



Stirling Council Land Services

Edible Borders Project

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Background

- Partnership with Going Carbon Neutral Stirling (GCNS) / Low Carbon Stirling
- Four key themes over two years; Waste, Energy, Transport & Food
- Provides positive outcomes in both local and national strategic aims (Stirling Council and Scottish Government)





Aims

- To promote, encourage, support and enable everyone to take positive steps towards a low carbon lifestyle
- To demonstrate what can be achieved in relatively small areas of ground whilst still being attractive
- To raise awareness of the benefits of healthy eating
- To change a way of life by improvement in diet and increased physical exercise / activity
- To provide an enhanced training opportunity for Land Services Modern Apprentices / operatives

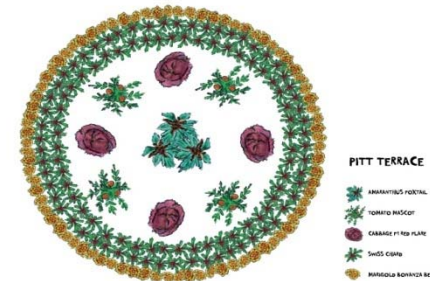
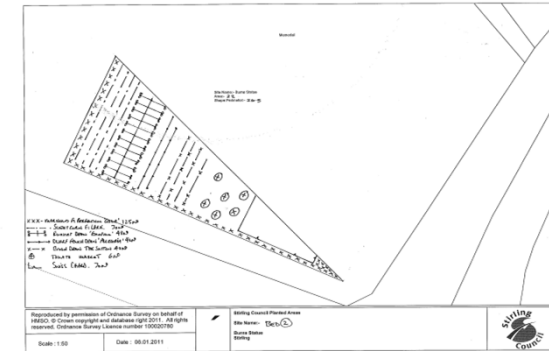
Objectives

- To encourage local communities / citizens to participate in Low Carbon Stirling
- To inspire local residents to grow their own fruit and vegetables
- To provide a bedding display of plant material that is both colourful, attractive and edible
- To provide our Modern Apprentices with opportunities to increase their plant knowledge and skills



Method

- Identify site locations for Edible Borders
- Collate a plant list; annual bedding, vegetables and herbs
- Prepare planting plans
- Source locally grown plant material
- Design and install interpretation signage



EDIBLE BORDERS

This growing season join us in a unique project to create Edible Borders. Whether you have a window ledge or garden why not replace traditional bedding plants with vegetables and herbs and you could create beautiful spaces which also provide healthy, locally grown and seasonal produce for you to enjoy.

To inspire and help you create your own Edible Border, Stirling Council's Land Services team are transforming seven sites across Stirling in a unique growing experiment and learning opportunity for 3 Modern Day Apprentices. The planting plans are available online for you to use and as well as following the progress of the project we'd also love to hear your growing stories at the Low Carbon Stirling website.

Low Carbon Stirling encourages individuals, families, organisations and communities to support a low carbon and more sustainable future for Stirling.

Method (Continued)

- Plant up and maintain beds
- Harvest and distribute produce
- Obtain publicity for project
- Update web pages / intranet
- Share experiences



CLIENT: Central Scotland Green Network
 DATE: 24th February 2012
 WEBSITE: environmenttimes.co.uk
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PRESS CUTTING



Project Outcomes

- Increased public awareness
- Local communities looking to replicate similar theme
- Engagement with volunteer organisations
- Increased levels of confidence and motivation within work force



Project Outcomes (Continued)

- Personal and skills development in areas such as communication, problem solving, information technology, working with others, creativity and thinking skills
- Promote physical activity and mental well being
- Promote healthy eating / diet



Conclusions

- Successful project – both in producing food crop and awareness raising
- Rolled out to other communities
- Easily replicated
- Benefits of partnership working
- Central Scotland Green Networks (CSGN) encouraging other local authorities to follow suit



Branching out

- Increased engagement with other local communities and audiences
- Creation of an Edible Wall





Future Growth

- Convert additional formal bedding areas to less formal planting incorporating vegetables, herbs, wildflowers and fruit
- Continue to share experiences with other organisations: Local Authorities, SNH, Greenspace Scotland, NHS, Scottish Colleges, Schools & Nurseries
- Continuation of project incorporating all year round edible borders / winter crops

Any Questions?



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