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# Green Business Network

## Funding for Community Groups

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The **Green Business Network** (GBN) is an award-winning Environmental Body registered with [ENTRUST](#), the regulator of the [Landfill Tax Credit Scheme \(LTCS\)](#). As such, the GBN can apply to and receive funding from landfill operators, for **community projects**.

The GBN supports **projects** that help reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill sites. Communities located near to landfill sites can also obtain funding for social and environmental improvements. The GBN has enabled over 130 local **projects** in Calderdale, Kirklees and beyond to get off the ground, securing total funding of £2.5 million during the last six years. It was also one of the first 20 organisations in the country to successfully register a new category DA (biodiversity) project.

In follow-up to a tour of **projects** in June 2003, Biffaward wrote to confirm "the numbers, breadth and importance of GBN's work, partnerships and **projects** for the local communities in the region."

### **Local schemes that have benefited include:**

#### **£100,000 Garden of sensations - Ravenscliffe School**

Calderdale's therapeutic garden at Ravenscliffe has an amphitheatre for amateur dramatics seating 50, a winding tree walk with ramps, steps and handrails, as well as interactive Biffaward 'pods' with sound, air and tactile features. First opened in July 2004 it has already attracted visitors from as far away as Southport.

For more information, request our "**Community Gardens**" Case Study by emailing [gbn@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:gbn@kirklees.gov.uk)



Opening day at the Biffa Music Garden

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### **Furniture recycling schemes**



Lorry to Poland being loaded with furniture

With financial support from the [Hanson Environment Fund](#), two waste minimisation services have been operated in conjunction with Pennine Magpie (office furniture) and SVP Ozanam (domestic furniture). Over 1500 items have been recycled on a social enterprise basis, saving £205,000 compared to the cost as new. Eight local post code areas and neighbouring Authorities have been serviced. 300 items of furniture (and much more) were also transported to GBN partners in Poland.

A final report on both schemes is now available from the GBN.

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## Regenerating Calderdale's historic buildings

The GBN has recognised the wealth of local architecture and culture. **Projects** in association with the "White Windows" Leonard Cheshire Home (1768, Grade II listed) and the Blackley Centre (dating from 1789, Grade II listed) are underway. In association with the Historic Chapels Trust, one of Britain's finest non-conformist churches, Todmorden Unitarian Church (1869, Grade I) is also being restored to 'its former glory'.

For further information on Todmorden Unitarian Church, please click [here](#). The church is also mentioned on a walk around Todmorden and surrounding countryside. If you would like to find out more, please click [here](#).

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## Conserving Pennine natural heritage



Work begins at Ringstone

Ringstone Improvement Project is the first purpose designed Nature reserve in the area, for a wading bird of National significance, adjacent to the South Pennine Moors, an area of European importance. The first project 'on the ground' under the [Local Biodiversity Action Plan](#) (February 2004), it is supported by Marshalls plc, Hanson Environment Fund, Yorkshire Water and the RSPB Regional Office.

This project was also featured in the GBN's [April 2004 newsletter](#).

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## Latest News

The **most recent projects** that have benefited from GBN assistance under the LTCS are:

- A proposed 100,000 tonne 'Composting Hub' (Calderdale MBC/Onyx/Lancashire Waste Services)
- White Rose Forest ([Biffaward](#), Syngenta), including Forest of Leeds
- [Ponderosa Rural Therapeutic Centre](#), including The Shanks Platform
- The Boothtown Partnership **community** changing rooms. For further details please see our [April Newsletter](#).
- Warley Road **Community** Library
- Calderdale [Urban Eco-Park](#) (Shibden)
- [The Brooksbank School](#): **community** aspects of Specialist Sports College status

If you would like to find out if your project is eligible for funding, telephone Nigel Oliver on 08456 444 880.

**For GBN's own projects that have benefited from landfill tax funding see the [GBN Projects page](#).**

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## ***Reform of the LTCS***

The Landfill Tax Credit Scheme is currently being reformed by Government. The LTCS website [www.ltcs.org.uk](http://www.ltcs.org.uk) includes the latest information on the reforms and links to relevant stakeholders' websites. It is also possible to search a 'facts and figures' database for outlines of many LTCS-assisted **projects**, including those where GBN has helped secure funding.



## ***Other Funding Sources for Community Groups***

A useful starting point for funding sources other than the LTCS is Calderdale Council's '[Calderdale 4 Community](#)' website. See also our '[Useful Links](#)' page.

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