improved knowledge sharing** e.g. supported learning, and offering a wider range of support that **complemented current resources**.
- It has helped organisations and projects **cascade learning** and improve the **awareness of environmental issues**.
- It led to the **protection** and development of a **range of habitats and species**. It has **helped catalyst conversations** on what worked best and advocated the need for delivering such programmes of work.
- It has helped organisations **secure additional funding** and to expand their activities by offering a springboard for projects to get off the ground.
- The enthusiasm received from the local community indicates that the fund **addressed a real need** and has **created social investment opportunities** for the wider community and other organisations.
- There is evidence of sustainability through **increased networking activities** that will outlast Biffa Award funding.
- It assisted some projects to become **more sustainable** through hiring of premises and selling of goods, as well as offsetting costs through improving the efficiency of buildings.