

Small Grants Fund Case Study



Plastic-Free Dunfermline

What activity did you run?

We created a Fife Plastic-Free Event Guide and held a launch event in Dunfermline. The guide contains practical advice and information on waste prevention, waste management and communicating with vendors and event goers. It contains information on the problems associated with compostable products, balloons and glitter. There is also a handy checklist for stallholders.

Who were your main audience?

Our launch event was held in Failte. Ten people, including representatives of the local community council, environmental groups and members of the public attended. We circulated invites and copies of the guide to groups that organise events or support others to do so. These groups included Carnegie Trust, Fife College, Fife Pride, Kirkcaldy Marathon Festival, Fife Voluntary Action, Dunfermline Children's Gala and Dunfermline Abbey. Some attendees offered assistance with dissemination – we will be meeting with Councillor Derek Glen to discuss this further and have also requested a meeting with Fife Council's Events Officer.

What did you learn?

The launch event proved a useful space for attendees to reflect on the content of the guide and to share ideas for disseminating the guide and for encouraging uptake, for example trying to encourage local galas to choose themes that dovetail with the zero-waste message, such as the ocean. We learned that people are not aware that Fife Council require compostable bioplastics (like Vegware) to be placed in landfill bins. People are also unaware that compostable bioplastics only break down in industrial composters, not naturally.

Has delivering your project increased capacity to tackle the climate emergency in your community?

Our project aims to share advice on tackling the climate emergency by reducing waste at events. Feedback on the guide has been very positive, with Gillian Taylor of the Carnegie Trust saying that the checklist for stallholders was especially useful. We will not have feedback from users until we have disseminated the guide and people have used it to inform their events. The draft version received a very positive response from Dalgety Bay & Hillend Gala's organising committee, who will be seeking to implement it at this year's event.

What feedback did attendees give?

Kirkcaldy Parks Running Festival: “Thanks for [the guide], I will pass it on to Event Village Team.”

Fife Pride: “Thanks! I’m very keen to go down this road so I’ll make sure it’s raised with the committee.”

Fife Voluntary Action: “I certainly will [circulate the guide to member organisations].”

Find out more

www.plasticfreedunfermline.org.uk/plastic-free-event-guide



Kim Blasco of Plastic Free Dalgety and James Daw of Plastic Free Dunfermline at the launch event in Dunfermline.