

TRAFFORD

ALLOTMENT STRATEGY

2026-2031



CONTENTS

Foreword	3
Mission Statement	4
Introduction & Scope	5
Context	6
Strategic Context & Legal and Other Requirements	6
Current Situation & Resources	9
Strengths and Weakness, Opportunities and Threats	10
Stakeholders & Engagement	11
Objectives	12
Outcomes	13
Allotment Strategy Action Plan	14
Glossary	19

FOREWORD

Allotment gardening is very popular across Trafford, and our communities are aware of the benefits that 'A Good Life' type activity can bring to their lives. Allotments are not just a hobby or pastime. They contribute to healthier lifestyles providing increased physical activity and social engagement as well as delivering affordable home-grown fresh fruit and vegetables, essential for a healthy diet. This provides an enormous sense of wellbeing which positively impacts mental as well as physical health. The desire to adopt more sustainable lifestyles has also contributed to the growth in demand for allotment gardening.

In preparing this strategy, an engagement exercise with allotment users, the wider community and other key stakeholders has been undertaken. The strategy outlines what Trafford Council intends to do over the next 5 years to provide the people of Trafford with an allotment service that continues to meet their needs and expectations, and prepares allotments for the future. The strategy recognises the changes and challenges ahead in delivery of the objectives.

I wish to acknowledge the amazing work of the allotment committees and other valued volunteers who have made it possible for our residents to enjoy allotment gardening. This strategy will continue to develop the allotment service, supporting the Borough's Corporate Plan with the needs and wants of its communities at its centre.



CLLR ROSE THOMPSON
Executive Member
for Communities and
Safety

MISSION STATEMENT

Growing Trafford Together: *Empowering residents with access to growing spaces, promoting mental and physical well-being, supporting skill development, enhancing biodiversity in our green spaces, and creating opportunities for social connection and physical activity.*



INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

There are 35 Council-owned allotment sites throughout Trafford with approximately 1500 individual plots in full time use. The majority of allotments have voluntary committees that support Trafford Council in managing the sites, and there are 13 self-managed sites which lease land from the council. Many of Trafford's allotments hold open days, plant sales, coffee mornings in aid of charities, apple days and other events which involve the whole community. In addition, Trafford also provides garden extensions. These are allotments leased to a residential address providing additional green space for tenants.

There are many benefits of having an allotment:

- Organically grown and healthier food maximizes nutrient content, as vitamins and minerals begin to degrade soon after harvest. Locally grown produce often tastes better and has fewer preservatives or additives compared to food that has travelled long distances. Additionally, consuming food shortly after picking can result in a more vibrant flavour and potentially higher levels of beneficial compounds.
- Spending time outdoors, surrounded by nature, has been shown to reduce stress, anxiety, and depression. Gardening also offers a mindfulness component, as you focus on the tasks at hand and connect with nature. It also gives you a natural dose of vitamin D, which is essential for bone health and immune function.
- The physical benefits of allotments are significant. Gardening itself is an excellent form of low-impact exercise that can help people stay fit, even if they lead sedentary lives. Digging, weeding, and planting all work different muscle groups, improving flexibility, balance, and coordination. It also contributes to the recommended 150 minutes of moderate activity a week.

- Allotments create spaces for people to meet, share knowledge, and build relationships with their neighbours, combating social isolation. Shared activities and social events also foster a sense of community.
- Allotments can be a pastime for the whole family. Involving children in growing their own food has lasting benefits for their health and well-being. It is well established that eating habits formed in early childhood often continue into adulthood. Children who take part in food-growing activities tend to develop a more positive attitude toward healthy eating, along with benefits like increased confidence, self-esteem, and enhanced learning abilities.
- Allotments play a significant role in enhancing local and even national food security by providing space for individuals and communities to grow their own food, reducing reliance on industrialized agriculture.

