


4. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

4.3 Community Garden Association



Kate Waghorn and Malcom McMillan from the Community Garden Association addressed the Board and provided information about the association and the three community gardens in the Board's area: Smith Street, Surrey Street and the Linwood Resource Centre. Currently seven community groups are involved at the Smith Street Garden. The philosophy behind the Christchurch Community Gardens Association is to promote self-sufficiency, produce food, teach and skills of growing vegetables. Key problems include land tenure and the importance of continuity of a permanent position. Guaranteed supply for the restaurant trade currently inhibits the ability to generate a lot of income from this source but the association is working on improving this.

Task Force Green does not provide sufficient continuity. A worker could be trained for a year and then leave, taking with them expertise and the training imparted. A new person would have to be trained the following year. The funding and support from the Board and the Council meant the association is able to employ a full time field worker.

Plans for the future include increasing the number of community groups involved. The association would also like organic certification to enable them to sell organic produce to restaurants. They will also be involved in the second part of a waste minimisation trial.

The association sought the Board's continued support in the area.