

22-24 Ferry Road Drive
Edinburgh
EH4 4BR

18th March 2021

To Edinburgh City Council

Letter of support for Community Asset Transfer – Granton Community Gardener's

I am writing in support of the application from Granton Community Gardener's (GCG) in their application for a Community Asset Transfer for the garden at 10 Wardieburn Road. GCG have done incredible work in supporting their local community prior to Covid 19 but also during the pandemic that hit our local community the hardest. As part of a wider consortium GCG were recognised for their work over the last year and won Inspiring Partnership award as part of the North Edinburgh Covid 19 Respond and Recovery Group at this year's Chamber of Commerce Awards.

I believe that the local residents would want the GCG to have this space and I believe this because the GCG have the local community needs at the heart of everything they do within that community.

I believe the benefits of owning the site will be substantial. The community garden has been created through a really impressive community effort since May 2018, when it was a building site following the demolition of the old Granton Early Years building. Thousands of hours of volunteer effort have gone into it, so it will be empowering for everyone involved to know that their hard work can last, and isn't contingent on the Council's land use priorities, which could change suddenly. I consider the garden a strategic local asset for food production, education, and access to nature; so I want to ensure this is secured for the long term and know that GCG are the organisation to lead this. Ownership will also allow them to attract funding to improve the site, and mean that they are able to develop it in line with their ambitions and maximise its benefits to our community - providing a top class educational environment for local school children to visit, a place for neighbours to share and connect over food, and a haven for people and wildlife to shelter from everyday stress.

GCG are part of the wider strategic partnership within the above named Respond and Recovery group and this piece of work they are undertaking links directly to so many of our aims as a wider consortium – sustainable food strategy, growing / green spaces strategy and social isolation to name a few.

I whole heartedly put my name and that of my organisation Fresh Start behind this transfer. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards



Biddy Kelly

Managing Director

Fresh Start