

PARISH LITTER WARDEN SCHEME

What is a parish litter warden?

Parish litter wardens are individuals working in a local area to reduce litter. They are nominated and supported by a parish or town council, or local community group. They undertake a regular (weekly or fortnightly) litter pick of the village/town and act as a point of contact on litter/flytipping issues for the whole community. They may organise and advertise clean-up days in the area and encourage other members of the community to join in on a public litter pick.

The parish litter warden scheme - background

As part of its Big Tidy Up campaign, Keep Britain Tidy had previously funded *Stop The Drop*, CPRE's flagship campaign against litter and flytipping, to develop a national Parish Litter Warden Scheme. The scheme has been developed in partnership by CPRE National Office and a growing number of local CPRE branches, with the aim of recruiting and supporting local volunteers who want to take action against litter in their community.

A small honorarium for expenses of £100 can be paid to each warden and a full litterpicking kit provided (branded high-visibility vest, professional litterpicking stick, safety gloves and bags). Local CPRE branches administrate the scheme and organise annual warden gatherings to put people in touch and share best practice.

Individuals wanting to become a litter warden should firstly seek approval from their parish council or management committee (for community groups) and then express interest using the application form enclosed. Applications will be processed quarterly and are dependent on funding being available.

Community benefits

The scheme will deliver a number of important benefits, such as:

- Cleaner neighbourhoods, as the wardens litterpick weekly or fortnightly, depending on the need
- Litter being seen by the community as an important issue, as a local person can be seen regularly clearing up after others
- The scheme supports many parish and district councils who struggle to allocate sufficient funding to tackle the litter problem in their areas
- Sharing of good practice - litter wardens from different communities have opportunities to meet, swap stories and share ideas, building community cohesion within local areas and county-wide
- Important data on levels of litter collected from local areas is recorded by the wardens and used to demonstrate the scale of the problem and the importance of the volunteers' contribution in dealing with it.

Contact

For more information, please contact: Mark Kenney (Litter Warden Coordinator) on 01603 881242 / litterwarden@cprenorfolk.org.uk