



# COMMUNITY FOOD GROWING STRATEGY 2026-2031



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# CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES

## SCOTTISH BORDERS FOOD GROWING STRATEGY

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Community growing is for all. Community growing is about creating and sustaining places where people can grow together - where they can produce healthy food locally and experience the social, environmental and health benefits of growing. Anyone who wants to grow their own fruit and vegetables should be able to - growing should be accessible and affordable for everyone.

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 aims to help empower communities across Scotland and improve access to land for food growing purposes, for those wanting to grow your own. Scottish Borders Council recognises the benefits of community growing in its many forms and through this Strategy seeks to support and promote community growing across the region.

Community growing can offer a whole range of benefits:

#### Health

Fruit and vegetable consumption increases when people are involved in community growing. As well as the nutritional benefits, the physical and mental health benefits of gardening and community growing are well documented.

#### Environmental

Community growing can mean enhanced space and habitat for wildlife, such as pollinator friendly planting and the management of green infrastructure linking to adjacent wildlife corridors. Community growing can contribute to reducing carbon emissions through reduced food miles and improving air quality, as well as reducing waste packaging and food waste (people are less likely to waste food that they grow, with any grow-your-own waste being composted).

## Economic

Community gardens tend to spend grant funding locally, utilising local goods and services, employing local people and training up local volunteers. Growing your own can be a cost effective part of household food spending, saving families money. The Social Value of community gardening has been measured through studies and clearly demonstrates benefits to stakeholders, volunteers and local people; the skills and training opportunities, both formal and informal, support the local economy indirectly by preparing people for employment.

## Social

A sense of community is encouraged when people participate in good growing activities. Community growing can offer 'social horticulture' creating social inclusion for individuals or groups who may otherwise feel excluded, isolated or lonely.

## Educational

Community growing can contribute to learning, offering both practical skills development and a therapeutic environment. Food growing is for all ages and encompasses a broad range of learning areas including biodiversity, provenance, horticulture, climatology, ecology, cookery, history and health and wellbeing.

## Food Security

Food security, as defined by the United Nations' Committee on World Food Security, means that all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their food preferences and dietary needs for an active and healthy life. Grow-your-own and locally grown produce ensures sustainable, safe access to produce in the Scottish Borders.

Our vision for community growing in the Scottish Borders is that people wishing to grow their own fruit and vegetables can access or develop a range of community growing opportunities in their area.



Community food garden ©Abundant Borders

# CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES

## SCOTTISH BORDERS FOOD GROWING STRATEGY

### 2. AIMS OF THE STRATEGY

The aim of this strategy is to support and facilitate anyone who wants to get growing, through existing growing opportunities and new approaches to growing. Scottish Borders Council has consulted with communities and groups already involved in Community Food Growing initiatives to help us develop this Strategy.

The key objectives of the Food Growing Strategy are:

- To provide a central resource for community growing information
- To raise awareness around community growing in the Scottish Borders
- To show you how to get growing: where, how and who can help you/your community
- To help you get your community growing project off the ground
- To help identify potential allotment sites and growing spaces

In preparing the original iteration of this Strategy we consulted with members of the public and with community groups. Survey responses identified a need for support to individuals and communities interested in food growing, broadly falling into three themes:



Wilton Lodge Park Walled Garden ©Lisa Brydon

<b>Getting started: how do I get growing?</b>	Support for getting started - Skills and Advice; training, confidence and resources to get started...
<b>Where can I grow?</b>	Help to find space – existing sites and new growing spaces and getting the right permissions in place...
<b>Where can I get support for my growing/project/growing activities?</b>	How to resource your project: Funding, networking and skills sharing...

In the following sections the Strategy sets out the context of Community Growing in the Scottish Borders, addressing these three questions, drawing together resources and information from across the Region to help you get started.



Wilton Lodge Park Walled Garden ©Lisa Brydon

## Volunteer experiences of community growing at Wilton Lodge Park

*"K has spent over a year and a half volunteering at the walled garden. He had never considered gardening before and was quite apprehensive... and was totally surprised at how enjoyable it was. He remarked on how it was like a 'family' and everyone 'looked out' for each other, he was amazed at how sociable it felt.*

*He has learned a lot about gardening over the year and even passed on tips and ideas to others such as companion planting, planting chives round the pear trees to help keep the aphids away. He also liked the fact that the gardening was all organic and learning how to make our own liquid fertiliser with comfrey and nettles.*

*One of the huge benefits of the experience is having company and being with other volunteers; it's something to look forward to and a routine to help get him out. This has contributed to increased self-confidence and he has been able to obtain a SQA Volunteering Skills Award. This, along with all the other skills gained and confidence on a personal level has helped with his illness and contributed to his general wellbeing and feeling part of a community project. Due to his new found confidence he now volunteers on another project, talking to the public and looking after an exhibition. This is a huge step, and his time spent in the garden has contributed to his much improved mental health."*

## CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES

# SCOTTISH BORDERS FOOD GROWING STRATEGY

## 3. COMMUNITY GROWING

Supported by digital activity, develop a network of community growers and volunteers, with activities including events

### 3.1. Allotments

Allotments are plots of land made available for non-commercial gardening and food growing, leased by an individual or community group for that sole purpose. The standard sized according to most current legislation is 250m<sup>2</sup> for a full plot or 125m<sup>2</sup> for a half plot. As well as those managed by Scottish Borders Council, there are others leased and managed by Allotment Associations, or run privately by 3rd party groups. See the [map](#) for locations in your area. If you are interested in leasing an allotment, you can apply online for a Council site [here](#). If you are on the waiting list, there are other growing opportunities that you might want to consider in the meantime – such as local community gardens, garden shares schemes, or adopting a bed in your local public park!



Lee Brae Allotments



Mossilee Allotments

*Scottish Borders Council manages 94 allotment plots at various sites in Peebles, Innerleithen and Hawick.*

*There are also privately run allotments sites across the region, in towns such as Peebles, Galashiels, Eyemouth, Tweedbank, Hawick, Kelso, Selkirk, and Traquair.*

## 3.2 Orchards

Orchards are areas where there are a minimum of 5 fruit trees. Greener Melrose have established a community orchard at Drygrange Community Woodland and plans are afoot for Kelso Community Orchard. According to a recent inventory there is a rich legacy of orchard sites within the Scottish Borders. Jedburgh was once famous for its orchards and the 'Jethart Pear' - Queen of Scots House in Jedburgh still has remnants of the original infamous orchard where Lord Darnley was allegedly found upon his death.



Apples © Abundant Borders

## 3.3 Community gardening and food growing in public spaces

Community growing is about growing food within a shared space, where communities can come together and share the workload, learn, connect, and grow in a way that works for them. There are lots of different kinds of community gardens and growing sites, from therapeutic growing projects to community gardens, to 'public' beds that are adopted by community groups for growing plants, flowers, herbs or fruits and vegetables.



