

3. COMMUNITY GARDENS - DRAFT POLICY REPORT

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The purpose of this report is to present to individual Community Boards 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 the Council.

INTRODUCTION

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 1995/1996 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 is low.

Defining the level of assistance that individual Community Boards/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 considers and amends as it thinks fit the draft community gardens policy document enabling the Community Gardens Advocate to present the draft policy to the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee with the suggestions from the Board.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the report be referred to the Community, Policy and Finance Committee with Power to Act on making amendments to the draft community gardens policy document.