Campaign to Protect Rural England London Branch

Report for Trustees

Allotments and community gardens in Greater London

Jodie Southgate July 2012

updated by Kathleen Lucey January 2015

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Appendix one: email exchanges

Grant Smith

Catherine Miller

Sarah Williams

1. Introduction

This report aims to summarise the current provision of allotment gardening spaces in London, with up to date statistics and information on the way that allotments are managed and run in the 33 London boroughs (including the City of London). In addition to looking at traditional allotments, I have also researched community gardens, a new approach to food growing that merits closer attention as its popularity continues to increase.

This report compares my data with the findings of the London Assembly Environment Committee's report of 2006 entitled "A Lot to Lose: London's Disappearing Allotments." I also look at the legal protection of allotments, the benefits of allotments, and provide an overview of established community gardening projects, notably the Capital Growth 2012 initiative and the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens (FCFCG).

This report was produced under considerable time constraints, and should be seen as a starting point rather than the finished article. There are many areas which require further research. I have highlighted these areas throughout the report and have summarised them in section 8 under "Next steps and further research."

2. The data

My raw data is collated in an Excel spreadsheet entitled "CPREL Allotments Project 2012". This was collected primarily by searching the allotments pages of all 33 local authority websites. I also looked at the websites of local allotment associations, where they existed. Information on the Capital Growth 2012 project sites was found by using the search function on their website to view the total number of spaces per borough. For the FCFCG member sites, I transferred the information from the "London Map and Guide" PDF on their website, and used the search function to find additional gardens that were not featured in this document. Finally, I searched for each FCFCG garden on the Capital Growth 2012 website to check for duplications, and adjusted the formulas in the spreadsheet accordingly.

The data should be taken as approximations rather than exact figures. For example, the figures on the local authority websites may not have been updated for some time, and there is some inconsistency over the inclusion of independently-run allotments in their totals. New Capital Growth 2012 spaces will continue to be added until the end of the year. Moreover, there may be many more small gardens across London that are not registered with Capital Growth 2012 or FCFCG and therefore remain unaccounted for. Grant Smith at Allotments Regeneration Initiative (a partnership between FCFCG and the National Allotment Society) mentioned that he is hoping to update maps of growing

 $^{^{1}\, \}underline{\text{http://www.london.gov.uk/who-runs-london/the-london-assembly/publications/health/lot-lose-londons-disappearing-allotments}$

spaces across London to include these 'invisible' sites and would be interested to exchange further ideas on this (see Appendix 1: email exchanges).

2.1. Notes on the Excel spreadsheet

Column A lists all 33 local authorities in alphabetical order. Clicking on their names will take you to the allotments page of their website.

Column B shows the number of allotments per borough, based on information on the local authority websites. These include all statutory allotments and in some cases, private allotments run by associations.

Column C shows the number of allotments per borough in 2006, as per Appendix 1 of the London Assembly Environment Committee's "A Lot to Lose" report.

Column D details the management arrangements for the allotments in each borough.

Column E details, where possible, the total number of hectares covered by allotment gardens in each borough. This data was rarely available on local authority websites.

Column F details the approximate annual rent for a standard 10-pole allotment plot for each borough. This is based on the fee for residents of the borough (non-residents pay a higher fee) without concessions (usually for unemployed and over 65s).

Column G shows the approximate plot size for statutory allotments in each borough. Plots are measured in 'poles' (sometimes referred to as 'rods' or 'perches') which are approximately 25 square metres in size. A standard ten-pole plot therefore covers an area of approximately 250 square metres.

Column H details, where possible, the total number of plots across all of the allotment sites for each borough. This data was rarely available on local authority websites.

Column I contains additional notes, primarily on waiting lists.

Columns J and K give website links and notes on local allotment federations, societies and associations for each borough.

Column L shows the total number of FCFCG member sites for each borough.

Column M shows the total number of Capital Growth 2012 sites for each borough.

Column N shows the total number of allotment, FCFCG and Capital Growth 2012 sites per borough.

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Row 37 shows the grand totals of allotments (column B), FCFCG sites (column L), Capital Growth 2012 sites (Column M) and the sum of these (Column N).

Additional details on FCFCG gardens and Capital Growth 2012 sites can be found under separate tabs in the spreadsheet.

Please note that some of the data is incomplete, particularly data pertaining to total hectares and number of plots, which was seldom referred to on websites. I suggest contacting the local authorities by telephone to enquire about this information.

