

## 7. COMMUNITY GARDENS - DRAFT POLICY REPORT

<b>Officer responsible</b> Sustainable Christchurch Team Leader	<b>Author</b> Wendy Kilgariff - Community Gardens Advocate, DDI 941-8037
--	---

The purpose of this report is to present to the Board the attached draft policy document outlining some strategies to increase capacity and foster strengthened communication between existing/developing community gardens, the Christchurch Community Gardens Association and Christchurch City Council. The draft policy is to be considered by the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee.

In response to the success of community gardens in Christchurch, the attached document introduces some policy recommendations. Determining support and strengthening relationships that will assure ongoing assistance for the community gardens is the aim of the draft policy document.

Community gardens have been established since 1995/96 and are maintained by core groups of local residents. Input from the local community groups has been the basis for the development of this document.

The need to develop policy for both establishment and ongoing management of community gardens is evident. Costs relating to the establishment and management of community gardens are low.

Defining the level of assistance that individual community boards/Christchurch City Council proposes, will greatly assist both community groups embarking on developing a community garden and the groups already in existence with information regarding ongoing support and key relationships.

### **Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the Board consider and provide feedback on the draft Community Gardens Policy document, enabling the Community Gardens Advocate to present the draft policy to the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee taking into account any feedback.

### **Chairperson's**

**Recommendation:** That the abovementioned recommendation be adopted.