Leaf Green Allotments © - Esme Green

## 3.4 Schools

Across the Scottish Borders there are a large number of growing projects within Primary and Secondary schools already happening as an integral part of delivering the Curriculum for Excellence, Outdoor learning, Learning for sustainability and School Improvement Plans. From polytunnels to community gardens, there are opportunities to develop these further and for volunteers to get involved. The Greener Gateway Community Schools Award offers opportunities for schools to gain recognition for the development and progression for food growing projects.

## 3.5 Community Planning Partners

There are opportunities to change the way Community Planning Partners manage their land. Within the NHS, there is scope to develop sites within their estate for community and therapeutic food growing. The Space to Grow Project in Melrose is a great example of what can be achieved, with the therapeutic benefits of gardening and food growing being offered to patients and volunteers alike.

### 3.6 Social enterprise and Business

There are a number of ways that community growing projects can be developed through Social Enterprise and Business. For example, Borders Food Communities has piloted an approach to getting locally grown produce from community gardens to the market place. Community farming can offer opportunities for community growing. Local Businesses such as Jarvis Pickle in Eyemouth have worked in partnership with organisations such as Abundant Borders to develop their own community herb gardens.

There are also opportunities for better connecting local growers and growing groups to communities who may benefit from their produce. Schemes such as Community Fridges, Fareshare, etc help to distribute food to anyone who needs it.

### 3.7 Other ways of growing

There are, of course, other ways of growing your own food – be it on your doorstep, balcony, garden, or even hydroponics. While the Strategy focusses on Community gardening and allotments, we recognise the hugely important role of ‘growing your own’ in all its many forms. If you are simply in need of some guidance and advice, then please check out section 4 and 6 for links to resources and training opportunities.



Leaf Green Allotments - © Esme Green

## Leaf Green Allotment

### Case Study: Lilliesleaf Community Allotment

The Lilliesleaf Community Allotment is situated on Lilliesleaf Green in the centre of the village. The allotment was created in late 2022 to allow villagers and others to grow organic vegetables and fruit. It is open to everyone, and participants of all abilities are encouraged to get involved and have a go. The site includes a raised growing bed that can be accessed by people with limited mobility.

The outdoor beds are tended using a “no-dig” cultivation practice, and the allotment also includes a well-utilised polytunnel. The space is currently maintained by a team of around eight volunteers. Growing activity is supported by rainwater captured from the polytunnel roof. Over three successful growing seasons, the volunteers have gradually extended the cultivated areas and increased the range of vegetables grown.

Volunteers take produce home, and fruit and vegetables are also made available to people in the village in exchange for a donation. The allotment has been well supported by the local community, and donations create a small fund that helps purchase plants and tools for the next growing season.

One of the notable successes has been the allotment’s links with the local primary school. A growing bed has been allocated to the school, and pupils have been actively and enthusiastically involved in growing vegetables and flowers from seed.



## CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES

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## 4. GETTING STARTED: HOW CAN I GET GROWING?

In our original consultation you said you would like support for growing activities. If you or your group are needing help there are lots of organisations that can assist you to get started and develop your skills.

Scottish Borders Council has operated a community volunteering project at Wilton Lodge Park, Hawick since 2010. This provides opportunities for a wide range of volunteers and voluntary groups to access and support for skills development in food growing, under a supervised programme offered by the Council. During the last 16 years, the project has made a huge difference in terms of supporting volunteers with specific needs to get involved in community food growing.

Anyone wishing to consider how to get their project off the ground is welcome to visit the garden at Hawick and meet the Community Greenspace Officer to discuss their project. The Community Greenspace Officer can offer real support to new groups, in terms of 'dos and don'ts' and provide tips and advice in setting up your project. The Community Greenspace Officer and team of volunteers have a wealth of experience about the creation and management of raised beds for people with access issues and we can help ensure that you get the best possible start for your project. Anyone wishing to find out more can contact the Parks and Environment team on [parksandenvironment@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:parksandenvironment@scotborders.gov.uk)

## 4.1 Skills training, workshops and advice

Who Can Help?	Support Available
<b>Assistance with funding</b>	
BAVS <a href="http://www.bavs.org.uk">www.bavs.org.uk</a>	Can advise on local funds to get you started
Borders Community Action <a href="http://www.borderscommunityaction.org.uk">www.borderscommunityaction.org.uk</a>	Can help with funding and finding volunteers for your project
Communities & Partnership Team <a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/community-grants-funding/grant-funding-community-projects">www.scotborders.gov.uk/community-grants-funding/grant-funding-community-projects</a>	Can help with funding community projects
Men's Sheds <a href="http://www.scottishmsa.org.uk/find-a-shed">www.scottishmsa.org.uk/find-a-shed</a>	Can help you explore funding for your project as well as practical help
<b>Support and Training</b>	
Abundant Borders <a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk">www.abundantborders.org.uk</a>	Permaculture – no-dig gardening, skills development, cookery courses
Borders Organic Gardeners <a href="http://www.bordersorganicgardeners.org">www.bordersorganicgardeners.org</a>	Organic gardening skills sharing
Burnfoot Community Futures <a href="http://www.burnfootcf.org">www.burnfootcf.org</a>	Community gardening skills development
Grow Green Scotland <a href="http://www.growgreenscotland.org">www.growgreenscotland.org</a>	Can link projects together that focus on climate change, biodiversity, and health
Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society <a href="http://www.sags.org.uk">www.sags.org.uk</a>	Advice on setting up your allotment group. Links to other Allotment Societies
Scottish Borders Council, Greenspace Team <a href="mailto:communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk">communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk</a>	Advice, guidance and skills sharing
Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber <a href="http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk">www.alliance-scotland.org.uk</a>	Can support with running courses and providing infrastructure for projects at a reduced cost
Sustainable Thinking Scotland CIC <a href="http://www.sustainablethinking.scot">www.sustainablethinking.scot</a>	Offer advice and support on a range of topics including green waste recycling and sustainable practices

Social Farm, and Garden <a href="http://www.farmgarden.org.uk">www.farmgarden.org.uk</a>	Provide support for communities to farm, garden and grow
The Conservation Volunteers <a href="http://www.tcv.org.uk">www.tcv.org.uk</a>	Supporting volunteering and development of social enterprise projects
Trellis Scotland <a href="http://www.trellisscotland.org.uk">www.trellisscotland.org.uk</a>	Skills sharing, help setting up your site

## Volunteer experiences of community growing at Greener Peebles

S started volunteering in the garden to support her mental health and meet new friends. She takes part in all our activities, from digging, planting, harvesting and recently leading skill share sessions, doing crafts with natura materials.