3. The picture in 2006

The London Assembly's Environment Committee produced a report in 2006 titled "A Lot to Lose: London's Disappearing Allotments", in which they carried out a comprehensive survey of the city's allotments in comparison with ten years previously. Below are their key findings:²

- There were 737 statutory allotment sites in total across the 33 boroughs
- This represented a net loss of 32 sites, or 4.2%, compared to 1996
- There were approximately 20,000 individual plots in 2006, which represented a 6.9% loss compared to 1996
- This loss amounted to approximately 87 acres of growing space
- Average annual rent was in the region of £50 to £60³
- Over 4,300 people were on waiting lists for an allotment site

The report highlights the Committee's concerns over the loss of allotment spaces across the capital. They also discuss the variation between waiting lists (some boroughs had long lists while neighbouring boroughs had vacant plots) and the lack of communication between local authorities on this issue. They recommended that a new website should be set up for the general public with details of every allotment site across London. This resulted in the new allotments section of the GLA website: www.london.gov.uk/allotments. This site includes a map function in which you can search for allotments by postcode or borough. It also features some basic information on how to get started with an allotment.

² http://www.london.gov.uk/who-runs-london/the-london-assembly/publications/health/lot-lose-londons-disappearing-allotments

NB: The full data set, including postcodes and grid references for every single allotment, can be found at http://data.london.gov.uk/datastore/package/allotment-locations)

³ The report does not state the plot size that this figure refers to; it is safe to assume that they mean a standard ten-pole plot.

4. The state of play in 2012

Although the data I have collected for this report has not been verified, it does give an indication of how allotment provision in London has changed since 2006.

Firstly, my figures suggest that there are now 723 statutory allotment sites across the capital – a net loss of 14 sites since 2006.⁴ The boroughs with the most allotment sites are the outer boroughs of Ealing (60), Bromley (52) and Barnet (46). On the other side of the coin, those with the fewest allotment sites are the inner boroughs of the City of London (0), the City of Westminster (0), Kensington & Chelsea (0), Hammersmith and Fulham (2) and Islington (4).

Overall, seven Boroughs have gained allotment sites since 2006:

- Ealing
- Enfield
- Haringey
- Harrow
- Kingston upon Thames
- Lewisham
- Waltham Forest

Thirteen Boroughs have the same number of sites:

- Bromley
- City of London
- Croydon
- Greenwich
- Hackney
- Hammersmith and Fulham
- Havering
- Islington
- Kensington and Chelsea
- Lambeth
- Southwark
- Wandsworth
- City of Westminster

Thirteen Boroughs have lost allotment sites:

- Barking and Dagenham
- Barnet (joint most losses with four fewer sites)

⁴ Some of this discrepancy may be explained by the way that the data was collected. I have only included private allotment sites where they are mentioned on the local authority websites, while the London Assembly Environment Committee also spoke to local authorities directly and may have acquired additional information this way.

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- Bexley
- Brent
- Camden (joint most losses with four few sites)
- Hillingdon
- Hounslow
- Merton
- Newham
- Redbridge
- Richmond Upon Thames
- Sutton
- Tower Hamlets

Average rent, based on data from 23 local authorities, is similar to 2006 at £62 per annum. However, rental fees vary enormously, ranging from just £30 in Bromley, to £188 in Merton.

4.1. Waiting lists

I was not able to obtain an overall figure for the number of people on waiting lists across the capital, but Wandsworth alone reports 1,992 people waiting for a spot on one of its eight council-run sites. Therefore we can safely assume that in spite of these measures, waiting lists have increased considerably since 2006. Many local authorities now offer half-plots of five poles (125 square metres) instead of the standard ten, presumably in an effort to reduce waiting list numbers.

Transition Town West Kirby⁵ carried out a UK-wide survey of allotment waiting lists in conjunction with the National Allotment Society in 2011. Their data is inconsistent with mine, as it would appear that private allotments were not included (for example, their report lists 30 sites for Ealing, compared to my figure of 60, which is from the borough council's website and includes private allotments). Nevertheless, the average waiting list length of the 25 boroughs for which they had data was 667 people.

4.2. A glimmer of hope

These figures may appear to paint a bleak picture for anyone who wishes to rent an allotment garden in London in 2012.