This strategy intends to provide a structure by which Trafford Council, our partners and volunteers can help maximise these benefits. The strategy will provide strategic guidelines for the management, administration, promotion, development and funding of allotments in Trafford. It aims to raise the profile of allotments and to optimise their use for existing and future tenants, suiting the needs of all sections of the community. The strategy examines the way forward for the Council's allotments over the next five years. It identifies a number of prime objectives, describes the background and issues relevant to the provision of allotments and outlines appropriate courses of action and further developments to improve allotment sites.

CONTEXT

Strategic context

This section considers some of the wider strategies, frameworks and partnerships that relate to allotments.

Corporate Plan 2024 – 2027

Trafford's Corporate Plan describes the Council's vision and priorities for the borough.

At the heart of the vision is a common cause – to make Trafford a better borough. We want to make it a place where everyone has a chance to succeed and where everybody has a voice.

Through this vision, we are making a commitment to work together across different services and agencies to make the best use of our resources. It is aligned with our aspirations as we develop the future model for our statutory obligations and existing partnership arrangements. The Full plan can be found at www.trafford.gov.uk/about-your-council/strategies-plans-and-policies/Corporate-Plan/Corporate-Plan-2024-27.pdf

The Allotment Strategy Outcomes directly supports the Corporate Plan.

Carbon Neutral Action Plan

The Carbon Neutral Action Plan was launched in December 2020, refreshed in 2023. The Action Plan is complementary to the Council's Corporate Objectives and the Greater Manchester 5 Year Environment Plan. It contains the following themes:

- Governance, Engagement and Collaboration
- Production and Consumption of Resources
- Transport & Travel
- Heat & Energy
- Natural Assets
- Skills and Green Growth
- Homes, Workplaces and Buildings

The Allotment Strategy will support these themes through promoting local food, enhancing natural assets and improving green skills.

The full action plan can be found at <https://www.trafford.gov.uk/planning/strategic-planning/docs/CNAP-FINAL-June-2023.pdf>

Trafford Moving

Trafford Moving, is the Council's sport and physical activity strategy. It has been developed by the Trafford Moving Partnership, which is a collective of organisations involved in the delivery of sport and physical activity in Trafford.

See www.trafford.gov.uk/about-your-council/strategies-plans-and-policies/docs/Trafford-Moving-2023.pdf

The Trafford Health and Wellbeing Board

The Trafford Health and Wellbeing Board exists to improve population health outcomes. It does this through strategy development, improving partnership working, and using our knowledge of local needs from our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to improve our services. In Trafford we are focussing on using the Health & Wellbeing Board to increase the number of years people spend in good health. See <https://democratic.trafford.gov.uk/documents/s34286/Trafford%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Strategy%202019.pdf>

Allotment gardening is a great opportunity for promoting a healthy lifestyle such as growing your own food, connecting with your community and enjoying physical activity. The allotment Strategy will seek to further promote and enable this important aspect of a healthy lifestyle.

Fairer Health for All

Fairer Health for All is a framework that outlines Trafford Council's approach to addressing root causes of ill health and inequalities across the region.

The Allotment Strategy will support the framework through engaging with people experiencing health inequalities and identifying access improvements for people with mobility issues:

<https://democratic.trafford.gov.uk/documents/s46557/Fairer%20Health%20for%20Trafford%20HWB%20171123%20final.pdf>

Trafford Partnership & Neighbourhood Programme

The Trafford Partnership supports cooperation between people who live and work in Trafford to deliver positive change across the borough. Partners include residents, community groups, the voluntary sector, public services and private businesses. The Partnership is passionate about delivering the best quality of life for residents, and committed to achieving these by working together to effectively use our resources and assets.

Neighbourhood planning empowers communities to shape the development and growth of a local area through the production of a neighbourhood plan. They are a new way for local communities to decide the future of the places where they live and work.