S told us

*"I first came to the Garden about 5 years ago. Over the years I have had mental and physical health problems, and it can be helpful to talk with other volunteers and listen to their stories. It is a way to make new friends. Occasionally I have had to miss going for weeks or even months, but I always feel welcomed back. The social events every few months are very enjoyable with food provided by Food Punks or the Food Foundation both charities which support people with learning and mental health difficulties. I have benefitted from skill shares and have even led some myself. Because it is open 24/7 I am able to take friends and family to visit at any time. It is amazing to watch the toddlers enjoying the garden during the Grow Kids sessions. They explore the Garden with such confidence."*

## Volunteer experience at Lilliesleaf Community Allotment

*The Leaf Green garden has given our family far more than beautiful, homegrown produce—it has become a place of learning, discovery, and connection. For the children, it's a hands-on classroom where they explore the rhythms of nature and the journey of food from soil to plate. They've learned how to plant, water, harvest, and care for the space, developing not only practical skills but a genuine appreciation for where their food comes from.*

*Arthur and Harriett especially adore picking cucumbers, raspberries, and sugar snap peas—most of which are happily eaten straight from the vine. It's been wonderful to watch them form a bond with the garden, gaining a deeper understanding of the natural world and the food network that sustains us.*

*'I love planting it and growing it'* Harriett age 5

## 4.2 Setting up your group

If you are interested in setting up your own growing group, there are several places to go for advice and guidance. Social Farms and Gardens have a comprehensive Community Growing Resources Pack. Other local groups are happy to share their extensive knowledge of getting started.

Who Can Help?	Support Available
Greenspace Team, Scottish Borders Council, <a href="mailto:communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk">communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk</a>	Help with funding, land enquiries and finding your nearest community food growing project.
Borders Community Action <a href="http://www.borderscommunityaction.org.uk">www.borderscommunityaction.org.uk</a>	Setting up your group, becoming constituted or gaining charitable status
Social Farms and Gardens <a href="http://www.farmgarden.org.uk">www.farmgarden.org.uk</a>	Resources for getting started on their website as well as planning advice

## 4.3 Joining a group/getting an allotment

If you would like to find out more about getting involved in growing in your area, there are various groups across the region who would be very happy to hear from you - for a list of growing groups in your area, please see section 5.2. If you are interested in finding out more about allotments in your area, please consult the map [here](#), and read on to find out about groups in your area.



Abundant Borders Team ©Abundant Borders

## CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES SCOTTISH BORDERS FOOD GROWING STRATEGY

# 5. WHERE CAN I GET GROWING?

In our original consultation you said you would like **help finding suitable space for growing** fruit and vegetables, herbs and flowers. If you or your group wants to grow fruit and vegetables there are a variety of ways to get growing or joining in with those who might already be doing this in your area.

The priority for our support will be to match people wanting to grow or to get involved to liaise with those on these sites before creating new growing spaces.

### 5.1 Allotment Sites

The Council is committed to ensuring a sustained supply of allotment sites to meet demand. If you are interested in an allotment please let us know. There are currently public and private allotments sites across the region, and while there are waiting lists in some areas, we are required to ensure that no one waits longer than 5 years. We are also required to support a sufficient supply of land for allotments to ensure demand can be met.

For information on where the allotments in your area are and who to contact please check out [the map](#) online.

If you currently have a Council allotment, and have thoughts or ideas about how the site is managed or could be managed differently, there are opportunities for you to join with fellow ploholders and become a self-managed site. There is a pre-established model of self-management of Council-owned allotments by ploholders who can set up their own individual Allotment Association. The Allotments in Eyemouth, Tweedbank and Galashiels are already managed this way. Through entering into agreement with the Council to take over the running of the allotment site - under a lease – the potential benefits are;

- more autonomy and sense of ownership/stewardship of the allotment site
- accessing grant funding (not otherwise available to local authorities) for development and improvements to the allotment site, receiving advice and guidance from the Council
- more local decision making leading to social cohesion within the allotment community, making for a more enriching experience for all.

The Council can act as facilitator for self-managed allotment sites and their groups of tenants. The Scottish Allotment Garden Society [www.sags.org.uk](http://www.sags.org.uk) can offer advice on setting up as an Allotment Association.

## Case Study: Tweedbank Allotments

Tweedbank Allotment Society was founded in 2012 by a group of enthusiastic local residents who, with the help of Scottish Borders Council worked to identify a site and secure funding. The site at Essenside Drive is former amenity grass adjacent to an informal kickabout area. It is leased from the Council and was opened in 2013. The site is managed and run by a group of volunteer members of the Society and accommodates 20 plots, a communal shed and water butts.



If you are a community group looking to start your own allotment site, please see below for information on finding land and accessing support. Or have you thought about the community growing model?

### Community Growing Map

We have developed a map of all community growing sites across the Scottish Borders. To find out more about sites in your area click [here](#), or if you have any updates you wish to add please get in touch at [neighbourhoodservice@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodservice@scotborders.gov.uk)



## 5.2 Community Gardens and Orchards

There are existing community gardens across the region, such as that in Peebles, Hawick, Innerleithen, Galashiels, Melrose, Eyemouth, and Ayton. As described in part 2 these are about sharing the load, supporting each other and making growing your own more accessible. Community orchards also offer a unique chance to come together. If you are interested in your local Community garden or orchard see the list of contacts below:

Community Growing Project	Description	Contact
<b>Tweeddale</b>		
Greener Peebles Garden Kingsmeadows Road Peebles EH45 9BH	Volunteer sessions (Tuesdays and Fridays from 10.00 -12.00) welcome gardeners of all ages and abilities, from those who would like to share their knowledge, to supporting people who are learning to grow fruit and vegetables. The garden promotes sustainable living, inclusive communities and living a healthy lifestyle.	<a href="http://www.greenerpeebles.org/contact">www.greenerpeebles.org/ contact</a>
St Ronan's Wells Garden St Ronan's Wells Wells Brae, Innerleithen EH44 6RB	St Ronan's Wells community garden. With lots for all abilities to do including a ground level herb bed. Volunteers meet from 11.00 - 3.00 on Thursdays and usually the 2nd Saturday each month. As the garden is at the top of a steep slope transport can usually be arranged	Jan Cameron 07739031868

Community Growing Project	Description	Contact
<b>Tweeddale (cont'd)</b>		
<p>The Edible Garden            St. Ronan's Primary School            St Ronan's Rd            Innerleithen EH44 6PB</p>	<p>The Edible Garden is a community garden behind St Ronan's Primary School in Innerleithen. It is run by volunteers and a steering group. The aim is to inspire, motivate and build confidence in adults and children of all ages to learn how to grow their own food and promote a healthy lifestyle. Volunteer meet on Fridays 11am - 2.00pm.</p> <p>There will be a baby/toddler garden area from 2026.</p>	<p>St. Ronan's Edible Garden.            Shirley Spence            07932436077  <a href="mailto:shirleykspence@gmail.com">shirleykspence@gmail.com</a></p>
<p>The Glebe Project            The Manse            Innerleithen Road            Peebles            EH45 8BD</p>	<p>The Glebe Project is a therapeutic growing initiative designed to be fully accessible to everyone. The garden includes a range of raised beds that support easy access for people with varying mobility needs, including those who use wheelchairs.</p> <p>Volunteer sessions take place on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 2.00pm. People are welcome to come along for a tea or coffee, enjoy a chat, spend time in the garden, or take part in gardening activities.</p>	<p>The Glebe Community Garden.            Shirley Spence            07932436077  <a href="mailto:shirleykspence@gmail.com">shirleykspence@gmail.com</a></p>
<b>Teviot and Liddesdale</b>		
<p>Abundant Borders Hawick            Community Food Garden            Behind Salvation Army Store            High Street            Hawick            TD9 9EE</p>	<p>Abundant Borders support community food gardens across the Scottish Borders. They run training courses and workshops on all aspects of food from sustainable food growing, cooking healthy, affordable meals through to food preservation and avoiding food waste. In Hawick the garden is behind the Salvation Army Community Store on the High Street. Please contact Abundant Borders for times of volunteer sessions.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a></p>
<p>Burnfoot Grows Together            Community Garden            Burnfoot Community Hub            89 Burnfoot Rd            Hawick            TD9 8EJ</p>	<p>The Burnfoot Grows Together project is Burnfoot Community Future's ambitious community growing and eating project. The group has transformed the current outside space at the Burnfoot community hub into a new growing, demonstration and educational area.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.burnfootcf.org">www.burnfootcf.org</a></p>

