

## Our Bright First Year

Our Bright Future is an ambitious and innovative project which brings together the youth and environmental sectors. It is a £33 million programme funded by the Big Lottery Fund and is helping young people aged 11-24 gain experience and improve their wellbeing. At the same time they act as catalysts for delivering change for their local environment and local community.

So far 20,000 young people have participated in 31 projects and have gained skills such as construction, confidence, leadership and campaigning.

### Some highlights from 2016:

- A passionate and engaged youth forum is formed with representatives from the projects guiding Our Bright Future's direction.
- FoodCycle opened 9 amazing hubs meaning more older people, mental health services users and low income families receive nutritious meals and food waste is reduced.
- A brilliant new gardening group established at a St Mungo's hostel meaning residents are learning new skills.



Liam was told by his teacher that he wouldn't amount to anything. He joined an Our Bright Future project where he gained skills in horticulture and experience in improving green spaces for his community. Liam has now found a job and is building a career in grounds maintenance.

# Our Bright Future project locations

“This will give me my first formal qualification”  
- Rob at Falkland Centre for Stewardship

“As a result of this experience, I’m thinking about the environment more”  
- James at Action for Blind People

“I can honestly say this is the most fun I’ve ever had”  
- Adam at Impact Arts

“It’s really good to bring people together”  
- Maria at Feedback

## Already as a direct result of Our Bright Future projects:

- 260,997 kg of waste has been diverted from landfill
- 443,267 square metres of land has been improved
- 400 environmental improvements have been completed

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