



**SCOTTISH CIVIC TRUST  
PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOUNDER OF SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COMMUNITY GARDEN WINS  
SCOTTISH COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD**

The Scottish Civic Trust My Place Awards, supported by the Scottish Government and sponsored by Urban Union, celebrate community-led built environment projects that have transformed their locality. The winning and commended entries were announced at a ceremony at The Trades Hall, Glasgow on 13th March.

**The winner of the My Place Awards 2024 Community Champion category is Eugenie Aroutcheff, Co-founder of Grow 73 in South Lanarkshire.**

Eugenie developed and currently oversees Grow 73, a charity aiming to help people of all ages and abilities to grow their own produce, learn how to lead more sustainable lives and support local biodiversity.

Grow 73 has leased a piece of unused land in Overtoun Park in Rutherglen and has gradually transformed it by adding raised beds, a pond, a nature walk and more. Grow 73 offers this space to volunteers and the local community to meet up and participate in activities and works with local schools and wider organisations to impart their message of the importance of being eco-aware.

**Neil McKay, Managing Director of Urban Union, said:** *"It's an honour to sponsor this award for a second year and to help celebrate and recognise those who improve the environment and foster community wealth by enhancing local spaces. Urban Union understand this first-hand through our commitment of regenerating and transforming areas to create and foster communities. Eugenie's achievements go above and beyond, and we pass on our congratulations for a deserving win."*

**Iain Mulholland, Eugenie's nominator, said:** *"Eugenie has passionately developed this project from its inception to the success it is now. She is committed to the ideal of helping people and the environment to make the world a better place to be. Her drive and determination to challenge bureaucracy and focus on improving her own area and the wider community is commendable."*

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Full details on the 2024 My Place Award entries, and short films about the winning and shortlisted projects can be found at [myplacescotland.org.uk](https://myplacescotland.org.uk).

For further information please contact [Erin.Burke@scottishcivictrust.org.uk](mailto:Erin.Burke@scottishcivictrust.org.uk)

## **Notes for editors:**

### **About Scottish Civic Trust**

Founded in 1967, the Scottish Civic Trust is the national organisation for community, local heritage and civic groups.

The Trust **advocates** at local and national levels to preserve cultural and built heritage, working in partnership with grassroots community organisations to celebrate place and identity.

The Trust **takes action** with planning authorities to protect listed buildings and conservation areas, and empower all community voices through our Diverse Heritage project.

The Trust also **celebrates** our shared places and stories by working with schools, youth groups and community organisations through our My Place programme as well as leading on Doors Open Days, the largest heritage festival in Scotland. More information can be found at [www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk](http://www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk).

### **About Urban Union**

Urban Union specialises in the delivery of large-scale, housing led, regeneration projects. Part of Robertson Group, the company has a proven and award-winning track record in regenerating communities across Scotland.

Currently delivering four mixed-tenure developments, new Urban Union homes are available at North Four in Edinburgh, and Laurieston Living and Hamiltonhill Living in Glasgow.

At the heart of Urban Union's approach is an unrivalled commitment to creating communities, not simply building new homes. This is achieved by working in close partnership with local authorities, housing associations, community groups and residents.

The company is also dedicated to ensuring opportunities for people living in the areas in which it operates, supporting targeted recruitment, training and supply train opportunities.

### **Further Information**

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