

COMMUNITY GARDEN SURVEY 2021-2022

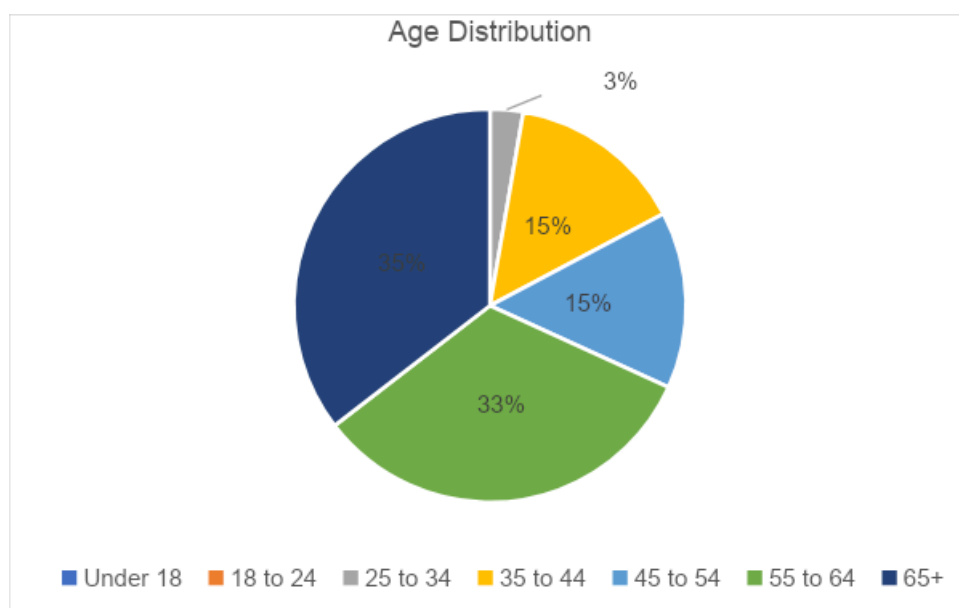
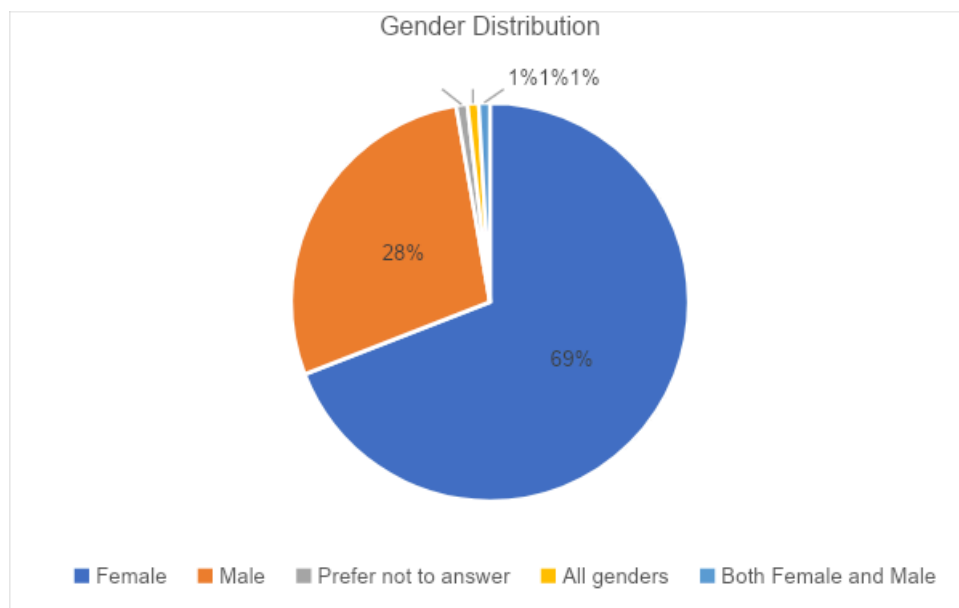
About the Survey

Responses

The 2022 Community Garden Survey gathered 187 responses between December 2021 and February 2022 with most responses received during December 2021 as shown in the column graph below. Of these 187 responses, 165 were from unique gardens.

