



How to write an article about FixMyStreet for your local paper

We appreciate every bit of press we can get - and local newspapers, magazines and websites are great for reaching potential users of the site.

They're often keen to receive articles, and they are read by people within a local community, who may have an interest in improving their surroundings.

1. Which publications?

The first question to ask yourself is: where do you get news about your local community? Perhaps free community magazines or newsletters come through your door. There's your local paper, of course. And there may also be websites or Facebook pages that focus on your area.

These are all ideal places to mention FixMyStreet. We'd love it if you could make a post on your community Facebook page, write a short article for your local magazine, or even just forward them some information so that they could write their own piece.

2. What to write

Here are some useful facts that you might like to use.

- www.FixMyStreet.com is a website for reporting common street problems like potholes, broken streetlights and dog fouling to your local council.
- It is run by the UK charity mySociety, and was launched in 2007.
- It covers all of the UK.
- The great thing is, you don't need to know who's responsible for fixing your problem. You just put a pin on a map, and FixMyStreet sends your report to the right council.
- Problems are also published on the FixMyStreet website, so you can browse your local area and see what the prevalent problems are - and what's been fixed.
- You can also upload a photo to help show what the issue is.
- Once you've sent your report, it goes straight to the council, who will get back in touch with you directly.

3. Reflecting your own local area

Is there something specific that's a recurring problem in your area, like fly-tipping, graffiti or dog fouling? If so, you could focus your article on that.



You could present FixMyStreet as a tool for defeating the issue for once and for all - and perhaps include examples of reports that have been successful.

But if your area's problems are more varied, it's enough just to mention FixMyStreet as a useful resource for making reports to the council, and getting your community cleaned up.

Thank you

Thank you for spreading the word about FixMyStreet! As a small charity, we rely on word-of-mouth recommendations, and we appreciate your help greatly.