



Community Gardens Policy - Guideline

Related Policy

This document relates to the City of Ryde Community Gardens Policy.

Guideline

Council has received requests from residents wishing to establish Community Gardens in the City of Ryde. The purpose of the Community Gardens Policy is to establish a framework for the City's commitment to the appropriate management of Community Gardens. The framework will provide a procedure for the establishment of new gardens, outline a basis for communication and partnership between stakeholders, and provide a rationale for decision making that ensures consistency in the management of all Community Gardens in the City of Ryde.

For the purposes of this Policy, Community Gardens are:

A not-for-profit, community based enterprise producing food primarily for the consumption of the Gardeners. They are a community managed, multi-functional garden space that when carefully designed and managed can provide a wide range of environmental, social and economic benefits.

The City proposes a community development approach to Community Gardens where gardening groups manage the gardens themselves with the support of the City of Ryde and other partnering organisations. This approach leads to increased community ownership which can assist in the sustainability and success of a Community Garden.

The City of Ryde recognises Community Gardening as a valuable recreational activity which contributes to the health and well being of the community and provides a range of environmental, social and educational benefits. Supporting Community Gardens to be self managed also plays a role in the City of Ryde achieving the Ryde 2021 Community Strategic Plan.

The Objectives of this Policy are to:

- promote the development of Community Gardens as educational and demonstration sites where people can meet, work together, build stronger community relationships and learn about sustainability which is in accordance with the Ryde 2021 Community Strategic Plan;
- document and standardise processes and procedures to ensure consistency in the management of all Community Gardens and provide Council with a uniform approach to dealing with requests for Community Gardens;
- clarify the rights and responsibilities of all stakeholders involved in Community Garden projects including volunteers, Council and partner organisations with reference to issues such as public liability, available funding, maintenance, safety and access;
- support existing and proposed Community Gardens to be self managed in order to increase the level of community ownership; and
- recommend planning controls to support the development of Community Gardens on land established for community use and to be integrated into new development.

Further Information

If you require any further information, please contact Council's Customer Service Team on 9952 8222.

Name of guideline		
Owner: Open Space	Accountability: Manager Open Space	Issue: 16/11/10
Trim Reference: D10/0088805	Policy: Community Gardens Policy	Page 1 of 2



Community Gardens Policy - Guideline

Attachments

<i>Number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Trim Reference</i>
1.	Community Gardens Policy – Council Policy	D10/0088798
2.	Community Gardens Policy - Procedure	D10/0088786

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