



**Glasgow Community Planning Partnership**

**Baillieston Area Partnership**

**Report by Stevie Scott, Neighbourhoods and Sustainability**

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**Glasgow Food Growing Strategy**

**Purpose of Report:**

To provide committee with:

1. feedback from the Baillieston/Shettleston 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 Baillieston Area Partnership area.

Ward No(s): 19 and 20

Citywide:

Local member(s) advised: Yes  No  consulted: Yes  No

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 A report was brought to the Environment, Sustainability and Carbon Reduction City Policy Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> 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 previously 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 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 Tollcross International Swimming Centre Engagement Event**

2.1 To deliver on the first action noted in 1.2 above, an engagement event was held at Tollcross International Swimming Centre on 07/02/19. 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 the views on growing opportunities within the area.

2.2 In addition, following the event, potential sites were assessed for suitability for growing by following 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.

2.3 All nominated sites 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 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, once in force.

*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 Baillieston Area Partnership Area.

**Food Growing Strategy – Tollcross International Swimming Centre  
Consultation Event Nominated Sites**

**GCC Sites Suitable for Growing**

- Balintore St (Ward 19)
- Pendeen Rd, verge adjacent to burn (Ward 18)

**GCC Sites Not Suitable for Growing**

- Lochend Rd near Baldragan Rd (Ward 21)
- Dalness St (Ward 19)

**Non GCC Sites**

- Causewayside St, Tollcross/ Bushes Bar (Ward 19)
- St Serf's Church, suggesting raised beds (Ward 19)
- Dykestone Rd at Tattershall, Persimmon (Ward 21)
- Etive St (Demolition Site), Scottish Fire Service (Ward 19)
- Provandhall Crescent, Thenew Housing (Ward 20)
- Garlestone Rd/Pendeen Rd, Gardeen Housing (Ward 18)

**Existing Sites**

Parkhead Community Garden/Playbusters/Greenheart Growers (Ward 9)

### **Note of the Workshop Glasgow Food Growing Strategy Workshop Shettleston and Baillieston Wards**

6-8pm, 7 Feb 2019, Tollcross International Swimming 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 first 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 Shettleston and Baillieston 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. There was coverage of the workshops on the Glasgow Live, Business Quarter and Sunday Post websites and in The Sun newspaper. The invitation was open and anyone could attend. All 40 spaces at the event were booked in advance.

27 people attended the event representing - 9 community groups, 8 organisations, 6 individuals, 2 GCC councilors, 1 education provider and 1 community council.

#### **Event Format**

Following a welcome and 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. Andy McGovern and Max Johnson from Greenheart Growers gave a presentation highlighting the development, achievements and challenges faced by their community growing enterprise as inspiration.

#### **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 22)**.

<b>Growing Spaces</b>	<b>Number (total 22)</b>
individual gardens	6
community garden	5
allotment sites	4
farm and agricultural land	2
school grounds	1
balconies and terraces	1
public parks and gardens	1
derelict and undeveloped land	1
at work	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 21. Four respondents put two reasons.

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Number (total 21)</b>
because it tastes better	9
it's fun and enjoyable	5
to reduce food miles	2
to be completely self-sufficient	1
to enhance the food I buy	1
to spend time outdoors	1
to get exercise	1
other – please say why..."	1
to save money	0
to be sure there aren't chemicals on my food	0

### **Other reasons listed for growing your own:**

Pastime and a hobby

### **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.

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Number (Total 6)</b>
don't know how to/lack of gardening skills	3
lack of wider community support for growing	1
not enough volunteers/members in our group	1
other – write on post it note	1
no garden	0
can't get an allotment	0
don't have the time	0
don't have the tools	0

### **Other reasons listed for not growing your own:**

Issues with the identified site.

### **3. Workshop 2a – Mapping Activity?**

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

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

All locations will be plotted on to a single GIS digital map. 11 sites were marked on a combination of the paper maps and the digital map.

### **4. Workshop 2b – Local Context Analysis**

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.

### **5. 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**

- Allotment associations are usually un-incorporated legal entity, entering a lease needs an incorporated group.
- Access to growing space
- Free growing spaces and training (i.e. more community gardens)
- Longer leases and access to land

##### **Tools/plants/resources**

- Funding for allotments
- Soil test of potential sites for ph, nutrient content and contamination with data on a publicly available database
- Seed swaps
- Perhaps access to starter kits, seeds and tools e.g. much like a library lends books, gardening scheme to lend tools, tubs etc.
- Money/funding to purchase tools or tool swap/sharing schemes

##### **Support structures in place**

- Allotment Associations are needing support to be able to support others - talk with us, action to support plot holders, GCC are resisting Scottish Governments aims
- Help with funding
- Scottish Government supporting projects and showing commitment
- Social prescribing by GPs
- Support for organising



### **Skills/training/peer support**

- Access to knowledge and people with hands on experience of growing food
- Access to knowledge, workshop sessions
- Advice and information
- More local market gardens - seeing examples of how commercial growing works and opportunities to volunteer/learn there
- Networking, collaborations and support from local partners
- Peer support and mentoring
- Teaching skills

### **Education**

- Involve children and grandchildren
- More emphasis on benefits of organic food in education and public institutions (e.g. more procurement of organic food in hospitals) sets example, educates and inspires
- More knowledge of industrial food systems and what is wrong with it/beneficial about growing your own
- More learning around cooking from scratch/healthy eating
- Smelly Welly Club (at Shettleston) so that wet weather and accessories are not a barrier

### **Volunteers/community interest**

- Additional volunteers and community support
- Engage with new Eastern European families who are very interested in growing
- Playbusters: Parkhead Community Garden (including Greenheart Growers) First Step Futures work with young people to give horticultural training in the garden

### **Other**

- Promotion
- Better weather

## **Question 2 - What support is currently being provided?**

### **Tools/plants/resources**

- Burnhill Action Group - equipment loan (non-Glasgow)
- South Seeds - southside tool library (Ward 8)
- Local Tesco store, Action Earth and Skipton Building Society (Ward 20)
- External funders and in-kind donations from local businesses.
- Big Lottery (UK Wide)

### **Organisations**

- Urban Roots - grow your own veg course (ward 7)
- Healthy and Happy Rutherglen - Handy Folks (non-Glasgow)
- Parkhead Housing Association (Ward 9)
- Cranhill Community Gardens (Ward 18)
- Local allotments, Tollcross Park (Ward 19) and Budhill (Ward 18)

- Shettleston Community Growing Project Supporters - SHA, ploholders, volunteers and major funders. (Ward 19)

#### **Access to Land**

- Early stages of land acquisition by housing association
- Community garden
- School community garden

#### **Other**

- Quite a lot but only found out about it tonight. Networking and advertising locally and on social media would spread awareness.
- Growing volunteer group
- Don't know of any