# COMMUNITY GARDENS Policy

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Policy number |  | Version | 1.0 |
| Drafted by | Dianne Nixon | Approved by Board on | -/-/22 |
| Responsible person | Simon Molesworth | Scheduled review date | -/-/25 |

## Purpose

This document sets out

* Landcare Broken Hill’s policy regarding the establishment and support of community gardens
* The governance processes established to give effect to this policy.

A community garden is a shared, semi-public space where people in the surrounding neighborhood share the work and harvest of maintaining a garden space for growing fruits, vegetables, flowers or even livestock.

## Policy

Landcare Broken Hill supports the establishment of community gardens as part of its Greening the Hill Mark II strategic directions. Community gardens add to the environmental life of the city and encourage communities to work together to produce and share resources from the land.

## Proposal considerations:

• Landcare Broken Hill will be open and transparent in all dealings with community members

• The ownership of the property and any legal implications need to be known

• Security and work, health and safety issues concerning the property will be assessed in the light of Landcare Broken Hill’s public liability insurance and risk management process

• Landcare Broken Hill works in partnership with community groups in relation to community gardens, and a formal partnership agreement is developed as a mutually agreed document

• Community members nominated to drive the project must be responsible and reliable leaders within the community, able to provide access to the gardens within a reasonable range of hours, and focussed on maintaining the safety of members and the public. Community garden members will be financial members of Landcare Broken Hill.

• Consideration will be given to how the group proposes to meet set-up costs and any on-going expenses.

## process:

* Landcare Broken Hill responds to community requests where land and community interest are identified
* Potential sites are assessed in terms of ownership, security and worker safety as well as environmental and economic viability. A decision is made whether to proceed or not at this point and a recommendation made to the Landcare Committee and conveyed to the community member(s).
* Meetings are held with the community members to identify a core leadership group and establish a MOU that would cover membership, site planning, costs, ‘in kind’ shared resources, potential plants to be sourced, and agreements as to recompense if Landcare tools or equipment are damaged or lost, as well as other relevant items.
* Experienced Landcare member(s) are nominated as a support group to the community leaders for at least the first 6 months of the project. These members report regularly to the Landcare committee on the progress of the project, and its move to independent sustainability.
* Landcare subsequently remains a resource for the community garden group in an advisory capacity.

## Related Policies

* Grievances and dispute resolution policy

.

## Authorisation

<<Signature of Board Chair>>
<<Date of approval by the Board>>
Landcare Broken Hill