Key demographic information of respondents [Survey Questions 2 and 3]

The respondents to the survey were primarily female (over 65%) and more than half (68%) were over the age of 55 as shown in the pie charts below.



Garden Details

Distribution of Gardens across Australia [Survey Question 1g]

New South Wales and Victoria are the states with the highest number of gardens (36% and 18%) as shown in the table below.

State Representation	Number of Gardens
NSW	67 (36%)
VIC	33 (18%)
QLD	30 (16%)
WA	21 (11%)
SA	19 (10%)
TAS	10 (5%)
NT	5 (3%)
ACT	2 (1%)
Total	187

What type of land tenure is your garden on? [Survey Question 1e]

Half of the gardens are in Council Land (50%), followed by Church Land (11%) and School Land (11%), and Private Land (10%) as summarized in the table below.

Land Type	Number of Gardens
Council Land	94 (50%)
Church Land	21 (11%)
School Land	20 (11%)
Private Land	19 (10%)
State Land	16 (8.5%)
Leased Land	10 (5.5%)
Licensed or Permit based Land	7 (4%)
Total	187

What stage of development is the garden in? [Survey Question 22]

The vast majority of gardens are well established (64%) and some have recently opened (20%) as depicted in the table below.

Options	Number of Responses
Well established	120 (64%)
Open and active: early days	38 (20%)
Under construction	10 (5.5%)
Other	10 (5.5%)
Dormant: awaiting revival	7 (4%)
Planning stages	2 (1%)
Total	187

Responses falling under “Other” included the following:

- Awaiting revival whilst undergoing construction.
- Established but not well established exactly
- Four years. Still have a few projects to complete.
- It's well established, but community interest has waned
- Need to communicate with the Community Hub
- Not sure. It's too hot at this time of year to visit the garden and we haven't been active in quite a while. I have a feeling Covid has taken its toll.
- Re-establishing and re-constructing after Council's request to relocate.
- The locals don't use the garden much at all. We're a farming community. I would love support to come up with ways to 're-brand' the community garden as somewhere for people to meet, get involved in something fun/meaningful. Help!
- We are established and about to move to a new location. A lengthy 2 year process.
- Well established and undergoing new planning stage.

What is your estimate of the total number of members involved in your community garden? [Survey Question 23]

Most gardens have a relatively small number of members: 60% of gardens have between 10 and 49 people, 17% of gardens have between 50 and 99 people, and 13.5% of gardens have between 0 and 9 members.

Member ranges	Number of Responses
0 to 9	25 (13.5%)
10 to 49	110 (60%)
50 to 99	31 (17%)
100 to 499	17 (9%)
500+	1 (0.5%)
Total	184

(Two gardens did not know how many members they had, and one was in recess)

How big is the total garden site? [Survey Question 24]

The size of garden has a varied distribution ranging from 0 to 25,000m² with the highest frequency (27%) for gardens between 1,000 to 5,000m² as shown in the table below.

Size ranges (m ²)	Number of Responses
0 to 100	21 (11%)
100 to 500	45 (24%)
500 to 1,000	38 (20%)
1,000 to 5,000	50 (27%)
5,000 +	24 (13%)
Don't know	9 (5%)
Total	187

Do you have individually-tended plots, or is the garden a commons? [Survey Question 25]

Half of the gardens are mostly all commons (43.5%) and some have a combination of commons and individual plots (33%).