The Allotment Strategy has an opportunity to align the ambitions with the Neighbourhood Programme in Trafford such as Access to a Healthy Diet; Getting more People Moving



More; Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing. The Strategy can ensure cooperation between stakeholders such as through the Neighbourhood Networks and relevant Neighbourhood Plans. <https://www.trafford.gov.uk/planning/strategic-planning/Development-Plan/neighbourhood-planning.aspx>

A Cultural Strategy for Trafford 2023 – 2028

This strategy supports the Council's quality and equality of life ambitions across the whole borough; strengthens defined communities and neighbourhoods; accesses its key players; and in so doing activate its key 'public' spaces (town centres, community care and leisure venues, green & blue spaces), and then join it all up. This intends to give culture in Trafford's diverse neighbourhoods and places a voice that is more representative, accurate, coherent, visible and accessible locally, across the borough and GM. See <https://democratic.trafford.gov.uk/documents/s45825/EXEC%20-%20Cultural%20Strategy%2010.07.23%20-%20Appendix%201%20-%20Full%20Strategy.pdf>

Trafford has a long history of allotment gardening, with many sites having roots in the early 20th century. While commercial market gardening has declined in some areas due to development, the allotment movement has flourished. Allotment Gardening is a key cultural aspect of our Borough and a strong feature of the Cultural Strategy for Trafford.

Legal and other requirements

Allotment law is set out in various statutes that were passed during the period 1819 to 1950. The key functions that a local authority should perform are to:

- Assess the demand for allotments.
- Provide sufficient number of allotments to meet demand.
- Keep and manage waiting lists for the allotments they provide.
- Provide a tenancy agreement with a compensation clause.

Local authorities have powers to acquire land for the provision of allotments. However, there is no time limit placed on the Councils to meet demand and there are no specific standards, such as provision of water, or minimum size of allotment that Councils must fulfil.

Also, for consideration:

- **Health & Safety responsibilities**
Trafford Council maintains appropriate checks to control risks from known Asbestos, Legionella and Portable Appliance Testing.
- **Liability Insurance**
Trafford Council maintains Public Liability Insurance for all its allotment sites. This provides cover for incidents involving allotment tenants, helpers, and members of the public.
- **Invasive Species**
As landowner, Trafford Council has a responsibility to prevent the spread of Invasive Species, (such as Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam), and to control or eradicate the species from the site.

- **Data Protection**

Trafford Council is committed to ensuring that we are transparent about the ways in which we use your personal information and that we have the right controls in place to ensure it is used responsibly and is kept safe from inappropriate access, theft or misuse. The Allotment privacy notice can be viewed at <https://www.trafford.gov.uk/about-your-council/data-protection/privacy-notice/Service-Level-Privacy-Notices/Allotment-privacy-notice.aspx>



The Current Situation

Trafford has 35 allotment sites across the Borough providing 1496.5 full size plots. A full-size plot is 250m² but can be let as a half or even quarter plot depending on the site. The management of these sites falls into three categories:

Trafford: Trafford Council fully manage 8 sites. Typically these are where the number of plots are low.

Committee: Voluntary committees help run 14 sites and undertake some of the management duties such as waiting lists and plot allocation. The Council maintains the site, retains control over tenancy management and receives plot fees.

Self – Managed: The Council leases 13 sites to incorporated associations who manage the sites including waiting lists, plot allocation, ensuring plots are in good condition and tenancies. Self-managed sites also maintain aspects of the site according to the lease arrangement. Trafford Council receives a proportion of the plot fees; the remaining is retained by the associations. The site locations, names, plot numbers and management arrangements are detailed below. Waiting list values are as recorded in 2023.



