

2014 Allotment strategy response report

Site where rep came from	Summary of Issue/Concern	Response
Tredworth Fields	Broadly agree with policy. Keen that neglected plots are dealt with quickly	Support noted. No change
	Agree with reduction of water	Support noted, Note changes suggested below with regard water use
	Not sure self management will work	Noted. Strategy still supports self management but only at request of plot holders – no change
Unknown	Figures not correct on page 5	Noted will be updated and made clear only a snap shot
	People should be allowed to take on an extra half plot if they can prove themselves capable	Noted. Change strategy accordingly
	The most equitable way of charging is by Metre square	Noted. This is the proposal in the strategy
	Support for inflation indexed increases in rent, but which index used	Noted this can be clarified In the strategy
	Charging water use by site is unfair – need to encourage rather than restrict	Noted, though sprinklers will be restricted (see below)
	Selling of produce brings potential problems	Not accepted. We will be governed by legislation in this regard.
	Shared management supported though difficult to find people to take in a role. Associations could take over sharing info' supporting new plot holders, principle key holder, plot checking/site management, drawing up additional rules – where appropriate, agreeing what can and cannot be grown.	Noted – proposals are achievable within current document. However, given lack of appetite for total self management tone of document will be changed.
	To be retained by City council – Enforcement, site man plans, site upgrade and security, formal lease billing etc	Noted. See immediately above
	Vacant plots should be dealt with quickly	Currently within strategy – no change
	Strongly agree with reduction in water use	Noted see proposals below for sprinklers
	Not sure if self management will work	Noted tone of document will be changed
Unknown	Proposals appear to be a good way forward	Support noted
	If associations take over will there be an overseeing structure in event of a complaint	If an association took over significant powers then we

		would need to ensure that structures and policies were in place to ensure allotment holders' interests were maintained. This is not explicit in the current text so will be modified to reflect respondents concerns. Change accordingly
	If an association that took over management could no longer function would the city council take back control	City would take back control if association failed – this needs to be made explicit in text to reflect respondents concerns. Change accordingly.
Chris Widden	Figures on page 5 meaningless	Accepted. Make clear only a guide and a snap shot of current situation
	Would like information on waiting lists	This is available – no need to change strategy
	Suggests there should be a condition of entry to waiting list that applicant must agree to disclose information to association	We could not require this – we already ask and to date no one has refused to give info– no change
	Concern at speed of chasing vacant and under used plot	Noted. Though a management issue and has hopefully been addressed
	If tenants of half plot prove themselves then they should be able to graduate on to a whole plot	Accepted. will add a sentence in strategy
	Plots managed by others with the consent of the tenant are increasingly a problem. If association had all the information of tenant holders then it would be easier to police	Noted. Though a management issue and hopefully now addressed.
	Any new site needs adequate parking and facilities	Noted
	To encourage self management Plot holders should be obliged to be a member of association	This could only be achieved through total control by association. As long as City is the legal entity we will not require this
	There must be mechanisms to support associations where there are enforcement issues involved	This will depend on the degree of self management chosen by the association. No change needed.
	There should be a safety net where site management can be returned to City Council	Accepted. This is not explicit in the text. Change accordingly
	Assoc cannot be expected to manage rent collection etc	This will depend on the degree of self management chosen by the association. No change

		needed
	The council should encourage the establishment of associations where non exist	This is already done – though not explicit in the text – amend accordingly
	Need sense of proportion over ‘green issues’ for example bonfires are needed occasionally	There is nothing in the strategy that requires significant behavioural change. Associations can draw up their own guidelines if they wish. No change
	Concerns over recycling green waste at Hempsted Civic Amenity site and household collection	Not really the remit of the allotment strategy. No change
	Considers references to walking and cycling annoying	Many allotment holders do walk and cycle as a benign form of transport it should be encouraged – no change
	Agrees use of sprinklers should be restricted. Would support a fairer charging system but can see problems	Accepted. Support sprinkler restrictions as part of agreement. Change strategy taking out reference to differential charging
	Ameys role should not vary from site to site. Sites should be allocated a certain amount of time from Amey that should be used accordingly	Ameys role will vary from site to site depending on current infrastructure. No change
	Does not see great benefit in education of allotment holders unless done as a pre-requisite for going on the waiting list.	Education prior to allocation would be costly. Certain projects that educate have been seen to bring benefits though accept it is not a panacea for reversing dropout rate. No change
	Appreciates interest shown by the council in allotments, and understands the need to do more with less. Recognises good value of allotments and accepts tenants will pay more if they get a better service. Allotment income needs to be ring fenced	Allotment money is effectively ring fenced for allotments. Comments appreciated. No change
Saintbridge	Good that City Council supportive allotments within city	Comments appreciated
	Sensible to ban sprinklers but water supply is needed. Concerns however, over charging separately for water use	Accepted. Support sprinkler restrictions as part of agreement change strategy taking out reference to differential charging
	Supports change of allotment year to November as sensible way forward	Comments appreciated
	Surprised that there are waiting lists and vacant plots on some sites	There will always be a lag between terminating an agreement and re-letting. Point accepted that it needs to be as

		efficient as possible to make optimum use of plots
	Commends work currently being done by Saintbridge Allotment Gardens Association	Noted
Gloucester Allotment group	Support ban on sprinklers. Believe charging by site would not be viable. Possible levy on sites where water is piped	Accepted. Support sprinkler restrictions as part of agreement change strategy taking out reference to differential charging
	Concerned that if self management allowed then because it relies on volunteers a change in personnel may mean collapse of association. In these circumstances City Council must be prepared to step in	Accepted. Will be made explicit in the text. Change accordingly