Options	Number of Responses
Mostly all commons	81 (43.5%)
Some commons and some individual plots	62 (33%)
Mostly all individual plots	26 (14%)
All commons	17 (9%)
All individual	1 (0.5%)
Total	187

Responses falling under “Other” included the following:

- Commons at the moment, but some will be designated for disability support groups once construction is complete.
- Common and individual and lots of native plants, play area, forest etc.
- Commons and chook yard.
- Demonstration garden with volunteer assistance – all produce supplied to charity.
- Indigenous garden (not food) – all held in common.
- The garden operates by volunteers, who cultivate and donate social food.
- Still in planning stage. We expect to have an even mix of private and communal plots.
- This neighbourhood garden is in a public space (no fences or buildings) – a common space only with garden beds managed by both garden members.

How many individual plots are there? [Survey Question 26a)]

Most gardens (14.5%) have between 0 and 10 individual plots with the remaining gardens having a varied range of plots as shown in the table below. However, a large number of gardens (44%) either did not know how many individual plots there were, or did not record a response.

Range of individual plots	Number of Responses
0 to 9	27 (14.5%)
10 to 19	24 (13%)
20 to 29	16 (8.5%)
30 to 39	21 (11%)
40 to 49	3 (1.5%)
50+	11 (6%)
Unanswered/Unknown	82 (44%)
TBD	3 (1.5%)
Total	187

Are almost all the plots usually occupied? [Survey Question 26b)]

This question was left unanswered for almost half of the respondents (42%). When answered, the most (45%) indicated that the plots are usually occupied.

Response	Number of Responses
Yes	83 (45%)
No	14 (7.5%)
Don't Know	2 (1%)
About half	4 (2%)
N/A	5 (2.5%)
Unanswered	79 (42%)
Total	187

Responses falling under "Other" included the following:

- Growing herbs and vegetables – interpreted as Yes
- Need to speak with community hub – interpreted as Don't know
- Still in pre-construction – interpreted as N/A

Is there a waiting list? [Survey Question 26c]

Similar to Question 26b, many respondents did not provide an answer, indicating that either waiting lists are not present or there is a belief that this question does not apply.

Response	Number of Responses
Yes	42 (22.5%)
No	60 (32%)
Don't Know	1 (0.5%)
N/A	4 (2%)
Unanswered	80 (43%)
Total	187

Responses falling under "Other" included:

- Not really, as we've decided to transition to communal plots – interpreted as No.

- Not at the moment, but there has been – interpreted as No.
- Need to speak to Community Hub – interpreted as Don't Know

If there is a waiting list, how long does it usually take to get a plot? [Survey Question 26d]

Considering the 49 responses that indicated the presence of a waiting list, the table below presents the distribution of waiting durations. In general, members of the community are waiting between 0 and 36 months to get access to a community garden and the other responses indicate long or immeasurable wait times.

Duration Range (months)	Number of Responses
0 to 5	18 (37%)
6 to 11	10 (20.5%)
12 to 35	10 (20.5%)
36+	2 (4%)
Other	9 (18%)
Total	49

Responses falling under “Other” included the following:

- Considering putting more plots in as the original number sold out immediately and there is constant requests for more.
- Covid-19 extended it from 3-6 months to 12 months.
- Has depended on someone leaving, very random.
- Until someone else leaves, we are a relatively small COGS garden.
- Usually 6 months, although shortened by covid
- Very few people wait on the list. They might go and join another garden.
- 3 or 4 people.

What infrastructure do you have in your garden? [Survey Question 27]

Considering the 188 gardens, the table below describes the presence of different infrastructure types. Most gardens have a shed (89%), an educational space (42%), toilets (40%), and kitchen (35%), but workshops are less common. Interesting to note that even gardens in the “planning” stages have the presence of some infrastructure, perhaps indicating a desire to repurpose existing resources.