Locality	Site Name	Plots	Waiting List	Management
North	Church Street	9	19	Trafford
North	Moss Park	35	30	Committee
North	Humphrey Park	70	5	Self-Managed
North	Chadwick	42	6	Self-Managed
North	Seymour Grove	99	76	Committee
North	Gorse Hill	112	15	Committee

Locality	Site Name	Plots	Waiting List	Management
South	Eaton Road	9	20	Trafford
South	Dequincy Road	12	6	Trafford
South	Moss Lane	25	15	Self-Managed
South	Riddings	80	10	Self-Managed
South	Golf Road	75	16	Self-Managed
South	Wellfield Lane	48	6	Self-Managed
South	Pickering Lodge	27	6	Committee
South	Trafford Drive	57	9	Committee
South	Vicarage Lane	33	53	Committee
South	Grove Lane	31	4	Committee
South	Woodstock	12	4	Committee

Locality	Site Name	Plots	Waiting List	Management
West	Wyndcliffe Drive	4	4	Trafford
West	Leagate	10	1	Trafford
West	St Mary's	12	5	Trafford
West	Mansfield	17	0	Self-Managed
West	Marlborough	70	4	Self-Managed
West	Mossfield	62	12	Self-Managed
West	The Grove	28	4	Self-Managed
West	Brookfield	42	4	Self-Managed
West	Granville	42	11	Self-Managed
West	Balmoral Road	31	3	Committee
West	Moss View	39	15	Committee

Locality	Site Name	Plots	Waiting List	Management
Central	Tavistock	4	2	Trafford
Central	Totnes Road	8	5	Trafford
Central	Grosvenor Road	86	15	Self-Managed
Central	Moor Nook	70	29	Committee
Central	Walton Road	34	33	Committee
Central	Warslow Drive	29	2	Committee
Central	Winstanley	93	11	Committee

STAKEHOLDERS & ENGAGEMENT

Resources

The allotment service is solely funded by the revenue it generates from the collection of rents. Trafford Council employs a full time Allotment Officer, within the Climate Change and Sustainability Service, Place Directorate. The Allotment Officer is supported by the Principal Sustainability & Climate Change Officer, Finance Officer, and Place Directorate business support. The revenue pays for the following costs to the service

All sites:

- Full time allotments officer and contribution to ancillary staffing costs.
- Maintenance contract to cut hedges adjoining public footpaths.
- Maintenance of council-owned site buildings.
- Water charges.
- Tree works.
- Day to day maintenance costs e.g. replacement padlocks, burst taps, roof repairs, fly tipping rubbish removals.

Council managed sites also receive the following support:

- Infrastructure projects – fencing, pathways, toilet facilities, roads, gates.
- Annual Legionella testing / asbestos checks / Portable Appliance Testing
- Grass paths within allotments.

The allotment service is also reliant on valued volunteers that help manage the allotment sites. These include site committees and site work party volunteers.

The Strengths and Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

To inform this strategy, the Council has considered the service's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats associated with the provision of allotments in Trafford.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<p>There are many established committees with great expertise helping to run allotment sites;</p> <p>Trafford has a growing number of Self-Managed sites run by the community for the community;</p>	<p>There is a higher concentration of sites in suburban areas compared to inner city areas;</p> <p>Trafford Council does not have demographic data for tenants;</p> <p>Disparity in committee expertise;</p> <p>Some sites struggle to fill all their plots whilst others are oversubscribed;</p>
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<p>More efficient processes can be introduced to improve the service for tenants.</p> <p>Many tenants would be satisfied with a half plot, reducing waiting lists and increasing number of tenants;</p> <p>There are opportunities to improve biodiversity across sites;</p> <p>Increased help and funding for sites through corporate social responsibility and grants</p>	<p>Impact of Climate Change is causing flooding on some sites and creating prolonged dry periods. This leads to untenable plots and higher water use, impacting the service viability.</p> <p>Some sites find it difficult to recruit volunteers onto committees leading to reduced support in running sites.</p>

Stakeholders:

The smooth running of the allotments relies on a range of stakeholders working together. These are set out below

Public Stakeholders	Professional Stakeholders
<p>Residents</p> <p>Private Allotments</p> <p>Council Allotments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tenants • Committees • Self-Managed Associations 	<p>National Allotment Society</p> <p>Trust for Conservation Volunteers (TCV)</p> <p>Trafford Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health • Environmental Health • Development & Estates • Culture • Corporate Social responsibility • Neighbourhood Leads

