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KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

Developing Community Gardens

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The Royal Borough Environment Project

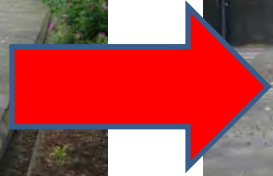
Working with the local community to improve the environment
&
Encourage pride and involvement in their local environment

Deliver a range of projects – Open space, Streetscape and Bridge Improvements , community gardening



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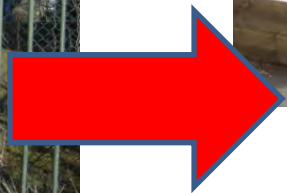
What is a Community Kitchen Garden?



St Quintin Avenue CKG



Disused Tennis Court



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St Charles Health and Wellbeing Centre



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Community Kitchen Gardens in K&C

- Over 60 Garden Sites, mainly on Social Housing Estates
- Nearly 600 plots installed,
- Over 1000 people & Community groups actively involved,
- A drop out rate of approx 1%, and a growing waiting list,



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Community Kitchen Gardens

Why Develop them?

- 97% of plot holders say it has improved their local environment and 71% their quality of life
- 83% of plot holders have never been involved in Council project before
- 82% feel the project has greatly improved their feeling of belonging & sense of community
- 85% of plot holders have made new friends as a consequence of the project
- 64% had never grown fruit and vegetables before

Community Kitchen Gardens – a local success

“It’s been a great way of meeting people....I feel thrilled and inspired. For the first time, it’s made me feel like I truly belong to my community and I now feel lucky and proud to be a resident of RBK&C. Well done for a worthwhile and useful initiative.....”

“The garden is a little Eden and has brought an immediate sense of community and pride to our area. People are willing to share knowledge, care, seeds and to swap produce. Early evening, which is a popular time for tending the plants, is a great time for gathering with others. The mix of ages, ethnicity, and from all walks of life and class is a wonderful reminder of what makes our part of London special”



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Developing Community Gardens

A Relatively simple 5 Stage process:

1. Agree Project Brief
2. Finding the right site
3. Funding & Approvals
4. Implementation
5. On-going support



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Stage 1- Agree Simple Project Brief

- What is the purpose of the garden? – food production, relaxation, training etc
- Who is the garden for?
- Who are the project partners?
- What is the potential available budget?



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Stage 2-Finding the Right site

Where is the garden located :

- Sunlight
- Water supply
- Access
- Security



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Stage 3- Funding & Approvals

- Community Consultation
- Develop Design
- Fund Raising
- Approvals
- Future maintenance arrangements



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Stage 4- Implementation

- Contractor
- Corporate Volunteer Days
- Volunteers



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Stage 5- On-Going Support

- On-going maintenance
- On-going support

CRUCIAL FOR LONG TERM SUCCESS



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On- Going Community Support

- Community Gardeners –Provide gardening support & advice
- Help build Confidence and Knowledge
- Provide Free Workshops, Events & Training
- Ground rules and plot allocations



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Community Garden workshops and planting events



Bulb Planting and Fruit
bush planting with SCOPE



Swinbrook Estate
Window Box workshop



Pupils Referral Unit



Families Gardening together



Community Trips to Pick Your Own Farms



New friendships blossoming

On- Going Community Support

- Regular & Effective communication between Plot Holders and Project Staff
- Developing Trust and productive partnership working
- **Celebrate Success**



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Celebrating Success

