



Item 6

18th April 2019

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership

Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods and Sustainability

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Glasgow Food Growing Strategy

Purpose of Report:

To provide committee with:

1. feedback from the Anderston/City/Yorkhill and Hillhead wards stakeholder engagement event held in relation to development of a Food Growing Strategy for Glasgow and
2. advise of next stages.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that committee note this report and considers further opportunities for food growing in the Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership area.

1. Introduction

1.1 A report was brought to the Environment, Sustainability and Carbon Reduction City Policy Committee on 12th June, 2018, advising of:

- Progress on Glasgow's Allotment Strategy and its links with the statutory duty, under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to undertake a Food Growing Strategy (FGS) for the city
- The details of what a FGS for Glasgow should contain
- The FGS linkages to broader City strategic objectives
- Previous stakeholder engagement events undertaken in relation to the FGS and plans for future events

1.2 The report summarised the key actions that would be taken forward in the immediate two years as:

- holding a series of community consultations focussing on specific area partnerships to ascertain existing and potential growing sites;
- aligning the sites identified to the Glasgow Open Space Strategy process;
- developing an online or publicly accessible map outlining potential growing sites;
- carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment;
- developing options and funding bids in support of any actions recommended to increase the provision by Glasgow City Council of allotments, or other areas of land for use by a community for the cultivation of vegetables, fruit, herbs or flowers within the life of the Strategy; and
- signpost communities to resources which may support them in bringing forward their own food growing proposals.

2.0 The Albany Centre Engagement Event

2.1 To deliver on the first action noted in 1.2 above, an engagement event was held at The Albany Centre on 28/02/19. It was facilitated by Greenspace Scotland supported by Neighbourhoods and Sustainability (NS) Parks Development. The engagement process consisted of the following actions:

- Outlining the background to the development of a FGS, its relationship to the Open Space Strategy, and the various types of growing that would be considered;
- Asking attendees to identify existing growing sites within the area;
- Asking attendees to identify potential growing sites in the area; and
- Asking attendees for their views on growing opportunities within the area.

2.2 In addition, following the event, potential sites were assessed for suitability for growing by using an assessment matrix developed by Greenspace Scotland. This matrix considered issues such as current ownership, environmental designations, other potential uses for the site, ground conditions, shading and

plot size. It should be noted that, at this stage, no discussions with landowners have taken place.

2.3 All sites, nominated by the public, are listed in Annex 1 including existing sites and those assessed as being potentially suitable for community food growing.

2.4 In addition, Greenspace Scotland also provided a summary report of the event outlining attendee numbers and topics of interest. The report is attached in Annex 2.

3.0 The Next Steps

3.1 Development and Regeneration Services will be advised of the proposed sites and their suitability for food growing will be assessed through the ongoing process of Local Context Analysis (being developed as part of the Glasgow Open Space Strategy), which will examine opportunities for food growing alongside: the other functions that the City's open space need to provide (e.g. space for sport, recreation, play or nature conservation) and other demands on land (e.g. land for housing).

3.2 Further work will be undertaken, throughout the life of the Food Growing Strategy, to support local groups who may wish to bring forward specific proposals for any of the identified sites, subject to local agreement, and any statutory approvals.

3.3 To support the above, the planning process will be used to:

- inform the level of developer contributions to be taken for the provision of new allotments/ growing spaces;
- protect, as open space, sites agreed as being suitable and available for growing; and
- ensure that opportunities for informal food growing are incorporated into new residential developments, over 50 units in size.

3.4 Finally, the feedback from the events will contribute to the development of a draft Food Growing Strategy that will be available in the autumn of 2019.

4.0 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: None at this stage

Legal: Statutory Duty to deliver under the Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015: Section 9.

Personnel: None

Procurement: None at this stage

Council Strategic Plan: The Strategic Plan sets out a vision for Glasgow becoming the most sustainable city in Europe, and a resilient city. The implementation of a Food Growing Strategy will contribute to this.

Equality Impacts:

EQIA carried out: a screening will be carried out on the draft Food Growing Strategy once developed

Outcome: -

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental: The implementation of the Food Growing Strategy will have a positive effect on the environment.

