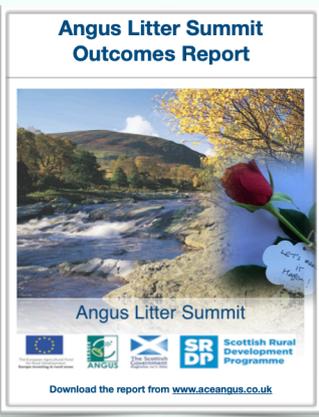
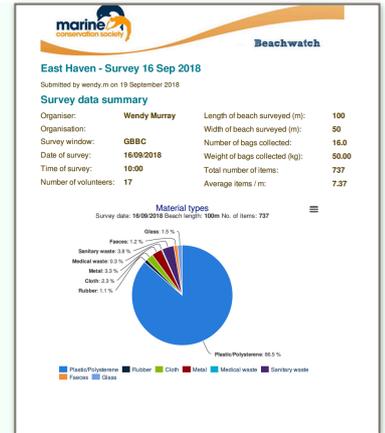


Residents of East Haven in Angus have been beach cleaning since 1993 when they first became concerned about both the amount of marine litter and its environmental impact. East Haven suffers disproportionately from marine litter due to a combination of tidal flow, currents and topography.

By 2014, the frequency of beach cleaning had increased considerably and survey data uploaded to the Marine Conservation Society. Daily litter picks and analysing litter types led residents to observe patterns and record specific incident types.

Contact was made with businesses and statutory organisations to try and identify littering at source. The community used social media and held public events to raise awareness about both marine and land litter. In addition, they participated in training to enable them to engage effectively with members of the public to persuade them to Prevent and Pick up 3.

However, recognising that littering of all types is increasing across Scotland, the community sought to gain more understanding about Scotland's Litter Strategy.



In 2017, they obtained funding from LEADER to host a community led litter summit. This event brought together members of the public, politicians, the Local Authority and national organisations to share information and ideas to create cleaner environments.

Participants agreed that, extreme collaboration at all levels is required to reduce waste and tackle the problem of littering.



Outcomes following the litter summit included the development of a new community group called Angus Clean Environments (ACE).

It also led to the establishment of an 'Adopt-a-Street' scheme which has seen over 70 Angus residents adopt and regularly clean an area they care about thereby reducing the amount of litter at risk of escaping into the sea.

A number of Litter Prevention Action Plans have been produced and ACE has also worked to influence policy and legislation at a national level. Throughout 2018, the public across Angus have collected tons of both street and marine litter. This work adds to the evidence that large parts of the Scottish population are engaged and can be empowered to make a significant contribution to improving the quality and health of our seas.