Community Growing Project	Description	Contact
<b>Teviot and Liddesdale (cont'd)</b>		
Wilton Lodge Community Garden Wilton Lodge Park Hawick TD9 7LG	This Organic community food growing garden is Scottish Borders Council managed, situated within Wilton Lodge Park. It showcases 'no dig' garden techniques, companion planting and has all ability raised beds. Volunteering sessions run Monday – Wednesday. Please contact the Community Greenspace Officer for session times.	<a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks-outdoors/wilton-lodge-park-volunteering">www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks-outdoors/wilton-lodge-park-volunteering</a> <a href="mailto:communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk">communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk</a>
<b>Eildon</b>		
Abundant Borders Lowood Community Garden	The Lowood Community Garden is situated in central Borders, very close to Tweedbank Station. It is the home to the Landrace Seed Saving Project and to the Borders Seed Collective.	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Brighter Selkirk, COPS Projects	Three Orchard projects within Selkirk at various locations. Volunteer days are run throughout the year with pruning and apple pressing. The group focuses on sustainability with both blub and wildflower areas.	<a href="http://www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk/contact-us">www.selkirkcommunitycouncil.co.uk/contact-us</a>
Community Allotments, Orchard & Woodland Drygrange Melrose TD4 6AG	As well as growing food sustainably, the group promotes. They have a hut and polycrub to shelter in should the occasional wintry shower pass over. Monthly volunteer session are held. Please contact the group for more information.	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/AGreenerMelrose">www.facebook.com/AGreenerMelrose</a>
Leaf Green Community Allotment Lilliesleaf	The Lilliesleaf Community Allotment is situated on Lilliesleaf Green in the centre of the village. The allotment was created in late 2022 to allow villagers and others to grow organic vegetables and fruit. We are open to everyone, and we encourage people of all abilities to get involved and have a go.	<a href="mailto:leafgreenlcdl@gmail.com">leafgreenlcdl@gmail.com</a>
Space to Grow Community Garden Huntlyburn Borders General Hospital TD6 9BD	The 'Space to Grow' garden project at Huntlyburn is an innovative concept that allows patients the opportunity to leave the boundaries of the ward to spend time in the natural environment	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/nature4mentalhealth">www.facebook.com/nature4mentalhealth</a>

Community Growing Project	Description	Contact
<b>Eildon (cont'd)</b>		
	<p>and is located only a stone's throw away from Huntlyburn Mental Health unit. The project provides an opportunity to utilize a sustainable resource which impacts positively on mental and physical wellbeing contributing to the patients' recovery and return to independent living by allowing patients to participate in Social Therapeutic Horticulture (STH), be active outdoors and engage / explore / absorb the natural environment.</p>	
<b>Berwickshire</b>		
<p>Abundant Borders Ayton Community Food Garden Summerhill Park, Ayton, Berwickshire</p>	<p>Abundant Borders support community food gardens across the Scottish Borders. They run training courses and workshops on all aspects of food from sustainable food growing, cooking healthy, affordable meals through to food preservation and avoiding food waste. In Ayton the garden is just off The Beanburn. The garden is open to volunteers each day, though volunteers meet on Monday and Thursday afternoons between 1.30-3.30.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a></p>
<p>Abundant Borders Eyemouth Community Food Garden Eyemouth, Berwickshire</p>	<p>Abundant Borders have been growing in Eyemouth since 2017, primarily on an allotment plot. In 2022 they moved onto almost an acre of land which is currently being transformed into a fruit and tree nursery, an orchard and community garden. They have a polycarbonate growing tunnel, raised beds, outdoor cooking facilities and tables and seating areas.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a></p>
<p>Abundant Borders Duns Community Food Garden Todlaw, Duns</p>	<p>The garden is part of the BHA Housing Development at Todlaw (between Knoll Hospital and Pearsons Garden Centre). The garden was further transformed in 2022 with the addition of an outdoor classroom, seating, a mud kitchen and polytunnel. With support from local group, Keeping Duns Blooming Marvellous, they support young people from the High School to get qualifications in horticulture.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a></p>

Community Growing Project	Description	Contact
<b>Berwickshire (cont'd)</b>		
Cockburnspath and Cove Community Garden Cockburnspath Behind the church yard	The community in Cockburnspath successfully completed a community asset transfer, securing a large plot of land on the edge of the village. Part of the site has been allocated for allotments, and the other is the continued development of a community food forest garden on the remaining land.	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/CAASgarden">www.facebook.com/CAASgarden</a>
<b>Cheviot</b>		
Kelso Community Food Garden Rodger Fish Gardens	Abundant Borders, working with Eildon Housing Association, and with ideas and action from Kelso High School have created a community food growing garden in Kelso what was started in 2022. Regular volunteers' session are held weekly. Please contact Abundant Borders for the times of these sessions.	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Kelso Community Food Garden Orchard Park Kelso TD5 7EL	The Orchard Park Garden is on the site of a neglected piece of land which was once, a long time ago, a playpark. The former park has been transformed by the local community into a vibrant food growing garden. Regular volunteers' session are held weekly. Please contact Abundant Borders for the times of these sessions.	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>

## 5.3 Public spaces

Scottish Borders Council has a wealth of over 600 hectares of publicly accessible greenspace that may lend itself to accommodating food growing. From amenity bedding areas to tracts of grass in our towns and villages. 'Guerrilla gardening' is one term used for those engaged in adopting perhaps neglected pockets of ground and turning it over to local food production. 'Incredible edibles' <https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk/> is a network of community food growers who have adopted public spaces in their communities. Or you may see a corner of a park or greenspace near where you live that you simply feel could be turned over to food growing for the community. There may be scope within this network for sites to be informally 'adopted' by community growers on an agreed basis.

The Community Empowerment Act asks all local authorities to identify land for food growing where demand exists. Scottish Borders Council recognise this green network as a tremendous opportunity, and in order to ensure that land for food growing is identified collaboratively with communities, and is in the right location to meet local demands, we welcome enquiries for any sites within your area.

