



B&Q receives Silver Award for promoting Give As You Earn to employees

UK home improvement and garden centre retailer B&Q has 321 stores across the UK and over 30,000 employees. As a major employer they sit at the heart of most communities and strive to be 'good neighbours' wherever they have a presence.

They have a significant influence on the community through their involvement in thousands of local projects, many supporting grow your own and wildlife, as well as strategic partnership initiatives. In addition to supporting local initiatives they also have a national charity programme which helps to focus their efforts around corporate and employee fundraising.

Supporting employees in charitable activities is important for B&Q. It's what employees want, so making it easy for them to give tax-effectively is imperative. That's why B&Q is committed to offering employees the opportunity of giving tax-effectively through Give As You Earn, the UK's largest payroll giving scheme. With stores in all corners of the UK and a large number of part-time employees, B&Q has more than 1,700 employees donating to hundreds of charities directly from their pay each month.

B&Q promotes Give As You Earn at every opportunity, giving talks, displaying posters, and including articles in their bi-monthly newsletter, on the intranet and induction packs. They are also supported by CAF's fundraising arm Sharing the Caring, who visit the majority of B&Q's stores on a regular basis to boost the awareness of the scheme and sign up new donors.

B&Q has more than 5% of employees participating in the scheme, and because of their efforts they have been presented with the HM Government's Silver Payroll Giving Quality Mark Award.

Claire Finch, Community CSR Co-ordinator comments on B&Q's Give As You Earn scheme and the Award:

"Give As You Earn is an excellent platform for our employees to donate in a tax-efficient way to charities of their choice. We are incredibly proud of our employees' generosity in donating more than £1 million since 2002, and are delighted to have been recognised for our achievements with the Silver Payroll Giving Quality Mark Award."