

# Saltire Awards

Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire's  
journey so far



# Workshop Outline



- How and where we have promoted Saltire
- Responses and reaction from local organisations
- Responses and reaction from education department and schools
- How we have used Saltire in helping groups of young people to set up one off opportunities



## Where & How we have promoted Saltire Awards

- We have used our own Third Sector Forum's newsletter and meetings to introduce local organisations and groups to the Saltire Award
- Through our involvement with various education groups within our local authority we have carried out informal presentations
- We have distributed information to our existing contacts at secondary schools and the Uniform Services
- Information on the Saltire Awards is available on Voluntary Actions own website and East Renfrewshire Councils own young persons website



## Responses and reaction from local organisations

- The local scouts group like the awards age range, as it is from 12-25 years and it covers the one off volunteering that they do frequently.
- Oxfam retail likes the fact they can add all their young volunteers on one sheet to confirm their hours and request Awards, which cuts down on paperwork they need to do.



## Our Education Department and the secondary schools have stated they like :-

- That the Saltire Award dovetails into the Curriculum of excellence
- It can tie it into many of their initiatives for 16 +, including activity agreements
- There is an award to recognise the one off volunteering opportunities that young people take part in



The “**Challenge**” is designed as an introduction to volunteering and is undertaken as part of a team.

- It is a stand alone award but young people may participate in more than one challenge
- It can be organised by the young people themselves with support from a worker or they can opt in to a pre-arranged session
- A Toolkit has been developed providing guidance and advice on organising and registering a Saltire Challenge



The “**Approach**” is about progressing on to an individual volunteering placement with a local charity or not-for-profit organisation in the local community.

- Volunteers are supported to make a **regular commitment** to volunteering taking into account personal needs and circumstances
- Development Workers will provide guidance and advice to young people to find opportunities that will enhance their life skills by building confidence and self-esteem and improving their social skills
- Certificates are awarded on completion of 10 and 25 hours of volunteering



The “**Ascent**” is based on an individual volunteering placement with the emphasis on making a **sustained commitment** to volunteering and achievement through personal development and learning.

- Learning, achievement and personal development is recorded in a Volunteer Journal
- Certificates are awarded on completion of 50, 100 and 200 hours



The “**Summit**” is the pinnacle of the Saltire Awards and will be achieved by those who have made an outstanding contribution to volunteering.

- Its purpose is to recognise those who have not only completed the “Ascent” but have exceeded expectations
- There will be a maximum of 12 recipients per year for this award in each local authority area
- Volunteers are nominated for a “Summit” Award by the organisation they volunteer for. Nominations are peer assessed by a panel of Saltire Ambassadors



Young people who have achieved the “Ascent” will be encouraged to become **Saltire Ambassadors.**

- Ambassadors can get involved in a wide variety of roles with continuing personal development opportunities
- Full training and support will be given