However, the proliferation of smaller community gardens is changing the face of allotment gardening across London. While the A Lot to Lose report focuses on the need for local authorities with full waiting lists to communicate with those that have vacancies, in 2012 the waiting lists in almost every borough are full. Instead of referring people to neighbouring boroughs, several local authority websites are now pointing people towards local allotment associations, who may run private allotments, and local community gardens.

⁵ http://www.transitiontownwestkirby.org.uk/allotment_surveys.html

Indeed, the overall picture looks very different when the Capital Growth 2012 and FCFCG figures are added to the mix. As of July 2012, there are 1,758 registered Capital Growth spaces and 65 FCFCG member gardens across London. This gives a grand total, including statutory allotments, of 2,534 food growing spaces in Greater London.

Capital Growth 2012 and FCFCG gardens are different to allotments in size, purpose and legal status and should not be seen as replacements for allotments. More details on these differences can be found later in this report. Nevertheless, it is interesting to look at the data again when community gardens are included in the overall total:

Table 1: Total number of allotment sites alone per borough

Rank	Local Authority	No. Allotments	Rank	Local Authority	No. Allotments
1	Ealing	60	18	Southwark	19
2	Bromley	52	19	Greenwich	18
3	Barnet	46	19	Merton	18
4	Waltham Forest	38	21	Croydon	17
5	Enfield	37	22	Barking & Dagenham	13
5	Lewisham	37	23	Lambeth	11
7	Bexley	36	24	Wandsworth	10
7	Sutton	36	25	Hackney	9
9	Hillingdon	35	26	Newham	7
10	Harrow	33	27	Tower Hamlets	6
11	Hounslow	29	28	Camden	5
12	Haringey	26	29	Islington	4
12	Havering	26	30	Hammersmith & Fulham	2
14	Redbridge	24	31	City of London	0
14	Richmond upon Thames	24	31	Kensington & Chelsea	0
16	Kingston upon Thames	23	31	City of Westminster	0
17	Brent	22			

Table 2: Total number of food growing sites, including FCFCG and Capital Growth 2012 sites, per borough

Rank	Local Authority	No. Allotments	Rank	Local Authority	No. Allotments
1	Hackney	158	18	Richmond upon Thames	59
2	Southwark	146	19	Hounslow	57
3	Islington	143	20	Merton	53
4	Camden	142	20	Wandsworth	53
5	Lambeth	132	22	Brent	50
6	Tower Hamlets	121	23	Barking & Dagenham	47
7	Lewisham	117	23	Bexley	47
8	Haringey	111	23	Croydon	47
9	Bromley	95	23	Kensington & Chelsea	47
10	Enfield	94	23	Redbridge	47
11	Ealing	89	28	Harrow	45
12	Waltham Forest	88	29	Kingston upon Thames	45
13	Barnet	86	30	Havering	34
14	Greenwich	78	31	Hammersmith & Fulham	19
15	Sutton	70	32	City of London	4
16	Newham	68	33	City of Westminster	0
17	Hillingdon	59			

These tables show that unsurprisingly, the outer London boroughs contain the highest number of allotments, while the inner London boroughs have a high number of community gardens. Islington, Hackney and Camden are particularly interesting, climbing 26 and 24 places up the rankings respectively when community gardens are included in the totals. Meanwhile, Harrow (-18), Havering (-17) and Bexley (-16) have fewer community gardens and fall the furthest in the rankings. Ealing, the borough with the most allotments, drops to tenth place, and actually has more allotment sites than registered community garden sites. The relative lack of community gardens in the outer boroughs may

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of course be related to the fact that more households have private gardens in these areas.

In order to fully appreciate the significance of these figures, we need to look at obtaining recent census data to find out the number of allotments/allotments and community gardens per capita, or per household. The London Parks and Green Spaces Forum's "Guidance for Best Practice Allotment Strategies" report of 2008 quotes figures of just 11 allotment plots per 1,000 households at the time; broken down into 1.2 plots per 1,000 in the inner boroughs, and 15 plots per 1,000 in the outer boroughs.

4.3. Case study: Hackney

Hackney Council own nine allotment sites which they lease to the Hackney Allotment Society on a twelve-year term. The society is responsible for the day to day management of the sites, while the council maintains the fences and gates around the plots. The cost of renting an allotment in Hackney is one of the cheapest in London. Plots cost £16 per year, plus a £4 membership fee.