Engagement:

An online survey was available between 21st June and 9th August 2024 to provide an opportunity for allotment tenants, committees, self-managed allotment associations and residents to provide their views on a number of aspects contributing to this strategy. The survey attracted 247 responses across the following strategic themes:

- Supporting, empowering, and rewarding allotment site volunteers.
- Ensuring sufficient allotments
- Enhancing environmental sustainability
- Celebrating and Promoting allotment gardening.
- Tenancy Management

The survey results can be viewed at <https://trafford.citizenspace.com/place/allotment-strategy-engagement/results/allotmentsurveyresults.pdf>

The council also ran four listening events throughout the Borough, where residents shared their thoughts in face-to-face sessions.

The strategy has also been informed through interviews with the following professional stakeholders:

- National Allotment Society
- Public Health
- Trust for Conservation Volunteers
- Trafford Council Environmental Health
- Trafford Council Development & Estates
- Trafford Council Social Value Officer
- Trafford council Culture Lead



OBJECTIVES

The below objectives will support the outcomes:

- 1. Improve allotment infrastructure to make sites more accessible and functional for users.** The Council will undertake condition surveys and make improvements to allotment site infrastructure, including ensuring access for plot holders with disabilities. It will seek to address the impact of flooding and ensure good tree maintenance.
- 2. Support, empower and reward allotment site volunteers.** The Council will empower and support site committees. It will ensure quality guidance and advice is available to plot holders. On some sites, self-management groups have developed which now fund and manage their own sites. This may not be the desire of all sites, however the Council will seek to empower and support communities to manage, develop and enhance their allotment sites according to the communities wishes.
- 3. Ensuring sufficient allotments.** The Council will seek opportunities to maximise existing plot space, improve waiting list management and work with the Local Plan to encourage new sites alongside housing developments.
- 4. Enhance environmental sustainability including biodiversity and sustainable food production.** The Council will take action to enhance biodiversity, promote sustainable food, conserve water and improve soil quality.
- 5. Celebrate and Promote allotment gardening.** The Council will improve communication, community engagement and celebration of allotment gardening, and its important contribution to the heritage of the borough
- 6. Create a sustainably funded service that meets demand for the long term.** The Council will seek cost savings on expenditure such as maintenance, water and billing whilst exploring grant income opportunities.



OUTCOMES

This strategy aims to help Trafford residents have access to growing spaces, promoting mental and physical well-being, supporting skill development, enhancing biodiversity in our green spaces, and creating opportunities for social connection and physical activity.

Trafford allotments have the potential to significantly contribute towards Trafford's Corporate Plan, Carbon Neutral Action Plan, Trafford Moving Strategy and Cultural Strategy for Trafford. The strategy will be community focused. In light of the aims of the Localism Act (2011), and with ongoing reductions to council funding, the council is keener than ever to see local communities take a more active role in managing allotment sites in the future. However, it is recognised the greater community involvement cannot advance without empowerment and support. With these two points in mind, the council will undertake a number of actions to empower and support communities to take a greater role in managing, developing and enhancing allotment sites.

This strategy will focus on achieving the following outcomes:

- The best start for our children and young people - Encourage and promote good mental and physical health in children. Allotments will offer opportunities for education and learning through building partnerships with schools and nurseries.
- Healthy and independent lives for everyone - Improve health and wellbeing to reduce the impact of poverty. Allotments will be used to promote improved physical and mental health, through providing opportunities for outdoor recreation. They represent a great way for families to spend time together and with neighbours whilst accessing a healthier diet.