As a community or individual, if you wish to enquire about availability of land in your area, contact us at Scottish Borders Council Parks and Environment service – via email at [parks&environment@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:parks&environment@scotborders.gov.uk) or telephone 01835 824000 and ask to speak to someone about community food growing. We can then explore the opportunities with individuals or groups to better understand their needs and consider the suitability of any spaces the Council may manage/maintain, for food growing. Should officers feel that a suitable opportunity could be realised through the 'adoption' of land within the Council's ownership, the proposal would be subject to a council report and permissions/consultations with other services. Where the Council does not believe that it has an appropriate site capable of meeting the local food growing needs, then it may consider what alternatives it can offer, including sites in settlements that may not be local to the individual or group.

Scottish Borders Council is monitoring demand and supply of Allotment sites, using the tools set out in the legislation such as demand thresholds and Annual Allotment Reports. Where necessary, the Council may consider the acquisition of appropriate land to meet the needs of the area, taking into account reasonable distance and travel times.

The Council will always wish to work in partnership to respond to enquiries about access to land for food growing.

Where Council land is not an option then you or your group may have other ideas for places where you would like to grow, and you may wish to consider leasing land from landowners or be interested in community growing as part of new development. We don't intend to be too prescriptive, but we are happy to discuss any local ideas you may have. Section 5.7 of the strategy sets out the permissions required for you and your group to begin using a space for growing.

Across communities there are also areas of amenity greenspace owned by our other Community Planning Partners (NHS Borders, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Police Scotland, and Scottish Enterprise). Community groups can apply for these sites to be transferred to Community ownership (for more information please see [www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/asset-transfer](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/asset-transfer) as community growing sites.

## 5.4 Schools

A number of schools within the Scottish Borders have an active gardening area which focuses on growing fruit and vegetables. This can enhance the outcomes and experience delivered within Curriculum for Excellence. There can be links made to all the curriculum areas.

[Learning for Sustainability advice and guidance | Resources | Education Scotland](#)

Initiatives within schools are very happy to hear from those wishing to get involved in food growing and will welcome some support – many hands make light work, particularly through the summer break. If you are interested in finding out more about what's going on in your local school(s) then please get in touch.

## 5.5 Garden share

Schemes such as 'Lend and Tend', where a garden owner shares their garden with individuals or groups of growers, can be a great way to get growing. Schemes like this are already happening in Hawick and Peebles.

## 5.6 Making space for growing

Where council land isn't an option, you or your group may have other ideas for places where you would like to grow, and you may wish to consider leasing land from farmers or be interested in community growing as part of new development. Partners such as Eildon Housing Association are developing opportunities for food growing within their network. We don't intend to be too prescriptive, but we are happy to discuss any local ideas you may have. This section of the strategy sets out the permissions required for you and your group to begin using a space for growing.



Community food garden ©Abundant Borders

## Case Study: Jedburgh Grammar Campus

During lockdown, our 3-18 school worked with Generations Working Together to recruit older people from the community to work with our young people in the school garden. Over the last 4 years, we have built up the gardening space and our volunteer team (we have had 8 volunteers to date) and we meet once a week to work with primary age children to teach them gardening skills and chicken wrangling. Some of our volunteers come through social prescribing.

All our volunteers have some gardening experience, but their most important attribute is that they love working with the children. The children are so excited about coming to the garden and seeing the volunteers. They pick fruit and vegetables, dig, weed, sow seeds, prick out and pot on. They also do craft activities, and they love to look for eggs. Produce is shared with the children to take home or given to Home Economics for cookery lessons. Surplus plants are shared with the children and the community.

We have also facilitated an enterprise project with a class. We have had a visit from Education Scotland and 2 visits from academics in Australia who are interested in how the project works. We have worked with P2, P4 and P5 pupils so far. The children enjoy being outside and chat about gardening that they do at home. One boy used the skills he had gained in school to be responsible for the plants at home. The children also take part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch and the P7 class made birdboxes to increase biodiversity in the garden.

Casual conversations in the garden work towards improving the pupil communication skills. Children enjoy being outside the classroom and doing physical and practical jobs with a purpose, where they can see their skills developing, improving self-confidence and self-esteem. The volunteers have developed their own bonds with each other and the children, and this helps to combat anxiety and loneliness in some. It gives them a purpose.

We garden organically and record wildlife in the garden for our Eco Club Sightings Board. We discuss how gardeners can look after wildlife and increase biodiversity with the children as we garden. Our S2 classes use the garden when learning about sampling using quadrats and pitfall traps and this year we had many violet beetles, whilst the mint plant attracted dozens of butterflies. We have mammal traps, a wildlife camera and a moth trap to enable us to monitor wildlife in the garden. We encourage composting and



## Case Study: Burnfoot Community Futures

Burnfoot Hub Community Garden was created by Burnfoot Community Futures in 2018 with funding from Climate Challenge Fund. This enabled the area around Burnfoot Community Hub to be landscaped and developed into a Community Food Growing area.

The project aimed to address climate change by reducing food waste going to landfill, encouraging community food growing and supporting the community to make lower carbon food choices. This process generated a new community garden with growing areas, polycrub and space for learning and family activities. When project funding ended in 2020, we continued the work in the community garden enhancing the growing and volunteering opportunities.

Due to the scale and diversity of our Garden we utilise various growing methods which helps in the variety and quantity of produce we grow. Our fully accessible growing beds, polycrub, hanging baskets and re-purposed tyres enable us to grow produce year-round. Companion planting is used to ensure plants are productive and healthy and successional planting prolongs our growing season. To help protect our garden we use organic gardening methods creating a healthy and sustainable garden. Our freshly grown produce is shared with our community through our Foodshare Project.



Local volunteers help us to maintain and care for our Community Garden, giving many hours of their time to sustain this project. We also host seasonal events encouraging community members to come along and try growing, showing them how they can grow food in their own gardens at home. Working with local schools also helps younger people to learn about the food cycle from seed to plate. Cooking workshops are held regularly to enable people to participate in this cycle, enabling them to cook with, and get the best out of the food we grow locally.

Our garden is a place where our community and our volunteers flourish. Their confidence in gardening has grown and they have a sense of pride watching plants thrive under their care.



## Case Study: Greener Peebles

Greener Peebles run a thriving community garden, with 2 weekly volunteer sessions and activities on food growing, horticulture, biodiversity, and skill sharing. Our sessions are open to all ages and abilities, we work with a wide range of local organisations, welcoming groups to visit and take part in our activities. Our garden features a variety of food growing spaces, including herb garden, polycarbonate tunnel, fruit trees, and plots for lease.

We have a yurt with a wood-burner stove which supports us to run our sessions all year round.

For more information, please contact [info@greenerpeebles.org](mailto:info@greenerpeebles.org) or visit Greener Peebles website or Facebook page.



Space to Grow, Melrose©Jan Moffat

## 5.7 What about planning?

Early discussions with landowners and the Planning department about any community growing project is advised – they will explain what consents you may need and what information they need from you to help you get your project moving forward. If you are looking to enclose an allotment site, you may need to submit a planning application seeking consent to do this. You may also need planning permission for new structures, like sheds, and possibly raised planting beds. We would prefer that this be done for the site as a whole as part of the Allotment Management Group's initial planning application, rather than being done on an individual basis each time a plot holder wishes to put up a tool shed, which will also enable a consistent approach to buildings and structures. If there are any designations on the land that might be impacted by your allotment site, the Council will advise you about what you can and can't do. Designations to look out for include:

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Landscape Areas, Special Areas for Conservation, Wildlife Sites and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Conservation Areas and Areas of Townscape Value
- Designed Landscapes and Historic Gardens

Designations can be seen on the relevant proposals map of the Scottish Borders Local Development Plan [here](#).

