



# The King's Award for Voluntary Service

The King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) aims to recognise outstanding local volunteering groups from across the UK.

Nominate now at:  
[kavs.dcms.gov.uk](https://kavs.dcms.gov.uk)

## WHO CAN BE NOMINATED FOR THE AWARD?

Any volunteer-led group undertaking work in their local community can be nominated; however, they must meet some basic criteria:

- be made up of three or more people
- be based in the UK, Channel Islands or the Isle of Man
- have been in operation for at least three years before nomination
- have over half its volunteers eligible to reside in the UK
- be led by volunteers, not by paid staff
- provide a specific and direct benefit to the local community

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Royal Recognition
- Signed Certificate from His Majesty The King
- Award's Crystal
- Invitations to the Royal Garden Parties
- Right to use The King's Award Emblem across the group's promotional material and website



  
Department  
for Culture,  
Media & Sport

**Website:** [kavs.dcms.gov.uk](https://kavs.dcms.gov.uk)

**Email:** [kingsaward@dcms.gov.uk](mailto:kingsaward@dcms.gov.uk)

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## IS THE GROUP ELIGIBLE?

There is a basic criteria which a group needs to meet in order to be eligible. More information on the full criteria can be found on our website.

2

## REGISTER ON THE KAVS WEBSITE

To make a nomination you must register on the KAVS website and create an account. All you need is an email address to get started.

3

## COMPLETE NOMINATION FORM

The online nomination form covers basic information such as the group's work, it's beneficiaries and the role of it's volunteers. This takes between 5 - 10 minutes to complete.

4

## LETTERS OF SUPPORT

You will need to submit two separate letters of support in addition to your nomination form. These letters are usually from beneficiaries or independent members of the community and add further context.

5

## COMPLETE AND SUBMIT

Submit your nomination by the 1st December. If you need more guidance or information please contact the KAVS team.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF AWARDED GROUPS

- **Volunteer-led:** The volunteers are in the driving seat, setting the direction and spotting opportunities for development.
- **Exceptional compared with comparable groups:** This group is likely to be one of the best of its kind in the country.
- **Making a considerable difference locally:** The initiative of this group and the efforts of its volunteers have changed the situation dramatically for its beneficiaries.
- **Well-run:** There are high standards of governance, financial management and safeguarding in place.
- **Outstanding reputation locally:** The group has an excellent reputation with beneficiaries, service providers and the local community.