

ALLOTMENT SHARING POLICY

1. The Council recognises that sharing the opportunity to cultivate and otherwise enjoy the benefits of an allotment garden with others is a widespread and often benign practice. Sharing the work of cultivation can also make participation in allotment gardening possible for persons who might otherwise be excluded, for example by disability.
2. Any tenant who enters into a sharing arrangement must notify the Council of the name(s) of any sharer.
3. When there are names on the waiting list for allotment gardens the informal sharing of a plot (in the form of shared cultivation or in any other way) does not afford any priority to the person sharing that plot over other persons on the waiting list. A sharer or any other party wishing to assume the tenancy of a specific allotment garden as and when it falls vacant should join the waiting list, and secure priority in the allocation of that plot as and when they reach the top of the waiting list. At that point their interest in the plot can be registered, and activated when the tenancy falls vacant.
4. Where allotment gardens are managed in such a way as to accommodate garden sharing, as is the case with the Red Beck Allotment Association, when any current tenancy falls vacant this will be notified to the Council who will, in consultation with the Association seek to fill the vacancy from its waiting lists.
5. Any sub-letting of allotment gardens is not acceptable to the council.
6. The responsibility for the behavior of any person invited onto an allotment garden by a tenant, be it as part of a sharing arrangement or otherwise, lies with the tenant. It is also the responsibility of the tenant to ensure that any garden sharer is made aware of the terms of the tenancy agreement, including the fact that all allotment tenancies are confined to 12 months in law.
7. When a tenant cannot cultivate all the land included in the tenancy (therefore in breach of the tenancy agreement) and is unwilling to take responsibility for others sharing the plot, then if the tenant is otherwise in good standing the plot will be divided, and the tenancy of the land thereby released made available to persons on the waiting list.