### **Planning consent is likely to be required for:**

- Any works within a Conservation Area
- Structures on site, including:
  - Outbuildings and sheds on each individual plot;
  - Communal buildings;
  - Fencing; and
  - Parking facilities

To begin growing you will need to liaise with the landowner or developer. It's worth noting that new development will now be assessed against policy EP17 (see below) which seeks to safeguard food growing sites wherever possible and integrate community food growing needs into new development.

Planning Officers are finalising a new policy EP17 entitled 'Food Growing & Community Growing Spaces' within the proposed new Local Development Plan. In essence the policy confirms the requirement for the safeguarding and enhancement of any existing food growing area and lays down criteria tests for considering proposals for new or extended food growing areas which meet community needs.

Scottish Borders Council has details of land in its ownership. If the site belongs to the Council, there is a process you need to follow to agree how you intend to use the growing space. Scottish Borders Council Property and Estates team will be involved in agreeing lease arrangements for Council-owned land.

### **Contamination**

When you have found your potential food growing site you should liaise with the contaminated land specialists within Scottish Borders Council's Environmental Health department to establish if land contamination presents a potential constraint which requires further consideration.

How potential land contamination is considered will depend upon the requirement for planning consent for the land's new use. In the first instance a request may be made to Scottish Borders Council for any relevant environmental information held about the proposed site (an Environmental Information Request). Please note that there may be a charge for this. The information provided may assist in understanding the history of the site, its former uses/ operations, neighbouring uses, if previous ground investigations have been undertaken and their findings, and if land contamination is a potential constraint likely to require further assessment.

If land contamination is identified as a potential constraint an appropriate phased risk assessment will also be required, where planning consent is necessary.

Where planning consent is not required the creation of a food growing site may still result in liabilities under Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. In considering such liabilities investigations can be undertaken on a voluntary or due diligence basis. SBCs Contaminated Land specialist can be consulted in regard to such investigations to ensure the site is demonstrated to be suitable for its proposed use, and to ensure future regulatory intervention is not necessary.

It is recommended that you liaise with the contaminated land team at an early stage, and throughout the process as necessary - we would be very happy to hear from you!

An overview flow chart of the land contamination evaluation process is presented in Appendix 1.

**We will help by:**

- Safeguarding Allotments and food growing sites in the Local Development Plan
- Support community growing within council land where possible
- Planning for future allotment sites in new developments and securing land for growing to meet demand
- Identifying potential community growing sites
- Sharing information on what's happening in your area.



Beds ©Abundant Borders

Who else can help	Support available
Community Land Advisory Service	Help finding land and agreeing lease arrangements with the landowner. <a href="http://www.farmgarden.org.uk/projects/clas-scotland">www.farmgarden.org.uk/projects/clas-scotland</a>
Community Planning Partners	If you are interested in taking on a community asset such as greenspace around a local community facility, you can apply for a Community Asset Transfer;  <a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/asset-transfer">www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/asset-transfer</a>
Land Register of Scotland	Information about who owns land in Scotland. Please note, there is a charge for obtaining land ownership information. <a href="http://www.ros.gov.uk/our-registers/land-register-of-scotland">www.ros.gov.uk/our-registers/land-register-of-scotland</a>
Private Landowners	May provide space for your growing and/or allotment project
Registered Social Landlords	Eildon Housing Association Berwickshire Housing Association Scottish Borders Housing Association Waverley Housing Association Hanover Housing Association
Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society (SAGS)	Maintenance of online resources and database of growing sites <a href="http://www.sags.org.uk">www.sags.org.uk</a>

## CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES SCOTTISH BORDERS FOOD GROWING STRATEGY

# 6. WHERE CAN I GET SUPPORT FOR MY GROWING PROJECT/ GROWING ACTIVITIES?

In our original consultation you said you needed advice about funding your growing project or activities. As well as highlighting some key funding sources, we can help by facilitating sharing of resources and of skills, so that food growing is affordable and accessible to all who want to get involved. In the Borders there are various different models of community growing, from grant-funded to self-sustaining, and it depends on the individual needs and vision of your project which model may be best. There are many ways of achieving your goal of getting involved in growing, so don't feel overwhelmed or alone – please get in touch.

### 6.1 Resourcing your project

Resources – funding, materials, skills, volunteers – are vital to sustaining community growing in its many different forms. During the consultation various specific issues came up as well as funding such as linking up with volunteers, sourcing materials (e.g. timber for raised beds, seeds); lack of tools; a need for training/skills sharing.

We offer support through:

- The Grow Borders Network (<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks-outdoors/community-food-growing/2>) – a networking forum for local community food growers across the region, supporting the sharing of knowledge and resources.
- Monthly newsletters sharing and promoting local information on events, projects, funding etc.
- Advising groups in submitting grant applications for their community growing project(s).
- Providing information on organisations and businesses that can help community projects as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility commitments
- Engagement with the Council's Unpaid Work Team who may be able to provide help with clearing your plot, preparing the ground for planting, path works etc
- Share information about potential funding sources and work together to maximise opportunities for all community growing groups in the Scottish Borders.



Space to Grow - Jan Moffat ©Space to Grow

Who else can help	Support available
<p>Business sponsorship and Corporate Social Responsibility volunteer days</p>	<p>Seek opportunities for groups to use “end of season” stock and donated materials.</p> <p>Many businesses provide Corporate Social Responsibility volunteering opportunities for their staff. Business volunteers could help you create and plant your growing space.</p> <p>Assistance may be available in developing your groups Risk Register through the Institute of Internal Audits UK – Risk Auditors.</p> <p>Corporate Social Responsibility volunteering commitments</p> <p>Funding sources and assistance with funding bids.</p> <p>Capacity building for local groups and organisations</p>
<p>Communities &amp; Partnership Team</p>	<p>Community funding applications; advice on local funds available; Community Planning Partners liaison</p>
<p>Community Food Social Enterprise Network (SEN)</p>	<p>Support for any community food organisation that is aspiring to be a social enterprise.</p> <p><a href="http://www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk">www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk</a></p>
<p>Social Farms and Gardens</p>	<p>Free enquiry service to talk through any aspect of your project, available to everyone</p> <p>Resource Pack” for projects based in Scotland.</p> <p>Regional Training and Networking Events</p> <p><a href="http://www.farmgarden.org.uk">www.farmgarden.org.uk</a></p>
<p>The Conservation Volunteers</p>	<p>Linking up Corporate volunteering to projects</p>
<p>Unpaid Work Team</p>	<p>Unpaid workers are those who are required to undertake community payback work as part of a sentence. They may be able to help get your project started by helping with preparing your site (clearing the ground, preparing paths, etc).</p> <p>To find out more get in touch with the Unpaid Work Coordinator via</p> <p><a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/criminal-justice/community-based-services">www.scotborders.gov.uk/criminal-justice/community-based-services</a></p>

## 6.2 Other Resources

Community food growing has a role to play in carbon reduction, improving health and wellbeing, tackling poverty and enhancing biodiversity. There are a wealth of resources to help you develop your growing group in any one of these aspects.