Social: Social benefits around identifying opportunities for communities to work collectively on developing and maintaining community growing spaces

Economic: The FGS will contribute to the Circular Economy

Recommendations

It is recommended that committee note this report and considers further opportunities for food growing within the Anderston/City/Yorkhill Area Partnership Area.

Food Growing Strategy – The Albany Centre Consultation Event,

Sites Nominated By The Public

GCC Sites Suitable for Growing

- Elderslie St/ William St corner (Ward 10)

GCC Sites Not Suitable for Growing

- Lymburn St (front of Cleansing Depot) (Ward 10)

Non GCC Sites

- William Place, (Ward 10)
- Gilbert St & Teviot St, (Ward 10)
- Kelvinhaugh Primary School Car Park (Ward 10)
- Garscube Rd at Possil Rd, various, (Wards 10/11)
- 2 Cecil St, (Ward 11)
- Bute Gardens at Great George St, (Ward 11)
- Kersland St Garden, (Ward 11)
- Yorkhill St – Old School, (Ward 10)
- Kelvingrove St, site of old church, (Ward 10)
- Cheapside St/Warroch St, (Ward 10)
- Garscube Rd at Possil Rd, (Ward 11)
- SWG3 Triangle Site, (Ward 10)
- Wilton Dr, Kirkland St, Dalmally St, (Ward 11)

Existing Sites (noted at event)

- Dot To Dot Garden (Ward 16) – borders ward 11
- Kelvinside Allotments - Kirklee Rd, additional capacity (Ward 23)
- Woodlands Community Garden (Ward 11)

Nominated sites - other wards

- Broomhill Greenspace off Broomhill Drive (Ward 12)
- Crow Rd (Ward 12)
- Dowanhill Park (Ward 23)
- Verge between Pointhouse Rd (A814) and railway, (Ward 12)
- Shelley Rd, Gartnavel near Beatson, (Ward 23)
- Victoria Crescent Place, (Ward 23)

Note of the Workshop

Glasgow Food Growing Strategy Workshop

Anderston/City/Yorkhill and Hillhead Wards

6-8pm, 28 Feb 2019, The Albany Centre, Glasgow

1. Introduction

Greenspace Scotland, on behalf of Glasgow City Council, hosted an informal workshop to inform the development of their local food growing strategy. It was the second in a series of eight workshops taking place in 2019. Previous consultations had already been held in 2017 covering Southside Central/Pollokshields and Partick East/Victoria Park. The workshop was facilitated by greenspace scotland. Glasgow City Council wanted to engage with as many groups and individuals, from the area, interested in community food growing as possible - to shape its Food Growing Strategy, create a vision for the future and identify how the Council, organisations and individuals can work together towards this.

This report details the full responses from everyone that took part in the Anderston/City/Yorkhill and Hillhead workshop and is intended as an accurate record for participants and Glasgow City Council. A final combined report will be created that takes account of the outcomes from all eight workshops.

Attendance

People could sign up to the event using Eventbrite and were initially invited to do so by emails from greenspace scotland and communications by Glasgow City Council. Social media was used to promote the workshops and a press release was issued by Glasgow City Council. The invitation was open and anyone could attend. All 50 spaces at the event were booked in advance (46% no shows).

27 people attended the event representing - 4 community groups, 3 organisations, 18 individuals and 1 community council.

Event Format

Following a welcome, soup/bread and a presentation of the background to the food growing strategy and its planned development the attendees took part in short workshops to gather their knowledge and ideas. Carol Brannan from Centurion Way Growers gave a presentation highlighting the development, achievements and challenges faced by their Yorkhill Community Garden as inspiration. Catering was provided by social enterprise Moogety Foods.

2. Workshop 1 – Where, why and why don't you grow your own?

If you grow your own where do you do it?

Participant placed stickers on the relevant type/site of growing on the Our Growing Community poster (**total number 13**).

Growing Spaces	Number (total 13)
Backcourts and backgreens	3

Allotment sites	2
Farm and agricultural land	2
individual gardens	1
derelict and undeveloped land	1
Residential and amenity spaces	1
Cemeteries and churchyards	1
Historic buildings and estates	1
Ex-educational grounds	1

Why do you grow your own?

