

Garden for Life: 3 year plan

2016 - 2018



This 3 year plan has been drafted following a workshop at the Garden for Life meeting on 21 July 2015. The Garden for Life mission and core activities have been agreed by forum members.

G4L mission statement:

- To increase enjoyment and understanding of biodiversity
- To support action by gardeners for the benefit of biodiversity
- To promote the benefits of gardening for health and well-being

Core activities:

- Promoting sustainable gardening as a way of increasing people's enjoyment and understanding of biodiversity and our wildlife.
- Encouraging and enabling more people to garden with sustainability and wildlife in mind
- Supporting the environmental and health benefits of people growing their own food
- Encouraging research which can inform and support public policy at all levels, for the benefit of biodiversity and public health in Scotland
- Sharing good practice between the member organisations of Garden for Life, so that we can work together to achieve our aims in the most effective and efficient ways

Background:

The Garden for Life Forum exists as the place for organisations to come together from across Scotland to work together to promote and facilitate wildlife friendly garden techniques across Scotland. Set up in 1997, the Forum is member led and in 2015 has 36 members.

It is chaired by Plantlife Scotland and secretariat support is provided by Keep Scotland Beautiful. Funding is sought every year to enable the forum to deliver specific activities, a key activity being the Living Garden area at Gardening Scotland Show every year, which is built around a show garden and a series of member led workshops.

The Forum promotes its work at Gardening Scotland, through its web pages, due to be re-launched in 2015 with help from Keep Scotland Beautiful and through member promotion at events they attend.

Membership of the Forum is open to all organisations who operate within Scotland and who have an active interest in delivering for wildlife gardening.

For more information see www.gardenforlife.org.uk

Garden for Life 3 year activities plan

Activity	Detail	Lead	Year 1: 2016	Year 2: 2017	Year 3: 2018
Key activities					
Website	Welcome page: who we are & what we do Events calendar & resources section Blog	JC & comms sub group KSB set up; member org content KSB set up; member org	Set up & launch Events calendar & resources section Blog	Add: resources link page Events calendar & resources section Blog	Add: family activities link page Events calendar & resources section Blog
Collaborative events	Members take banners & resources to events	Member orgs (resources held at KSB office in Stirling - leaflets; badges; pop up banner; tie on banner)	Members take banners & resources to events Biodiversity Award with KSB	Event banners & resources Biodiversity Award with KSB Develop G4L text & powerpoint	Event banners & resources Biodiversity Award with KSB G4L talks given by member orgs
Living garden	Show garden; workshops & events at GS	Living Garden sub group	Show garden Workshops Wildlife Gardeners QT Show event - pilot	Show garden Workshops Wildlife Gardeners QT	Show garden Workshops Wildlife Gardeners QT
Policy	Member orgs circulate relevant responses to policy consultations to encourage others to submit responses to key policy consultations	Member orgs	As relevant	As relevant	As relevant
Audience & audience engagement					
Gardeners & wider public	Website	Comms sub group	New content on web pages	New content on web pages	New content on web pages
Community groups	Website	Comms sub group	Events calendar G4L contacts Updated leaflets	Events calendar G4L contacts Updated leaflets Resources links page	Events calendar G4L contacts Updated leaflets Resources links page

Industry	Industry themed seminar. Capacity dependent.	New sub group needed	Need decision on 7 Oct 2015	TBC	TBC
Local authorities	Website Presentations at LBAP meetings	Initially Sue Steele	Sue Steele writing case studies for web page / blog. Sue Steele to present new G4L website at LBAP network event 2015	Invite other LAs to write blog CS	Invite other LAs to write blog CS
Ways of working					
2 Forum meetings a year		JC JC	March October		
Operational sub groups		DL JC JJ CR Lead needed	Living Garden Comms Industry seminar Education	Living Garden Comms Industry seminar Education Pollination?	Living Garden Comms Industry seminar Education