### The Joint Health Improvement Team

The Joint Health Improvement Team (JHIT) aims to work in partnership to reduce health inequalities and build community capacity for health improvement. There are six public health priorities for Scotland, Community Growing makes a contribution to many of these and in particular Public Health Priority 6: A Scotland where we eat well, have a healthy weight and are physically active. The Joint Health Improvement Team leads and co-ordinates a range of projects with communities and vulnerable groups, helping to initiate and develop community led activity. Projects include community cooking classes, good food partnerships and summer holiday programmes for children and families.

The Joint Health Improvement Team uses a model of wellbeing called 'Six Ways to be Well' that fits well with the community growing approach. It encourages people to nurture themselves by eating well, being active, belonging to inclusive communities, enjoying and learning new things, building kind supportive networks and being mindful. Being outside and noticing nature is a good way of being mindful. The Joint Health Improvement Team also provides a range of training opportunities that support the development of community food work. For more information about the Joint Health Improvement Team please e-mail us: [Health.Improvement@borders.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Health.Improvement@borders.scot.nhs.uk).

You can find out more about the Six Ways to Be Well here:

[www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint](http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint)

Find out more about Scotland's Public Health Priorities here:

[www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-public-health-priorities/](http://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-public-health-priorities/)

The Cyrenians operate the Fareshare network across the region, linking up people to produce. They are also interested in the link between food growing and production and healthy food for all.

[www.cyrenians.scot](http://www.cyrenians.scot)

### Volunteer experiences of community growing at Wilton Lodge Park

*"I spent years in a very stressful job, needed to get out amongst people once I retired. I didn't want to be inside so decided to go to the community garden. I love the camaraderie, discussions, laughs and that we work as a group, discuss everything and decide what we want to grow and produce."*



Abundant Borders Team ©Abundant Borders

## Case Study: A Greener Melrose - Drygrange Community Orchard and Allotments

The Drygrange Community Orchard and Allotments, located in the Scottish Borders, is a collaborative space where locals come together to grow fruit, vegetables, and wildflowers. This community-run initiative offers over 17 individual allotment plots alongside a communal orchard filled with a variety of fruit trees and bushes. The space encourages sustainable food production, biodiversity, and active community involvement.

Throughout the year, volunteers maintain the orchard with seasonal pruning and meadow care, while plot holders cultivate their own produce. The site also includes a polycrub for extended growing seasons and a wildflower meadow, enhancing both productivity and ecological diversity. Regular “Help Out” days and social events foster a strong sense of community, allowing residents to work together and share knowledge, tools, and harvests.

The Drygrange Orchard and Allotments not only provide a space for sustainable local food production but also serve as a hub for community connection, environmental stewardship, and learning. Whether you’re a seasoned gardener or just starting out, it’s a welcoming place to grow, learn, and contribute.

It’s also a place in which to just be; a restorative place where you can recharge, relax and recuperate, doing nothing more than simply enjoying being there.

The What3words address is [///propose.defers.acrobatic](https://www.what3words.com/?w3w=///propose.defers.acrobatic)



Greener Melrose © - Colin Burn-Murdoch

# CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES

## SCOTTISH BORDERS FOOD GROWING STRATEGY

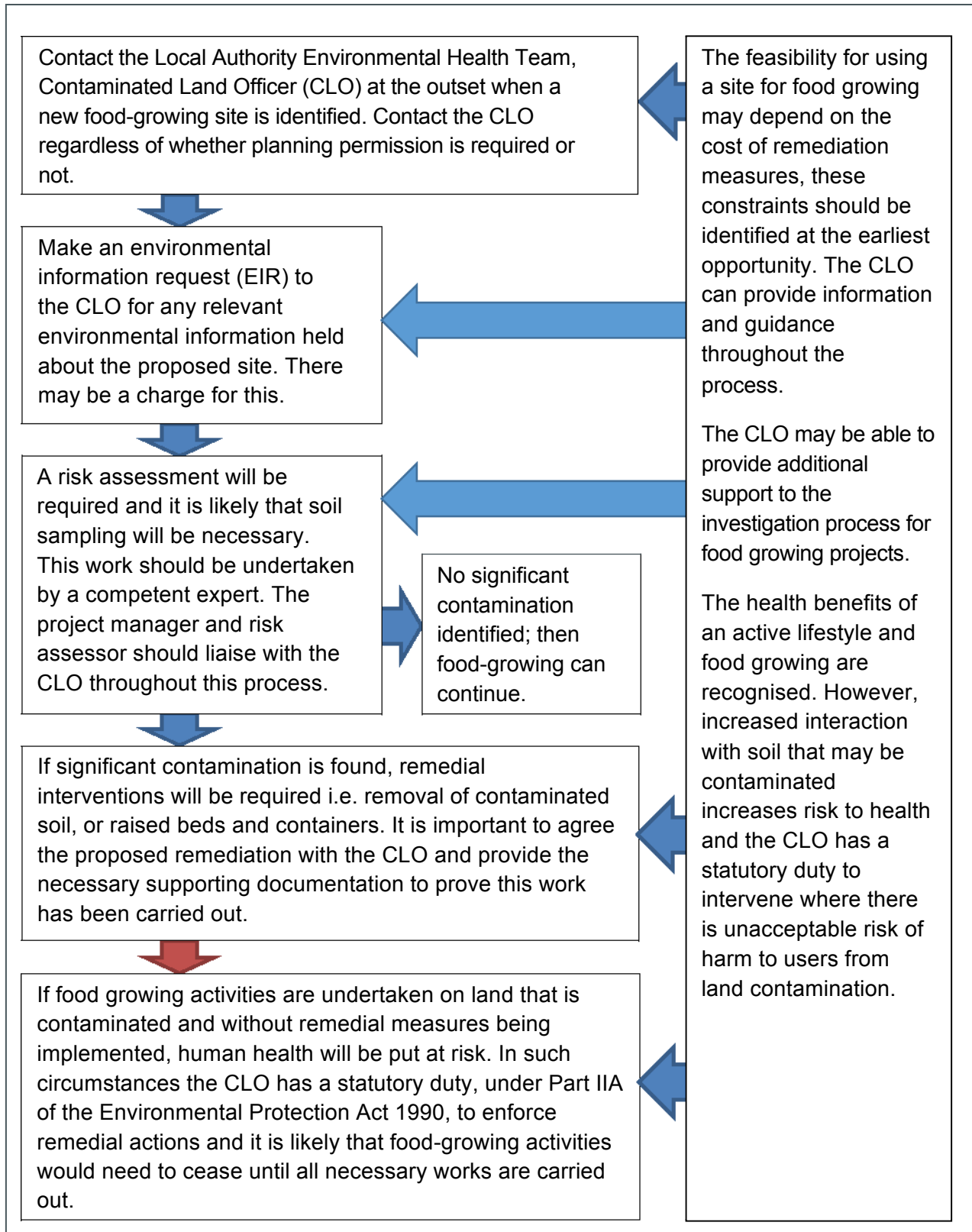
### 7. ACTION PLAN

This Food Growing Strategy covers a five year period from 2026-2031. As well as the activities listed above, Scottish Borders Council will undertake to deliver against the legislative requirements via the Action Plan:

