

Creating community growing spaces



CASE STUDY

Shettleston Community Growing Project, Glasgow have received Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) grants to run a resident-led initiative to grow food locally and improve diets, while raising awareness of food miles, food waste, recycling and energy consumption.



What type of project would decrease carbon emissions and help the community?

Developing derelict land into a local community allotment site where the residents could grow and harvest their own food, improving diets and health, while raising awareness of issues around reducing food miles, waste, recycling and energy consumption.

Consultation before applying for a CCF grant:

- Local residents led the project and consulted with the local community at public meetings.
- Fact finding visits to other local projects.
- Partnerships with local organisations including Shettleston Housing Association and Glasgow City Council (GCC) through 'Stalled Spaces' initiative to promote the project and provide land.

What did the CCF Grants fund?

2010-2011, £172,769:

- Transformation of 2071 sq metres of derelict land into 52 individual growing spaces and 7 greenhouses.

- Staff delivering workshops on composting, healthy eating, cookery, recycling and energy efficiency in the home.
- Food miles information pack in partnership with local schools.

2011-2012, £80,440:

- Staff to 'roll out' project to wider Shettleston and East End community.
- Gardening tool re-use scheme.
- Engagement with local organisations and businesses to reduce carbon emissions.

Why have carbon emissions decreased? (*The behaviour changes around food, travel and energy efficiency have saved around 144 tonnes of CO_{2e}*)

- Food grown and consumed locally.
- Community now compost, reducing waste.
- The tool recycling scheme reduced new products purchased
- Car use decreased.

Measuring the reduction in carbon emissions:

- Data gathered throughout the project was converted into carbon emissions through input into the appropriate section of the recommended carbon conversion spreadsheet.

Community benefits:

- Community growing space allowed the community to come together to grow, prepare, cook and consume their own healthy food while experiencing the mental and physical health benefits of gardening.

Sustainable legacy:

- Access to community growing space, community cohesion and better diets
- A further CCF project focussed on community energy efficiency.
- Expanding membership, plus a children's club (Smelly Welly Club) and a dedicated volunteering project (SCGP Green Volunteers).
- A cycle club and tool hire service.
- Held up as a case study inspiring other projects. A double winner in 2013 Evening Times 'Streets Ahead' awards.

Keep Scotland Beautiful is the independent charity which campaigns, acts and educates on a range of local, national and global environmental issues which affect people's quality of life. It is committed to making Scotland clean and green, today and tomorrow.



Keep Scotland Beautiful is a multi-faceted charity operating across the spectrum of environmental issues from littering to climate change. Our initiatives are estimated to reach at least one in five people across Scotland.

We operate in three main areas: sustainable development education, local environmental quality and sustainability and climate change.

We are the leading provider of sustainable development education initiatives in schools, encouraging action and behavioural change by young people which will leave an enduring legacy for Scotland. The Eco-Schools Scotland programme, part of an international initiative coordinated by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), empowers young people of all ages to take action on sustainable development issues. It is an environmental management tool, a learning resource and a recognised award scheme. It is complemented by Young Reporters for the Environment, also coordinated by FEE, which encourages investigative youth journalism into sustainable development issues.

We are Scotland's leading force acting, campaigning and training others to clean

up local environments and to change the behaviour which blights our urban and rural landscape. Clean Up Scotland aims to reduce litter to make Scotland the cleanest country in Europe, and Local Environmental Quality Network aims to achieve similar goals working with local partners; Beautiful Scotland and It's Your Neighbourhood reward success in improving communities; and the Blue Flag and Seaside Awards recognise quality in Scotland's beaches.

We enable action on sustainable development, by helping organisations and communities reduce their carbon emissions and environmental impact so that Scotland plays its part in tackling climate change. The Sustainable Scotland Network, funded by the Scottish Government, supports sustainable development across Scotland's public bodies. The Climate Challenge Fund, also funded by and delivered on behalf of the Scottish Government, provides grant funding to community groups wishing to pursue carbon reduction measures.



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