Participants placed a post it with their name on the reason that applied to them on the chart supplied by greenspace scotland. If there were a number of reasons they were asked to identify the main reason.

The total number of responses was 27.

Reason	Number (total 27)
other – please say why	10
it's fun and enjoyable	5
to spend time outdoors	5
to reduce food miles	3
to save money	2
because it tastes better	1
to be sure there aren't chemicals on my food	1

Other reasons listed for growing your own:

1. Reduce plastic waste
2. To socialise with other raised bed growers
3. Community enhancement and partnership
4. My folks did it and others in my family too
5. To eat what I grow
6. There's a social network in an allotment
7. Educate, nurture and even amuse my grandchildren
8. Assists mental health and depression
9. It gives me great joy to plan, execute and harvest then eat it.
10. Because I know its provenance and it doesn't come wrapped in plastic

If you don't grow your own why don't you?

Participants placed a post it with their name on the reason that applies to them on the chart supplied by greenspace scotland.

Reason	Number (Total 9)
no garden	5
other reason	2
don't have the time	1
don't have the tools	1

Other reasons listed for not growing your own:

1. I don't know where to find a community garden near me.

2. We were not planning to stay in our flat long term so never planned our front garden to grow food

3. Workshop 2 – Mapping Activity?

Participants could mark growing sites that they are aware of on the maps covering the Anderston/City/Yorkhill and Hillhead wards of Glasgow and were also asked to identify potential growing sites. There were 3 options for identifying the locations:

- Plot growing sites on paper maps
- Complete a paper form with site information
- Plot growing sites on the GIS digital map of Glasgow with help from the GCC team

All locations will be plotted on to a single GIS digital map. 24 sites were marked on a combination of the paper maps and the digital map.

All participants were given the opportunity to find out more about the Open Space Strategy Local Context Analysis documents while the mapping exercise took place. There was limited interest from the participants.

4. Workshop 3 – Support and encouragement for community growing?

Participants discussed two questions in small groups and wrote their suggestions down. Headings are derived from suggestions given.

Question 1 - What would encourage you or others to grow more?

Access to land

- Accessible spaces being available
- More available space
- More available and larger growing areas
- Using flat roofs on top of new build public buildings and housing
- Information on council owned land, buildings and access
- Access to space with good sunlight
- Access to community plots on allotment sites

Tools/plants/resources

- Initial funding to start up a growing project

Support structures in place

- Need support to encourage more people to participate and create local growing groups
- How to set up a growing space - tools required etc
- Knowledge of growing networks and groups and available workshops
- Help to form constituted groups and how to create a constitution

Skills/training/peer support

- Knowledge of how to grow vegetables
- Provision of all gardening related knowledge and training
- Knowing how to look after plants

- Knowing which plants are the best for each area
- How to work with poor soil and grow in city shade
- Educational workshops
- Guidance and info - what to grow when and what grows in shade

Education

- Allotments to have open days for public to view spaces, ask questions and learn
- Visits from school children to growing spaces to learn

Volunteers/community interest

- Word of mouth knowing someone who already grows their own
- Connecting opportunities between groups like local schools and care homes, schools and neighbours
- Regular meet-ups between like-minded growing folk

Question 2 - What support is currently being provided?

Organisations

- Propagate (Glasgow-wide)
- Glasgow Allotment Forum (Glasgow-wide)
- GCC supported putting in place a water supply and Fire Service filled the water tanks
- Support for preparing a constitution at Centurion Way Growers
- Kelvinside Allotments Association have had good support from GCC Allotments Officer

Tools/plants/resources

- Stalled Spaces (Glasgow-wide)
- GCC funding support (Glasgow-wide)
- Partick Housing Association funding support (Ward 23 - office)

Volunteers/community interest

- Mutual support from other growing groups, idea sharing and support
- Meeting other non-growing community groups too in community participatory funding event through Partick Housing Association
- A loose bunch of folk who dip in and out of participating with the upkeep of the shared space on Kelvingrove St (space was an old church).