

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Wollongong City Council is committed to supporting the establishment of Community Gardens by community groups on community land. Council's role is as a **landowner/land manager** and has adopted procedures for assessing, and approving where appropriate, the establishment of a community garden by community groups on community land.

Council may also offer support to community gardening groups, subject to availability of resources, including:

- Provision of advice on planning, building and operating community gardens;
- Workshops and training on topics such as composting and worm farming, permaculture, water efficiency etc;
- Promotion of the garden through Council publications and website;
- Information and contact details for community garden networks; and/or
- Information about relevant grants for community gardens.

Eligible Community Garden Groups

Council encourages groups to be self-managed and can provide references to various guidelines and tools available to assist in establishing an appropriate group and garden management system. Any not-for-profit community group is eligible to apply to Council to establish a community garden on community land, providing they have public liability insurance cover of at least \$10,000,000 and can demonstrate an effective group structure and processes for the long-term management of the garden. Council encourages groups to become incorporated associations, under the *Associations Incorporations Act 1984*. An auspice arrangement with an existing incorporated association with the appropriate insurance cover is also a suitable arrangement.

How to Apply to Establish a Community Garden on Community Land

To assess whether community garden projects are suitable to be undertaken on community land, an application process has been adopted and is shown on the next page. This process covers all of the approvals needed to undertake this activity on community land from the relevant divisions of Council. The process is supported by the Environmental Strategy and Planning Division.

The forms to be used to apply to establish a community garden on community land are:

E1: Site Assessment;

E2: Application for In-Principle Approval to Establish a Community Garden; and

E3: Request for Owner Consent and Licence for Community Land (to be issued if In-Principle approval granted).

Disclaimers

This information was believed to be correct at the date of its publication.

This Fact Sheet is for general information purposes only and should not be relied upon for legal advice.

COMMUNITY GARDEN APPLICATION PROCEDURE

