



Scottish Allotments
and Gardens Society

Growing Scotland: education

Compiled With Information From:

BTCV

Butterfly Conservation Scotland

The Calyx

Community Food and Health (Scotland)

Eco Schools

Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens

Garden for Life

Garden Organic,

Greenspace Scotland

Grounds for Learning

Horticultural Trades Association

The Institute of Horticulture

ISPAL

Keep Scotland Beautiful

National Trust for Scotland

Plantlife Scotland

Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh

Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society

Royal Horticultural Society

Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society

Scottish Environment LINK

Scottish Gardeners' Forum

The Scottish Landscape Forum

The Soil Association

Scotland's Gardens Scheme

Slow Food Edinburgh

Trellis



Gardening contributes to the
Scottish Executive agenda to improve
the Nation's well being

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GARDENS AND GARDENING: EDUCATION

PROPOSED SUPPORTIVE CO-ORDINATED ACTIONS FROM THE SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

‘Learning For Our Future: Scotland’s First Action Plan for the UN Decade of Education’

Gardening involves many practical skills, knowledge of horticulture and biology and observational techniques.

ACTION

USE school and community gardens, allotments and orchards to teach environmental issues.

‘Ambitious, Excellent Schools programme’

90% of Scotland’s schools have joined the eco-schools programme. There is an identified need for more support for teachers.

ACTION

SUPPORT Continuing Professional Development in gardening for teachers

Skills shortage :

There is a deficiency of specific skills at all professional levels within the sector.

ACTION

ENSURE CPD for professional gardeners.

Life-long learning:

A statistical survey showed 16% of respondents stated they would do more gardening if they knew more about it or got better results.

ACTION

LINK professional gardeners and education establishment to promote gardening skills and advice throughout Scotland.

Gardens and gardening increase the overall well being of the Nation economically, physically and mentally. They could drive forward employment, health, communities, biodiversity, environment and education. This potential growth should be championed in a vision for Scotland’s gardens.

It is suggested that, within the time of this Parliament, **the First Minister** recognizes the importance of gardening to the well-being of the nation and instructs:

- a representative body to produce a strategy and action plan for a nationwide commitment to a gardening agenda.
- government agencies involved with employment and economic opportunities to assess the contribution the gardening sector could make to Scotland by improving the local environment, creating new business and making a real, practical difference to the urban and rural land-scape.
- the health service to recognise and promote the contribution gardening makes to health and well being.
- local authorities to make long term strategic provision for accessible gardening for local communities thus providing the means to implement the requirements of the planning regulations.
- councils, public agencies, professional bodies, education establishments, gardening societies to develop, in partnership, a range of policies which include the design and implementation of national and regional programmes of management, gardening skills and environmental research.