- A thriving economy and homes for all - Help people to gain skills and improve access to employment, to improve household income. Allotments represent a good way for families to get access to affordable, healthy food.
- Addressing the Climate Crisis - Ensure our green spaces are biodiverse and provide opportunities for residents to be social and active. Allotments contribute to tackling climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide and providing increased soakaway opportunities for rainfall. They improve the borough's sustainability by reducing food miles and their presence helps maintain the stock of green space in the city. Allotments also promote biodiversity by offering habitats for flora and fauna.
- Culture, sport and heritage for everyone - Provide accessible, effective and sustainable physical activity. Allotments will be accessible to all, with a focus on diversity and inclusion. They will support community cohesion and encourage neighbourliness by providing well used public spaces. They offer opportunities for partners to utilise the resource for particular needs such as community payback, health improvement and behavioural change programmes. Trafford has strong heritage links to market gardens and growing, home to famous local cultivars such as Timperley early rhubarb and the Altrincham carrot.

ALLOTMENT STRATEGY ACTION PLAN

Timescale

Short	Medium	Long
1 – 2 years	2 – 4 years	4 - 5 years

Objective 1: Improve allotment infrastructure to make Allotment Committees more accessible and functional for users.						
Action	Ref	What we will do	How will it be measured	Lead	Support	Timescale
Improving infrastructure	1.1	Identify priority boundary improvements such as hedges, fences and gates and prepare business cases for funding.	% of Allotment Sites with survey completed	AMEY	Allotment Officer	Medium
			No. of priorities identified	Allotment Officer	AMEY & TMBC Estates	
			% of priority business cases submitted	Allotment Officer	TMBC Finance & TMBC Estates	
	1.2	Identify priority water supply improvements and prepare business cases for funding, prioritising rainwater harvesting	% of Allotment Sites with survey completed	AMEY	Allotment Officer	Medium
			No. of priorities identified	Allotment Officer	AMEY & TMBC Estates	
			% of priority business cases submitted	Allotment Officer	TMBC Finance & TMBC Estates	
	1.3	Identify priority Asset improvements such as buildings and prepare business cases for funding	% of Allotment Sites completed	AMEY	Allotment Officer	Long
			No. of priorities identified	Allotment Officer	AMEY & TMBC Estates	
			% of priority business cases submitted	Allotment Officer	TMBC Finance & TMBC Estates	
	1.4	Identify access improvements for people with mobility issues:	% of Allotment Sites with survey completed	Allotment Officer	Allotment Officer	Long
			No. of priorities identified	Allotment Officer	AMEY, Site Committees & TMBC Estates	
			% of priority business cases submitted	Allotment Officer	Site Committees, TMBC Finance, Social Value Coordinator & TMBC Estates	
Flooding	1.5	Identify flooding issues and bid for funds to address issues.	% of at-risk Allotments with flood survey completed	Allotment Officer	Allotment Officer	Long
			No. of priorities identified	Allotment Officer	AMEY / Site Committees / TMBC Estates	
			% of priority business cases prepared	Allotment Officer	Site Committees / TMBC Finance	

A safe and healthy tree inventory	1.6	Quality maintenance of trees	% of Allotment Sites with tree survey completed	TMBC Tree Unit & TMBC Estates	Allotment Officer	Short
			Schedule prepared and in delivery	TMBC Tree Unit	Allotment Officer, TMBC Parks, TMBC Highways, Private landowners & TMBC Estates	Long
			Reduced self-seeded trees identified in Site inspection	Allotment Officer	Site Committees	Long

Objective 2: Support, empower and reward allotment site volunteers.						
Action	Ref	What we will do	How will it be measured	Lead	Support	Timescale
Recognition of Volunteers' contribution	2.1	Consult with Allotment Committees on how to best promote best practice & establish Award(s) for highly recognised volunteers	Publish articles	Allotment Officer	TMBC Communications & Allotment Committees	Long
			Consult with Committees			
Support Site Committees	2.2	Consult with committees are how best to support networking	Committees consulted Training promoted	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Medium
	2.3	Support Committee training	% Allotment Committees attending inhouse training session(s)	Allotment Officer	Site committees / NAS	Short
	2.4	Provide examples of best practice	Best practice communicated across Allotment Committees	Allotment Officer	Council Comms Team	Short
Empower site committees	2.5	investigate appropriate maintenance tasks suitable for site committees	Site based maintenance established	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Medium
Communicate Allotment Guidance	2.6	Improve the non-cultivation & nuisance process	Improvements implemented	Allotment Officer	Site committees / National allotment society	Short
			Guidance established			
			Guidance established			
	2.7	Communicate what the role of committee is to plot holders	Roles communicated across Allotment Committees	Allotment Officer	Site committees / NAS	Short