Infrastructure Type	Number of Responses	% of Gardens with the feature
Shed	167	89%
Educational Space	78	42%
Toilets	75	40%
Kitchen	65	35%
Workshop	42	22%

Responses falling under “Other” included:

- Water Tanks
- Shelter Areas
- Greenhouse/ Shade house

- Pizza Oven/BBQs
- Sinks
- Play Area/Social Area
- Shed, Social area, Pergola, Outdoor Seating, Picnic Benches
- Access to Utilities/Toilets/Community Hall
- Composting Cage/Potting Area
- Chicken Coop
- Bee Enclosure
- Gardening tools, Wheelbarrows
- Worm farms
- Return & Earn Machine
- Igloo
- Raised Garden Beds
- Wicking Beds
- Grassed areas
- Men's shed
- Solar Power (Off grid)
- Strawbale Kitchen
- Tool library
- Nurseries
- Stage
- Dog run
- Community Mulch Heaps
- Basketball court

Approximately how many people come to the garden in a typical week? [Survey Question 28a]

In general, there is between 0 and 50 people participating or visiting the community gardens that have been surveyed (147/187 responses = 78% of responses. The “Don't Know” and “Unanswered” responses can indicate gardens that are still in the planning process.

Range of Visitors (People)	Number of Responses
0 to 9	55 (29%)
10 to 24	54 (29%)
25 to 49	37 (20%)
50+	24 (13%)
Don't Know	15 (8%)
Unanswered	2 (1%)
Total	187

On average, each year, approximately how many people come to the garden for special events, open days, tours, etc? [Survey Question 28b]

This question was not very well worded as responses seemed to not understand whether this was a “yearly” value or an “average per event” value which are drastically different. Furthermore, there is confusion on whether the respondent needed to consider regular gardeners or visitors. This is reflected in the following survey feedback, “*unclear question - do I duplicate regular visitors who aren't gardeners?!*”

Caution should be taken when interpreting the following results:

Range of Visitors (People)	Number of Responses
0 to 49	61 (33%)
50 to 249	54 (29%)
250 to 499	17 (9%)
500 +	27 (14%)
Don't Know	14 (7.5%)
No events yet	9 (5%)
N/A	5 (2.5%)
Total	187

Garden Activities

What sort of cultivation happens in the garden? [Survey Question 29]

The most common cultivations identified in at least half of the gardens were *Food production for individual gardeners and households* (84.5%), *Informal composting and/or worm farming* (74%), and *Workshops and informal training* (64%) as shown in the Table below. Less common cultivations included: *beekeeping, chicken (for eggs or to eat), Food grown for cash sales, Accredited training, Aquaculture/aquaponics* and *Other animals - to eat*.

Types of cultivation	Number of Responses	% of Gardens with the feature
Food production for individual gardeners and households	158	84.5%
Informal composting and/or wormfarming	139	74%
Workshops and informal training	120	64%
Shared meals in the garden	78	42%
Visits and tours (e.g. the garden hosts visits from local schools)	97	52%
Orchards	54	29%
Food swapping and trading	69	37%
Allotments (for growing vegetables or flowers)	71	38%
Food forest	46	25%
Food for community events	37	20%
Large-scale composting or green-waste processing	34	18%
Food donations to food banks, soup kitchens, charities	46	25%

Beekeeping	52	28%
Chickens - for eggs	35	19%
Food grown for cash sales	31	16.5%
Accredited training	5	2.5%
Aquaculture/aquaponics	10	5%
Other animals - to eat	2	1%
Chickens - to eat	1	0.5%

Responses falling under “Other” included:

- Native garden.
- Still in planning stages. Only have 8 raised beds at the moment.
- Our garden is filled with plants used by First Nations people for food, fibre, tools, and medicine.

Are you using any water conservation methods on site? [Survey Question 30]

The four most recurrent water conservation methods adopted in at least half of the gardens included: mulching of garden beds (96%), Improving soil to increase water holding capacity (82%), and Rainwater tanks (including barrels) (61.5%), and wicking beds (46.5%).