The Hackney Allotment Society is a registered charity, managed by a voluntary committee. A standard plot in Hackney is five poles (125 square metres) instead of the usual ten, and these can be further divided into smaller plots. However, waiting lists are exceptionally long and the website reports that they are currently closed. The society has proposed that the borough should release some more land from alongside Springfield Park in Clapton (a fine hillside space with a view across to the River Lea) to make a small contribution to meeting demand.

The council website also points visitors towards alternatives to allotments for growing food. They provide links to a number of options such as the Capital Growth 2012 project; Hackney Homes, which has information on growing food in specific estates; Landshare, which helps to put garden owners who need help and would-be gardeners in touch, and Growing Communities, which grows fruit and vegetables in Hackney's parks.

Hackney has the highest number of Capital Growth 2012 and FCFCG gardens of any borough.

4.4. Case study: Bromley

Bromley is unusual in that all of 52 of its allotments are privately run by local societies. The Bromley Federation of Allotments and Leisure Gardens provides support and guidance to these groups.

Four of these sites are still owned by the borough council and leased out to the local societies. The borough wishes to end its subsidies to the four municipally

⁶ "Guidance for Best Practice Allotment Strategies" – Prepared by the London Parks and Green Spaces Forum on behalf of the GLA (2008)

owned sites; this posed problems for the federation in 2011-12 as such a move would raise some tenants' rents by up to 400%.

The federation runs a website which advertises activities of its member societies as well as its own competitions and other events. It conducts an annual survey of the condition of sites and societies and it maintains an overview of the waiting lists system. All this relieves the borough council of a good deal of responsibility, with honorary officers doing a great deal of voluntary work which might otherwise be done by borough officers. The societies vary a good deal in scale and professionalism. The federation is trying to move the laggards from being unincorporated leisure clubs into a more formally constituted form offering better legal protection.

The chairman's 2011 report mentioned that a leading officer (Cliff Uden, now passed away) had negotiated the original local site self-management arrangements, but that these had now moved on to a system of leases run by the federation. He also noted that the allotments survey had been conducted successfully; that individual site associations had their own waiting lists but gave data to a federation officer; and that the federation website (with links to individual association websites) needed more volunteers to run it.

Reports of open days and competitions available on the website (www.balgf.org.uk) suggest that this network of allotment societies is in good heart and encourages high gardening standards. Photographs indicate that some sites have an open aspect with wide panorama, raising the question of how far access for the public would offer the borough's citizens an amenity. Occasional vandalism and theft is an issue for some sites and there are no obvious solutions beyond security fencing and locked gates.

The federation had begun a conversation with opposite numbers in the neighbouring borough of Croydon and future collaboration could help with exchange of expertise and possible joint events. The two (related) challenges facing Bromley's allotment societies were the perceived lack of support from the host borough council (although councillors do sit on an Allotments Panel to guide on policy issues) and tight finances with a need for either higher rents and subscriptions or a contribution from the council to restore the £5,000 it had recently withdrawn.

5. Community gardens: a growing trend

As our data shows, community gardens are becoming hugely popular in London, quite possibly due to the difficulty in obtaining an allotment plot. Their creation, usually on brownfield sites, is actively encouraged by local authorities as unlike allotments, they are temporary in nature and unprotected from future developments, Community gardens, as the name suggests, foster social inclusion and community interactions, and are often open to the public, another advantage over traditional allotments.

Jodie Southgate July 2012 While most community gardens are established on brownfield land, there is a question to be raised over whether local authorities should set aside sections of existing green space (such as in parks) to allow more permanent gardens to be established. The London Parks and Green Spaces Forum may have views on this.

Community gardens vary widely in size and purpose, but they are often run by schools, housing groups, neighbourhood associations and charities and rely on volunteer support. They typically include a mixture of separate plots and an open, communal area. Most are used for basic food growing and relaxation, others specialise in hosting school groups or people with physical or learning disabilities.

On a different note, city farms typically run small-scale horticultural and agricultural activities on land rented or loaned from a local authority. Their key purpose is to host groups of children and young adults who may not have regular access to the countryside, teaching them about food production and environmental stewardship. They are often funded by education authorities and charitable donors, and employ both paid staff and volunteers.

5.1. Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens

Many of the larger community gardens are members of the <u>Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens</u>, which represents and supports community food growing groups across the UK. My research suggests that there are at least 65 such farms/gardens in Greater London. Their website contains a wealth of information, including a search function to find gardens and farms in a particular area, and a London map and guide.