Objective 3: Ensuring sufficient allotments						
Action	Ref	What we will do	How will it be measured	Lead	Support	Timescale
Create more allotment provision	3.1	Investigate the provision of half plots for new tenants	Half plot proposal	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Short
	3.2	Identify space on existing allotments where plots can be created	Increase plot provision	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Long
	3.3	Use Planning Policy to encourage new developments to include allotment provision	Submit proposal to development of Local Plan	Allotment Officer	TMBC Strategic Planning	Short
Better manage allotment waiting lists	3.4	Establish a system to signpost people on long waiting lists, to local shorter waiting lists	System established	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Medium
	3.5	Restrict plots to people living within the local authority area	Proposal to restrict plots	Allotment Officer	TMBC Legal	Medium
	3.6	To offer healthy and independent lives for everyone the Council will restrict tenants to a single full-size plot unless a new tenant cannot be found priority. This approach will only apply in circumstances where a waiting list exists.	Proposal to limit plots	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Short
	3.7	Provide regular updates on applicants' position on the waiting list	Establish regular updates	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Medium

Objective 4: Enhance environmental sustainability including biodiversity and sustainable food production.						
Action	Ref	What we will do	How will it be measured	Lead	Support	Timescale
Enhanced Biodiversity	4.1	Guidance on how to enhance biodiversity	Provide advice and guidance	Allotment Officer	Site committees / NAS	Medium
Sustainable food production	4.2	Encourage organic gardening & the avoidance of peat compost	Provide advice and guidance	Allotment Officer	Site Committees	Short
Conserve water (Also see 1.4)	4.3	Investigate communal rainwater harvesting	Business case prepared	Allotment Officer	Allotment Committees / AMEY / United Utilities	Long
	4.4	Provide water conservation advice & Guidance installing equipment	Provision of advice and guidance	Allotment Officer	Allotment Committees	Medium
	4.5	Provision of zero / low-cost water butts	Uptake of water butts	Allotment Officer	AMEY / United Utilities	Medium
Improve Air Quality	4.6	Provide advice and guidance to reduce poor air quality and health impacts.	Provide advice and guidance such as avoiding the burning green waste (vegetation with a high-water content) and the use of incinerators which enable a high burn temperature	Allotment Officer	Allotment Committees / Environmental Health	Short
Improve Soil Quality	4.7	Institute a ban on carpet use; concrete structures & tyres on allotments	Institute a ban	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Medium
	4.8	Investigate Communal composting	Provide advice and guidance	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Long
Manage invasive species	4.9	Institute improved measures to prevent the spread of Invasive Species, (such as Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan balsam), and to control or eradicate the species from the site.	Improved measures instituted	Allotment Officer	AMEY / Environmental Health	Short



GLOSSARY

Objective 5: Celebrate and Promote allotment gardening						
Action	Ref	What we will do	How will it be measured	Lead	Support	Timescale
Communications	5.1	Review and publicise Website & Provide a borough wide e-newsletter	Website is improved; visits to website increased. Newsletter published online	Allotment Officer	Council Comms team	Short
	5.2	Address digital exclusion	Non digital Allotment promotional material	Allotment Officer	Trafford Digital Inclusion Officer	Medium
Community engagement	5.3	Guidance and promotion on community & schools' engagement	Provide advice and guidance	Allotment Officer	Allotment committees / NAS	Medium
	5.4	Approach encouraging community volunteers on a site-by-site basis following site committee consultations	Promote offer	Allotment Officer	Site committees	Medium
Promote offer			Allotment Officer	Site committees	Medium	
Engage with people experiencing health & socioeconomic inequalities	5.5	Outreach through Neighbourhood Networks	Increased tenancies from people experiencing health inequalities	Allotment Officer	Neighbourhood Leads	Medium
	5.6	Support access to gardening equipment		Allotment Officer	Site Committees, Neighbourhood Leads, Household Support Fund, Green proscripting	Medium