Types of conservation	Number of Responses	% of Gardens with the feature
Mulching of garden beds	179	96%
Improving soil to increase water holding capacity	154	82%
Rainwater tanks (including barrels)	115	61.5%
Wicking beds	87	46.5%
Drip or seepage watering systems	47	25%
Stormwater retained on site (e.g. swales/infiltration ditches)	33	18%
Greywater use	7	4%

Where is the garden in terms of use of fertilisers, pesticides, and herbicides? [Survey Question 31]

The majority of gardens (61%) strongly encourage organic production as summarized in the table below.

Policy	Number of Responses
Policy of organic production is strongly encouraged.	114 (61%)
Garden meets formal standards, but is not certified	27 (15%)
Use of chemicals is discouraged.	28 (15%)
No specific policy. Gardeners make their own decisions.	10 (5%)
Garden is certified organic and biodynamic	0
Other	8 (4%)
Total	187

Responses falling under “Other” included:

- As agroecological model the garden is organic, positive carbon and low energy run as minimal budget.
- Erindale is part of the 12 organic gardens managed by COGS. We are using organic, biodynamic and permaculture principles.
- No chemicals used. Natural pesticides only.
- Onsite soil = no topsoil, a lot of heavy clay with stones/rocks/rubbish. Prefer organic gardening. 3 garden beds with compost, mixed manures, seaweed/Seasol, rock dust, blood & bone, with pea straw mulch to improve soil health/water retention. Mulched areas with leaf-bark mulch (2m2 deliveries by local government as needed) to reduce weeds.
- Products available in Bunnings approved. Otherwise no specific policy.
- Some gardeners were using pesticides which I argued against.
- Sustainable organic garden principles only.
- We have used pesticide for rat control.
- We still have to settle on this issue.

Funding and People

How many hours of volunteer work are contributed to garden admin in a typical week? [Survey Question 32a]

A majority of gardens had volunteers supporting garden development.

Duration Range (hours/week)	Number of Responses
0 to 9	101 (54%)
10 to 24	55 (29%)
25 to 49	11 (6%)
50+	7 (4%)
Don't Know	7 (4%)
N/A	6 (3%)
Total	187

How many hours are contributed additionally to put on special events in a given year?
[Survey Question 32b]

Similar to Question 32a, responses indicated uncertainty regarding the time scale: whether it is weekly or yearly data. Thus, caution should be taken when interpreting the following results.

Duration Range (hours/year)	Number of Responses
0 to 49	100 (53.5%)
50 to 249	49 (26%)
250 to 499	3 (1.5%)
500 +	5 (3%)
Unanswered	1 (0.5%)
Don't Know	16 (8.5%)
N/A	13 (7%)
Total	187

If there are any paid staff, please estimate the number of paid hours per week in total.
[Survey Question 33]

The vast majority of gardens (65%) are dependent on volunteers (no paid staff members or hours recorded) as shown below. However, it is likely that the responses of "N/A" also indicate that there are no paid staff either, increasing the number to 159/187 (85%). Only one surveyed farm has more than 60 paid hours per week.

Duration Range (hours/week)	Number of Responses
No Paid Staff	122 (65%)
0 to 19	20 (11%)
20 to 39	3 (1.5%)
40 to 59	2 (1%)
60 +	1 (0.5%)
Don't Know	2 (1%)
N/A	37 (20%)
Total	187

Does your garden currently have any staffing needs? (Yes/No) [Survey Question 34]

Approximately 28% of surveyed gardens have staffing needs, suggesting that a majority of farms are functioning well as is in terms of staff.

Yes	52 (28%)
No	135 (72%)
Total	187

Is there funding available for any staffing needs? Please indicate Yes/No and provide a comment. [Survey Question 35]

In general, there is limited funding available, however some of the comments indicate that funding is considered as being against the principles of “volunteer based” community gardens. As shown in the additional comments below, this is not a universal trend, because many gardens indicate the need for funding where individuals apply for specific grants.

