

COMMUNITY GARDENING SCHEME

Delivery of three pocket parks in three areas of town.		
Recommendation:		
1. Committee is recommended to approve officers beginning work on an Awards for All bid for funding for three community gardening schemes intended to deliver pocket parks in three areas of the town.		
	Yes	No
Does the decision involve new expenditure?		No
Is there an existing budget for the proposed expenditure (insert code)	N/A	
What procurement level is required?	N/A	
Are there equalities impacts / an equalities assessment required?		No
Does this require a full council decision? (Reports for full council decision should still be sent to the relevant committee where possible.)	N/A	
Is there a background paper or papers? (provide links below).		No
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community gardening provides an opportunity to develop relationships between generations on specific places within the town that will enable challenging behaviour and social isolation to be addressed. 2. Pocket parks will be targeted at areas of low biodiversity where existing landscape management does not provide for diverse populations of insects and small birds, and where development will provide a more attractive environment. 3. Partners will include landowners, neighbourhood police, Berwick Youth Project and Northumberland County Council. 4. The projected budget for each scheme will be £2500 via Awards for All, £500 via Town Council community grants and £100 via other sources. This will pay for a mix of low plants, perennials, a raised bed growing salad and herb plants and semi mature trees. Each park will be branded as a Town Council Coronation project, and work will be delivered over summer 2023 as a diversionary scheme during summer holidays. 5. Key milestones will be completion of community consultation in April, submission of grant application in May and delivery in July to September 2023. 6. Key outputs will include greater biodiversity, number of young people engaged, number of older people engaged, and the formation and sustainment of three community garden groups and an umbrella group, with representation from all age groups, that will support future community gardening projects. 		
Issues arising from proposal.		
None.		
Rationale for recommendation.		
Not applicable.		