



## **Dobbies launch nationwide votes for community garden funding**

- **Dobbies' Helping Your Community Grow shortlists announced for all 69 garden centres**

Residents in communities across the UK are being asked to vote for their favourite local community gardening project to receive support from Dobbies, the UK's leading garden centre retailer.

A shortlist of deserving community projects have been chosen by team members for Helping Your Community Grow, Dobbies' landmark community support initiative. The scheme, launched earlier this year, aims to work with existing groups to create new or revamped green spaces around the UK.

The store teams selected the shortlist in their area on the basis that they best represent an opportunity to create an enhanced green space that will benefit the local area, but the final choice is now down to local residents as they are encouraged to have their say and vote for their favourite on the Dobbies' website.

Graeme Jenkins, CEO of Dobbies, said: "Through Helping Your Community Grow, we are delighted to be supporting so many gardening projects in the areas around our stores. It's a landmark initiative for us and we are proud to be helping so many community projects across the country create green spaces that benefit their local areas.

"The teams at our Dobbies' stores understand the needs of their neighbourhoods and have chosen deserving projects for each area that the local communities can now choose from. We're very much looking forward to seeing the results of the public vote, and we're excited to help the winning projects achieve their aims in the months to come."

The winning projects will receive support, products and equipment from their local Dobbies store, to help them create a green space that the local community can be proud of. The project with the most votes, from all areas across the UK, will be the national winner and receive additional support.

The public vote is now live and will close on 29 August. The winners will be announced in September.

Votes can be cast at: <https://www.dobbies.com/helping-your-community-grow>

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**About Dobbies**

- Established in 1865, Dobbies is now the UK's leading garden centre retailer, with 73 stores.
- A turning point in the business came in 2019 with the acquisition of 37 stores, more than doubling the company's footprint.
- Dobbies operates 69 mainline garden centres and three small format, little dobbies, stores.
- Dobbies aspires to be 'not your average garden centre'; we exist to enrich people's lives and nurture connections between people, the community and the environment.
- Dobbies is proud to be a supporter of #terracarta, launched by HRH The Prince of Wales' Sustainable Markets Initiative.