

Policy

Community gardens

Reference Number:	SG56
Type:	Strategic
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i> <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i>
Procedure:	To be developed
Delegation:	CEO
Other related document:	Recreation policy SG48

Objective

The City of Fremantle's is dedicated to becoming a 'One Planet' council and recognises community gardening as a sustainable living practice and a valuable recreational activity that builds strong community relationships and provides a wide range of benefits.

The community gardens policy establishes the City's commitment to the development of community gardens in appropriate locations within the City's boundaries. Sites approved for community gardens are pre-determined by City Staff.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy;

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

Community garden groups are incorporated associations or entities who have applied for a licence to develop appropriate land into community gardens.

A **licence** permits a community garden group to occupy appropriate land (or part thereof) on particular conditions. A licence does not permit exclusive occupancy of the land.

Appropriate land is space that has been specifically selected by the City of Fremantle for its suitability of a community garden.

Policy

1. A community garden group must be an incorporated association or entity to apply for a license to develop appropriate land into a community garden. A licence does not allow exclusive rights to the land nor grant approval for the installation of permanent or semi-permanent buildings or structures.
2. All applications will be assessed internally by the City of Fremantle with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) having delegated authority for approval.
3. Community gardens are to be planned with the goal of becoming financially independent.
4. Each garden committee has a duty of care to the community who utilise the garden areas. A minimum of \$10,000,000 of public liability insurance is required to be taken out.
5. The city may assist community garden groups with the following:
 - Provide advice and ongoing communication with garden committees.
 - Provide advice and contacts relevant to establishing organic waste solutions and alternatives such as worm farming, composting and recycling.
 - Promote community gardens through the City's website, publications and events.
 - Promote external funding opportunities that support the development of community gardens.
 - Approve small (3m x 3m) garden shed structures (by delegate).
 - Approval of fencing as approved by delegate.
6. The City may consider funding the following items (subject to council approval):
 - Urgent repairs to items that pose a significant safety risk on council owned land.
 - Public signage.

Responsible directorate: Technical services
Reviewing officer: Parks Manager
Decision making authority: Council
Policy adopted: 28 May 2014 SGS1405-16
Policy amended: NA.
Next review date: 2018