Action	
<b>1. Support the Community Food Growing Network</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Through the Grow Borders Network run by Scottish Borders Council, facilitate meetings for community food growing projects to come together and share best practice</li> <li>1.2 Collate newsletters to share events, funding opportunities and community food growing news across the Scottish Borders</li> <li>1.3 Encourage new groups to join the Grow Borders network</li> <li>1.4 Promote the Walled Garden as a centre for excellence in community food growing, demonstrating best practice and supporting up and coming food growing project.</li> <li>1.5 Support land access partnerships</li> </ul>
<b>2. Modernise Scottish Borders Council Allotment allocation process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Review the Allotment management system and opportunities to streamline and enhance the allocation and waiting list management process where possible, through digital transformation</li> <li>2.2 Increased allotment inspections to ensure compliance from tenants and reduce waiting list times</li> <li>2.3 Prepare annual Allotment Report</li> <li>2.4 Encourage and support community led allotment sites</li> </ul>
<b>3. Embed Biodiversity and Sustainability into Community Food Growing Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 Ensure nature-positive growing is included into all SBC guidance</li> <li>3.2 Signpost groups to resource showcasing climate resilience cultivation / promoting low cost climate resilience practices</li> <li>3.3 Support and promote community-led food security initiatives including both growing and food preparation</li> </ul>
<b>4. Develop Policy Framework</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Collaborate with Planning on the development and implementation of the Local Development Plan ensuring Community Food Growing is represented</li> <li>4.1 Support the creation of the Good Food Plan</li> </ul>

# APPENDIX ONE

## CONTAMINATED LAND PROCESS



# REFERENCES

## Contacts at Scottish Borders Council for more information:

All community growing and allotments enquiries – Amy Hillier, Greenspace Programme Officer,  
[communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:communityfoodgrowing@scotborders.gov.uk)

Planning issues – [www.scotborders.gov.uk/planning-applications](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/planning-applications)

Contaminated land - [www.scotborders.gov.uk/business-1/health-safety](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/business-1/health-safety)

Community funding - [www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/communities-partnerships](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/communities-partnerships)

<b>WHO CAN HELP</b>	
Abundant Borders	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk">www.abundantborders.org.uk</a>
BAVS	<a href="http://www.bavs.org.uk">www.bavs.org.uk</a>
Borders Organic Gardeners	<a href="http://www.bordersorganicgardeners.org">www.bordersorganicgardeners.org</a>
Communities & Partnership Team, Scottish Borders Council	<a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/communities-partnerships">www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/communities-partnerships</a>
Burnfoot Community Futures	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/BurnfootCommunityFutures/">www.facebook.com/BurnfootCommunityFutures/</a>
Men's Shed	<a href="http://www.scottishmsa.org.uk/find-a-shed/">www.scottishmsa.org.uk/find-a-shed/</a>
Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society	<a href="http://www.sags.org.uk">www.sags.org.uk</a>
<b>Setting up your group</b>	
Social Farms and Gardens	<a href="http://www.farmgarden.org.uk">www.farmgarden.org.uk</a>
<b>Community Gardens and Orchards</b>	
<b>Tweeddale</b>	
Greener Peebles Community Garden	<a href="http://www.greenerpeebles.org">www.greenerpeebles.org</a>
St Ronans Wells Garden, Innerleithen	Jan Cameron 07739031868
The Edible Garden, Innerleithen	<a href="mailto:shirleykspence@gmail.com">shirleykspence@gmail.com</a>
The Glebe Project, Peebles	<a href="mailto:shirleykspence@gmail.com">shirleykspence@gmail.com</a>
<b>Teviot and Liddesdale</b>	
Abundant Borders Hawick	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Burnfoot Grows Together, Hawick	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/657099337996052/">www.facebook.com/groups/657099337996052/.</a>
Wilton Lodge Community Garden, Hawick	<a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks-outdoors/wilton-lodge-park-volunteering">www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks-outdoors/wilton-lodge-park-volunteering</a>

<b>Eildon</b>	
Abundant Borders Lowood Community Garden, Tweedbank	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Community Allotments, Orchard & Woodland, Drygrange	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/AGreenerMelrose/">www.facebook.com/AGreenerMelrose/</a>
Leaf Green Community Allotment, Lilliesleaf	<a href="mailto:leafgreenlcdl@gmail.com">leafgreenlcdl@gmail.com</a>
Selkirk Community Shed, Selkirk	<a href="mailto:selkirkcommunityshed@gmail.com">selkirkcommunityshed@gmail.com</a>
Space to Grow Community Garden, BGH	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/nature4mentalhealth/">www.facebook.com/nature4mentalhealth/</a>
<b>Berwickshire</b>	
Abundant Borders, Ayton	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Abundant Borders, Coldingham	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Abundant Borders, Duns	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Abundant Borders, Eyemouth	<a href="http://www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact">www.abundantborders.org.uk/contact</a>
Cockburnspath and Cove Community Garden, Cockburnspath	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/CAASgarden">www.facebook.com/CAASgarden</a>
<b>Planning</b>	
Community Land Advisory Service	<a href="http://www.communitylandscotland.org.uk">www.communitylandscotland.org.uk</a>
Community Planning Partners	<a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/asset-transfer">www.scotborders.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/asset-transfer</a>
Land Register of Scotland	<a href="http://www.ros.gov.uk/our-registers/land-register-of-scotland">www.ros.gov.uk/our-registers/land-register-of-scotland</a>
Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society (SAGS)	<a href="http://www.sags.org.uk">www.sags.org.uk</a>
<b>Support</b>	
Community Food Social Enterprise Network (SEN)	<a href="http://www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk">www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk</a>
Social Farms and Gardens	<a href="http://www.farmgarden.org.uk">www.farmgarden.org.uk</a>
Unpaid Work Team	<a href="http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/criminal-justice/community-based-services">www.scotborders.gov.uk/criminal-justice/community-based-services</a>
<b>Other Resources</b>	
The Cyrenians, Fairshare network	<a href="http://www.faireshare.org.uk">www.faireshare.org.uk</a>
The Borders Healthy Living Network (HLN)	<a href="mailto:Health.improvement@borders.scot.nhs.uk">Health.improvement@borders.scot.nhs.uk</a>



You can get this document on audio CD, in large print, and various other formats by contacting us at the address below. In addition, contact the address below for information on language translations, additional copies, or to arrange for an officer to meet with you to explain any areas of the publication that you would like clarified.

#### CULTIVATING COMMUNITIES

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