Yes	20 (11%)
No	156 (83.5%)
Don't Know	3 (1.5%)
N/A	8 (4%)
Total	187

Responses falling under “Other” included:

- From the church
- Handyman with tools for repairs to garden beds
- Have paid part time coordinator
- No paid staff are contemplated
- No – hard to find grants to pay staff or expenses
- No – more community members are needed for the garden, not paid staff
- No – not needed
- No - SJOS - St. Josephs Outreach Service core business is to manage transitional housing. The garden has been created to create organic vegetables, fruit and herbs for the foodstore. The garden club has a very limited budget
- No – this has been a problem for 8 years
- No – we have moved to a totally volunteer-run garden
- No – all community run
- No financial. All volunteer community members
- No. I have applied for grants but have been unsuccessful, not sure of the future of our garden
- No. We are an incorporated organization, so are self-funded except for grants
- No. We prefer to remain independent of funding constraints
- No, not supported to have staff yet. Hours are limited as it's in a school grounds
- No, our income is small via produce and food seedlings, preserves, ecowraps etc.
- Self-funded through members or grants.
- No. Need day labour to help with keeping the garden under control – elderly garden members can't do heavy jobs
- No. Our transition to employing staff will be 100% dependent on securing grants
- No. Unable to get Council grant while already receiving grant via Moreland Community Gardening Inc.
- No. We are still looking for funding to build the garden
- No. We run as an incorporated not for profit and everyone is a volunteer/member
- No. We run primarily as a student group from the university with some community members.
- Seed funding until the middle of the year, then we are unsure

- Staffing is absorbed into the organisation's budget. However staff from the nearby school wages are absorbed as part of the schools wages budget.
- Yes, from our social enterprises, not external funding
- Yes, through sales from on site op shop and room hire
- Yes, through the school board
- Yes, Willoughby Council has very recently made a position available
- Yes, but don't need
- Yes, but we prefer not to deplete budget funds

What is the garden's funding model? [Survey Question 36]

Most respondents selected multiple options. The survey indicates that gardens rely on "in-kind" support (76.5%) and are self-funded (73%) and to a slightly lesser degree also seek support from grants (59%) and non-government organisations (52%).

Funding Model	Number of Responses	% of Gardens with the feature
In-kind support (e.g. volunteer labour, donated goods)	143	76.5%
Support from non-government organisations (e.g. grants, assistance from service agencies)	98	52%
Government support (e.g. grants)	110	59%
Self-funding activities (e.g. plot fees, plant sales, workshops, BBQ's, fundraising)	136	73%

Responses falling under "Other" included:

- 2 community members have self-funded all garden resources and infrastructure - sometimes community members will provide mulch or plants. Local government provides 2m2 delivery of mulch as needed, and undertakes maintenance of site (e.g. lawn-mowing, replaced seat bench, repaired trail path signage, removed 1 tree/3 oleander bushes, provided 4 new trees)
- Annual Plot Fees. Currently considering other funding sources.
- Operated by the City of West Torrens
- Plots fees and potential Government Grants
- Staffed by RTBG horticulturist
- We usually make do. We have members fees, and we collect some container bottles for the deposit and we get some in-kind support from Council
- Op shop general sales
- Still working through original seed funding
- Apply for grant from COGS for infrastructure upgrades and repairs
- Donations from local businesses
- Donation of goods from Bunnings
- Support from a church
- Social enterprise fundraised through vegan fermented concentrated biofertilizer
- Sale of bagged manure
- Annual Sweet Potato Festival in May/Open gardens/Garage sale
- Compost collection fees
- FSNLC provides insurance, some admin assistance as needed, free hire of house as needed for workshops etc.
- Sale of honey from bee hive
- We have applied for Community Gambling Benefit Fund and waiting on outcome

- Bunnings sausage sizzle
- We don't actually have any funding

After any initial start-up funding, how does the garden prioritise its funding requirements? (Ranking) [Survey Question 37]

Survey respondents provided a clear indication that in-kind support was the most important source of funding for the functioning of community gardens with 98 responses indicating it as the "1st Priority" representing over half of the sample size. This question was not answered by 3 respondents and 22 other respondents only indicated 1st, 2nd and 3rd priorities, 4 only indicated 1st and 2nd priorities.

