

Good Practice

Dig In - Falkirk Community Food Growing Strategy: This provides an introduction to community food growing in the area and is a useful reference document, giving information on organisations that can offer advice on community growing projects. Image: Dig in, Falkirk High Street Planters



Review delivered projects: Successful case-studies can be a source of inspiration for designers. Image: Carrongrange High School, Grangemouth



Location, Location: Ideally, growing spaces should be south facing and accessible with good soils, drainage, wind shelter and natural surveillance. A reliable water supply is also needed. Images: Kinneil Walled Garden Food Bank Farm, Bo'ness



Co-location: The co-location with open spaces can provide natural surveillance, and flexibility in case demand for community growing changes in future. Image: Muiravonside Community Growing Area



Small growing spaces: Roof spaces, balconies, walls, verges, planters, etc. could provide small spaces for individuals to grow food or flowers, especially where there is limited available space within a site. Image: Dig in, Falkirk High Street Planters.



Other Useful Guidance

Dig In - Falkirk Community Food Growing Strategy

Falkirk Allotments Action Plan

Falkirk Greenspace

Living Roofs website

Scotland's allotment site design guidance 2013

Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society website

One Brighton - Rooftop Allotments

7. WELL BEING: LANDSCAPING

Key Principles

- **A 'landscape led' approach to development should be taken** with landscape considered at the conceptual stage to enhance, structure and unify the development, and professional landscape expertise engaged at the outset.
- **Landscape plans are an essential part of planning applications**, and should be cross referenced in Design Statements. Information in landscape plans should be consistent with other plans submitted.
- **Development should achieve a good landscape fit**, with existing topography, trees and other features exerting a strong influence on the layout and design.
- **Every opportunity for incorporating trees and planting should be taken**, recognising their multiple benefits for amenity, wildlife, carbon sequestration, air quality, shelter, shade, surface water management and mitigation of visual impacts.
- **Species choice should be carefully considered, having regard to the context and the proposed function of the planting**. Planting should be chosen to encourage wildlife, with a preference for native species.

Key LDP Policies

- PE01 Placemaking
- PE13 Green and Blue Network
- PE17 Open Space and New Development
- PE18 Landscape
- PE19 Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- PE20 Trees, Woodland & Hedgerows



Good Practice

Landscape Plans: Prepared by a professional landscape architect, these plans should provide full information on the landscape treatment of the site, showing the design concept and how the landscaping will contribute to green infrastructure. Detailed planting plans, specification of hard landscaping, maintenance schedules, and phasing plans will also be required.



Incorporating existing trees:

Existing mature trees and hedgerows should be integrated into the development, but care is needed to ensure root systems are protected. Further guidance on trees surveys and tree protection is provided in SG10 - Trees and Development. Image: Kinnaird, Larbert



Amenity planting: This can enhance the character and identity of green spaces within the development, providing structure and definition for the space and seasonal colour. Images: Carrongrove, Stoneywood



Street Trees: Street trees help to provide structure and unity to a development, and can help to give identity and formality to main streets and boulevards. Images: The Drum, Bo'ness



Contrast: A mixture of mown and wild areas can achieve an attractive, distinctive contrast. Sculptural elements (like the seating shown below) can add visual diversity and interest to open spaces. Images: Maggie's Centre, Larbert



Colour: The use of seasonal colour in planting schemes can enhance their interest and impact. Image: Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Larbert



Hedges: Hedging provides a softer and more attractive form of enclosure than walls and fences. It can be used to screen the visual impact of car parks. Image: Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Larbert