FCFCG member gardens and farms range in size from 2-3 acre sites such as Vauxhall City Farm, to 32 acres at Mudchute and 89 acres at the Woodlands Farm Trust in Greenwich/Bexley. Catherine Miller, my contact at the Federation, mentioned that the focus at FCFCG is on the value of community involvement and engagement than on acreage per se, mentioning Vauxhall City Farm as a relatively small space that works with a large number of local groups and schools.

The Federation works closely with the London Parks and Green Spaces Forum. They also launched the <u>Allotments Regeneration Initiative</u> (ARI) in 2002, which aims to support the creation and regeneration of new and disused allotment sites in the UK. ARI would be a very useful first point of contact regarding any issue on the subject of allotments. My contact there is Grant Smith (see section 9: contacts).

5.2. Capital Growth 2012

As mentioned earlier, a large community growing initiative supported and funded by the Greater London Authority is the <u>Capital Growth 2012</u> project. This initiative appears to be indicative of the changing focus, on the part of both the public and local authorities, away from permanent allotment sites towards

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smaller, temporary community gardening spaces. Capital Growth 2012 is a campaign run by London Food Link, the Mayor of London, and the Big Lottery's Local Food Fund to create and support 2,012 new community food growing spaces across London by the end of 2012.

Their website reports that 1,758 spaces have been registered so far covering at least 45 hectares, many of which appear to be run by schools, housing groups, small charities and residents' associations. The website provides information on how to set up a garden and on the training, advice and funding available. It also offers a search function by postcode or borough, with the results displayed on a map which also indicates whether a space is looking for volunteers.

It is unclear whether funding for the initiative will continue beyond 2012, and indeed what will then become of the registered gardens. Future research into the long-term benefits of this project would be interesting.

6. Benefits of allotments and community gardens

The benefits of allotments and community gardens are manifold and described in detail elsewhere; notably in the following publications:

<u>A Lot to Lose: London's Disappearing Allotments</u>
Natural England - Wildlife on Allotments
The National Allotment Society - Benefits of Allotment Gardening

However, the key benefits can be summarised as follows:

6.1. Ecological benefits

- Allotments can function as havens for urban wildlife, including key pollinators
- Allotments may serve to connect fragmented patches of habitat, for example by bordering other green spaces or animal movement corridors such as railway lines
- The lack of monoculture on allotments encourages biodiversity
- The food grown on allotments has a lower carbon footprint as it requires little to no packaging, processing and transportation

6.2. Physical and mental health benefits

- Allotment gardening is an excellent form of physical exercise
- Tending an allotment provides an escape from the pressures of day to day life
- Being out in the fresh air and connecting with nature is calming and stress relieving
- Growing and eating your own food fosters a sense of achievement and pride

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 Allotments provide an opportunity to grow organic food, free of pesticides and preservatives

6.3. Social benefits

- Allotment gardening is a way of socialising within the local community and forming new friendships
- Allotments foster social inclusion, particularly for marginalised groups
- Allotment communities can teach one another and learn from one another, sharing skills and knowledge
- Community gardening encourages the development of collaborative and communication skills

Tony Leach at the London Parks and Green Spaces Forum felt that the health benefits of allotments in particular represent a strong lobbying argument for the protection of existing/creation of new allotments.

7. Legal protection of allotments

Statutory allotments are protected by law under the Allotments Act (1925). The London Assembly's Environment Committee sums up the legal status of allotments as follows:

"Some local authority owned sites are classified as statutory, which means the land was acquired or appropriated by the local authority specifically for use as allotments. These sites cannot be sold or used for other purposes without the consent of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government."

As we have seen in the case of large scale developments such as the Olympic Park, however, exceptions have been made. Moreover, the National Allotment Society reports on their website that they "support hundreds of allotment holders who are fighting off proposals from landlords to dispose of their allotment land" each year. They add that "in a recent survey of our members, 74% said it was the threat of losing their plots to land developers that worried them most about the future of allotments." The Society provides free legal advice to allotment holders and has to be notified if a statutory site is earmarked for sale:

http://www.nsalg.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/

It would appear that if an allotment comes under threat from development, the best course of action would be for the local allotment association to liaise with the National Allotment Society and Allotments Regeneration Initiative, and lobby the council to protect the site.

⁷ http://www.london.gov.uk/who-runs-london/the-london-assembly/publications/health/lot-lose-londons-disappearing-allotments

⁸ http://www.nsalg.org.uk/news-events-campaigns/national-allotments-week/

7.1. Lobbying for new allotments

Lobbying for new allotment space should be possible in theory, at least in the outer London boroughs.

