

## Do you know a voluntary group that deserves to be recognised with The Queens Award for Voluntary Service?

On Thursday 2 June, Cockermouth Emergency Response Group was honoured with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK and widely recognised as the MBE for such organisations.

The Cockermouth Emergency Response Group assists residents and businesses in the Cockermouth area to prepare for and recover from major emergencies, such as flooding or severe winter weather.

The QAVS is awarded annually to recognise and reward the most exceptional local groups which deliver volunteer-led activities and provide significant benefits to their communities. It is a highly competitive and prestigious award and only about half of the nominations can expect to succeed.

Any group of 3 or more people delivering outstanding voluntary work may be eligible to be nominated for the award. The group must be led by volunteers rather than paid staff, and the majority of the group must be volunteers, with more than half those volunteers having the right to live in the UK. The group should also have been running for at least 3 years to be eligible.

To be nominated for the 2023 award, the group should:

- provide a service and meet a need for people living in the local community
- be supported, recognised and respected by the local community and the people who benefit from it
- be run locally, rather than as a national organisation

Winners receive a certificate signed by Her Majesty The Queen and a domed glass trophy. Representatives from the group may also be invited to attend a Royal Garden Party.

If you know of a group which you feel deserves to be recognised and meets the above criteria, then please act now by visiting the website link below for more information:

<https://cumbria.gov.uk/council-democracy/councillors-democracy-elections/lordlieutenant/voluntary.asp>

Anyone nominating a group based in Cumbria is encouraged to contact Cumbria Lieutenancy by emailing: [lieutenancy@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:lieutenancy@cumbria.gov.uk) as they may be able to provide advice and support to the nomination.

Nominations received by **15 September 2022** will be considered for the 2023 award.

Together we can help ensure that deserving groups are recognised appropriately.



Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Cumbria