

Information/Discussion Paper

Overview & Scrutiny Committee - 26 October 2015

Growing Places - Allotment Strategy 2015

This note contains the information to keep Members informed of matters relating to the work of the Committee, but where no decisions from Members are needed

1. Why has this come to scrutiny?

- 1.1 The Allotment Strategy 2015 is due to go before Cabinet in November 2015. Therefore, it is requested that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider and review the strategy such that feedback and comments can be available for the Cabinet meeting of November 10th 2015.

2. Summary of the Issue

- 2.1 The Allotment Strategy 2015 is an updated allotment strategy, building on the comprehensive document produced in 2005, which explores supply and demand issues for allotments in Cheltenham and proposes actions in key areas of allotments management.
- 2.2 There are proposals to explore the option to use some of the money currently set aside for new allotment provision for allotment site improvements, particularly in relation to site security, health and safety and provision for disabled gardeners.

3. Summary of evidence/information

- 3.1 The strategy looks at supply and demand of allotments in Cheltenham, now and over the last 10 years, and also considers feedback from a customer satisfaction survey carried out in early 2015, to which one third of allotment holders (247 people) responded.
- 3.2 There is an action plan proposing activities in 5 key areas: allotment management, infrastructure, protection and provision, promotion and health and safety.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 Members may want to forward the notes of their discussion on this item or make some specific recommendations to Cabinet. They may also like to review the recommendations from the allotments scrutiny task group that were approved by Cabinet in March 2013 subject to feasibility and resources and identify any areas they would like to follow up in the future.

Background Papers

Report to O&S 3 November 2014

https://democracy.cheltenham.gov.uk/documents/s13821/2014_11_03_OS_8_Allotments_STG_update.pdf

Contact Officer

Fiona Warin, Green Space & Allotment Officer,
01242 774672, Fiona.warin@cheltenham.gov.uk

Accountability

Cabinet Member Clean and Green Environment
Cllr. Chris Coleman