Objective 6: Create a sustainably funded service that meets demand for the long term.						
Action	Ref	What we will do	How will it be measured	Lead	Support	Timescale
Reduce service costs	6.1	Review maintenance contracts	New maintenance contracts in place with cost savings (ex-inflation)	Allotment Officer	STAR Procurement	Short
	6.2	Engage Community Payback Scheme	No. of days	Allotment Officer	Community Payback / Allotment Committees	Short
	6.3	Paperless billing	% of tenants receiving paperless bills	Allotment Officer	TMBC Finance / SAP specialist	Medium
	6.4	Achieve Water bill savings: Also see 5.4 - 5.7	% of accurate billing data	Allotment Officer	AMEY	Medium
Increase external funding	6.5	Promote grant funding opportunities	Grant values secured	Allotment Officer	Allotment Committees / Trafford Local Infrastructure Organisation	Long
	6.6	Seek social value opportunities from Council contractors.	Increase in social value activity	Allotment Officer	Allotment Committees / Council Social Value Coordinator	Medium

AMEY are Trafford Council's service delivery partner in the One Trafford Partnership delivering a number of services across the borough.

Term	Meaning
Air Quality	A measure of how much pollution is in the air, which includes particulates such as soot and gaseous pollutants such as Carbon Monoxide.
Allotment Committee	These are voluntary committees which help run allotment sites and undertake some of the management duties such as waiting lists and plot allocation.
AMEY	Trafford Council's service delivery partner in the One Trafford Partnership delivering a number of services across the borough.
Best Practice	A practice that has been proven to work well and produce good results, and is therefore recommended as a model.
Biodiversity	The variety of plant and animal life in the world or in a particular location, a high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable.
Community Payback	A scheme that involves people who have been sentenced by the courts to do unpaid work in our communities to improve them
Local Plan	A Trafford Council document which sets out planning policies and proposals for new development across Trafford.
Mobility Issues	A person is having difficulty walking and moving as they normally would
NAS	The National Allotment Society, a representative body for UK allotment holders
Networking	Making connections between people and building relationships
Non-Cultivation	A state or situation in which plants are not being grown
Organic Gardening	A way of growing crops in which the grower makes minimal use of manufactured chemical substances
Paperless billing	Customers receive an electronic version of their bill or statement instead of a paper copy, usually distributed via email
Planning Policy	The method by which Trafford Council manages the development of land and buildings is planned for, managed and controlled
Rainwater Harvesting	The collection and storage of rainwater that would otherwise go into the ground or flow down gutters into the drain.
Self-Seeded trees	Trees that grow without being intentionally planted
Social Value	Council contractors are required to provide additional benefits for people and communities beyond just the delivery of the goods and services bought by the Council.
TMBC	Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council (Trafford Council)
TMBC Communications	The Council communications team manage the council's public relations
TMBC Estates	The Council Estates team manages the Council's buildings and land
TMBC Finance	The Council Finance team manage the Council's finances and approve internal funding requests
TMBC Highways	The Council Highways team manages the public adopted highways such as roads, pavements and rights of way.
TMBC Legal	The Council's Legal team provides legal advice to the allotment Service such as for self-managed leases.
TMBC Parks	The Council Parks team manages the Council's municipal parks
TMBC Strategic Planning	The Council's Strategic Planning team develop and prepare planning policies such as the Local Plan.
TMBC Tree Unit	The Council Tree unit manages the public trees such as within Parks, Allotments and along highways.



