

Making Lives Better

Gardening Neighbours

We could award you up to £500 to help you improve your community, one seed at a time. If you're interested in transforming a part of where you live – however small – into a green space where you can grow your own plants, we may be able to help pay for it.

We're looking for keen, would-be gardeners who'd like to bring people together and make a positive impact on their community, and we could award you up to £500 for some or all of your costs.

You could:

- Grow fruit and veg for you and your neighbours in a communal space
- Cultivate a flower garden in a communal area for your community to enjoy
- Transform the front of your property in a way that others may enjoy
- Grow plants in a window box or in pots around your front entrance
- Improve the appearance of a disused area on your estate
- Teach children to grow their own food

What you need to know:

If successful, we can pay for some or all of your costs, up to the value of:

- £500 for projects involving ten SHG residents or more
- £250 for projects involving between five and nine SHG residents
- £150 for projects involving between two and five SHG residents
- £50 for individual projects

If you are applying for garden furniture, this must be as part of a gardening project. The maximum amount that can be awarded for garden furniture is £100.

The total amount applied for may not be awarded and applicants should only list costs that are directly

relevant to their project. Please provide photos of the area(s) you would like to use with your application and once complete, please send after photos of your project (which will help us promote your efforts and show how our customers can play a key role in supporting and improving the communities they live in). As part of your application. We'll contact your Home Services Manager to check that the area you want to work on is appropriate to use and belongs to Southern Housing Group.

Please ensure you have the following information ready before completing the application form:

1. Your contact details
2. Project details and description, the date(s) and details of other SHG residents in your gardening group (if relevant).
3. All the costs relating to your project
4. Details of your estate, local authority and Housing Services Manager (if known)

Once we receive your grant application, we will email you to confirm receipt and request a copy of the risk assessment and photos of the area(s) you would like to use for the project. A risk assessment template and examples can be found on the [Making Lives Better grants page](#).

You / your group may apply for a grant once each financial year.

Grant funding is limited. Should the fund close during the current financial year, this will be advised on the Southern 360 grants web page.

For further information or general enquiries please contact the Grants Officer: Telephone: 020 7324 1292 Email: grants@shgroup.org.uk.

Grant applications should be made online, please go to <https://southern360.org.uk/investing-in-communities/apply-for-a-grant/>. You may also contact the Grants Officer to arrange a telephone meeting should you require assistance completing the form.

Could you be a gardening **volunteer**?

We're also recruiting volunteers to help others with their gardening ideas. Training and expenses will be provided, so if you'd like to pass on your knowledge and passion for growing things, get in touch or go to www.shgroup.org.uk/gardeningneighboursvolunteer