Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is asking local community groups to take part in a new community environmental initiative to encourage civic pride throughout the district. Local community groups are being asked to help promote a ‘cleaner, greener environment’ and undertake ‘litter picks’ in their locality.

To participate in this initiative groups must register using the expression of interest form provided. Completed forms must be received by **4pm on Friday 26 April 2019**. Groups will be informed the week commencing 29 April 2019 if they have been accepted. Once accepted onto the initiative groups must commit to carrying out the following three actions:

- Carry out two community ‘litter picks’ ups in their local area which must be completed by 30 June 2019
- Help raise awareness of the Council’s **Dog Fouling** campaign by displaying the ‘Pick up the poo before they do’ posters/stickers in their local area
- Help raise awareness of **food waste recycling** by displaying the ‘Always use your brown bin’ bin wraps on brown wheelie bins in their area.

The Council intends to hold a celebration event in July 2019, sponsored by **Natural World Products**, with representatives from all participating groups invited to attend. In advance of the celebration event groups must provide evidence that the three agreed actions have been completed. Groups who have completed the three actions and provided evidence of this will be presented with a voucher to the value of fifty pounds.

Groups can also include as evidence any other ‘positive’ environmental activity they have undertaken or been involved in during **May/June 2019** over and above the three agreed actions. All evidence will be considered for attendance at the celebration event.

The Council will supply all participating groups with ‘**Litter Kits**’ on loan which will include: large bags, 10 litter pickers, 10 vests, a supply of gloves and bags. Groups will also be supplied with ‘Bag it, Bin it’ dog fouling posters/stickers plus ‘Always use your brown bin’ wrap stickers for raising awareness of the campaign themes within their local community.
Please note:

Participating groups are responsible for ensuring they have their own public liability insurance for undertaking each agreed action. A risk assessment must be undertaken for any litter pick organised by each group. Groups must also ensure they have obtained relevant permissions from landowners/property owners/householders to display posters and bin wraps.

The Expression of Interest form will be available for download at www.newrymournedown.org from Monday 15 April 2019. Closing date for receipt of forms is Friday 26 April 2019 and actions need to be completed by groups by the end of June 2019.

For further information please contact:

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