Section 23 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act (1908) requires local authorities to provide sufficient allotment space to meet demand. In practice, at least six people on the electoral register who feel that this demand is not being met may put together a request for more allotment space in writing for the local authority to consider. There remains of course the question of where this space should come from and whether land for allotments should be set aside at the expense of other amenities, such as parks or playing fields.

Interestingly, Section 55 of the London Government Act (1963) supersedes this law, stating that the provision of allotments by **inner** London boroughs is at the discretion of the local authority.

Community gardeners that wish to secure the tenure of their site have no such legislation on their side, but can also lobby their local authority, perhaps with the support of the National Allotment Society and Allotments Regeneration Initiative. However, the London Assembly's report warns that "we would resist calls for temporary sites to gain statutory protection automatically after a certain number of years as to do so would inevitably discourage councils and other landowners from making land available for allotment use even on a temporary basis."9

8. Next steps/further research

Firstly, it should be noted that the 6th – 12th August 2012 is National Allotments Week. More information can be found on the National Allotment Society website: http://www.nsalg.org.uk/news-events-campaigns/national-allotments-week/

8.1. Quantitative Data

- Verify data found on websites by contacting local authorities directly, and fill in missing information where possible
- Obtain census data to find out the number of allotments and community gardens per capita/per household
- A survey of each local authority's Biodiversity Action Plan, Sustainability Strategy and/or Open Space Strategy would be a useful way of ascertaining the importance they attribute to allotments and community gardens. The London Parks and Green Spaces Forum produced a report in

 $^{^9\, \}underline{\text{http://www.london.gov.uk/who-runs-london/the-london-assembly/publications/health/lot-lose-londons-disappearing-allotments}$

2008 which notes that only a third of the London boroughs include allotments in their Open Space Strategy, while just nine have specific Allotment Strategies.¹⁰

• Is the London Assembly planning to repeat their A Lot to Lose report? Perhaps another study in ten years' time (2016)?

8.2. Qualitative data

• Interviews with members of allotment associations and plotholders could be an interesting exercise, particularly with a view to fleshing out the report for the website.

8.3. Ecological benefits

It would be useful to choose a sample of allotment sites to look at more
closely using software such as Google Earth. This would enable us to
explore the role of allotments within their wider ecological context – for
example the way they are linked to other areas of green space, or habitat
corridors such as railway lines.

8.4. Access

- More information is needed on the accessibility of allotments and community gardens. Are they all open to the public? If not, are they perhaps located close to footpaths and other rights of way?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of open access vs restricted spaces? How common are the problems of theft and vandalism?

8.5. Collaboration

• The meeting with Tony Leach of London Parks and Green Spaces was a useful starting point for future collaboration between CPREL and the Forum on the protection of green spaces, including allotments, in London. The Forum holds Strategic Issues Working Group meetings quarterly with interested parties. The Forum also produced a "Guidance for Best Practice Allotment Strategies" document in 2008 which Tony has shared with us (saved on the computer, please do not circulate outside of CPREL without Tony's permission).

Steve Butters has further information and notes from our meeting with Tony on the 27^{th} June 2012.

 Grant Smith at ARI has a lot of information on allotments in London. He is currently looking into ways of updating maps to show all growing spaces

 $^{^{\}rm 10}$ "Guidance for Best Practice Allotment Strategies" – Prepared by the London Parks and Green Spaces Forum on behalf of the GLA (2008)

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across London, including privately run allotments and community gardens that are not part of the FCFCG or Capital Growth 2012 schemes. He would be interested to read the final version of this report and exchange ideas on how to take this forward.

9. Useful links and contacts

9.1. Links

Allotment.org.uk

Advice website for allotment owners

Allotments Regeneration Initiative

Partnership of FCFCG and National Allotment Society

Capital Growth 2012

Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens

Greater London Authority - Allotments

The GLA's allotment web pages, including a search function

Groundwork

A charity that works to improve open spaces

House of Commons - Publications

The 1998 report of the Select Committee on Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs on allotments. Contains useful information on the statutory protection of allotments.

London Allotments Network

Information on waiting lists, links to local associations

London Parks and Green Spaces Forum

National Allotment Society

News and information, has a search function to find allotments and allotment associations

9.2. Contacts

Tony Leach

Director, London Parks and Green Spaces Forum tony.leach@lpgsf.org.uk
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London Development Worker

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