Prioritisation	Number of Responses			
	In-kind support (e.g. volunteer labour, donated goods)	Support from non-government organisations (e.g. grants, assistance from service agencies)	Government support (e.g. grants)	Self-funding activities (e.g. plot fees, plant sales, workshops, BBQ's, fundraising)
1st Priority	98	10	22	44
2nd Priority	46	34	42	49
3rd Priority	12	59	54	31
4th Priority	12	46	36	38

Does your garden have any current funding needs for matters other than staffing (Yes/No)? If yes, what would these funds be used for? (Descriptive) [Survey Question 38]

Overall, a majority of gardens (71%) would appreciate further funding. The descriptive statements below suggest many respondents need large scale funding to improve infrastructure but there are also simpler funding requests to assist with workshops or even mowing the lawn.

Yes	133 (71%)
No	50 (27%)
N/A	4 (2%)
Total	187

Descriptive responses included:

- Yes - A shelter to provide shade for people taking breaks.
- After 11.6 years of operation we are embarking on a "plot re-build project as well as an up-grade to important infrastructure such as storage sheds.
- Always. repairs to old school building for running workshops, access improvements, small projects, running workshops
- Basic infrastructure, water system update
- Building infrastructure such as trellises for beans

- Building more plots. many community members on waiting list. paying bills, e.g., water
- Building the garden
- Capital improvements
- Drought proofing the garden. Plumbing for tanks. Making pathways safe and accessible.
- No - Due to Covid there is no large projects requiring funding aside from a Bunnings barbeque or 2 in 2022
- Equipment upgrades and special projects. Hot house infrastructure
- Events and workshops
- Extra garden beds
- Future development of more plots
- Improvement to plots and implements
- In recess
- Infrastructure
- Irrigation and hard surfaces for access to back garden for those with mobility issues. We are managed by our Incorporated committee and in their budget, they allocate a garden maintenance budget but this does not fund new plans.
- It is unclear about sponsorship as it is council land so can't show branding. Will investigate.
- Looking to fund some sustainability initiatives. e.g. additional water tank, solar lighting
- Materials for additional garden beds and seating, art work and sculptures
- Need a disabled toilet on site
- New raised garden beds arranged to suit accessibility
- New ride on mower
- New shedding (existing condemned), water provision upgrade, orchard netting
- No - we have recently received \$21K in two grants from government
- No specific requirements. Some means of water conservation/stormwater reuse would be good.
- No, but we will need to do some work on our compost bins
- Ongoing garden resources (eg. seeds, soil improves, residential water costs) and infrastructure (eg. equipment) to enable continuous garden maintenance and aesthetics
- Ongoing upkeep and supplies
- Overheads. Maintenance
- Paying First Nation cultural workers
- Power on site, security cameras
- Provision of shade and shelter, other special projects
- Rebuild a stage, upgrade the toilet block, wheelchair accessible paths.
- Repairing and restoring after covid lockdown. new mower and whippersnipper
- Repairs and maintenance, building new garden beds
- Seeds, seedling mix, potting mix, compost, plumbing to extend water lines, shade cloth, insect netting, volunteer insurance, tools, signage
- Seeking a grant to help with a shelter
- Shade shelter \$30k (there is no shade or trees at the new site) + Sewerage connection \$30k (we have an all access toilet and now need \$ to connect to the town sewer line that is 420m from front gate)
- Site lease cost
- Site maintenance. Promotion.
- Special projects - next project to install a greenhouse
- Still need infrastructure- sheds working space etc

- The gardens need a full-time gardener who understands how the garden should work in producing food for people in need and as an amenity for visitors.
- To build more raised and wicking beds, fruit trees
- To build the garden; we need water reticulation, fence, shed and then the actual garden beds
- To finish off the existing shed to become a shop for daily sales as part of our additional needs program.
- To purchase pavers for pergola space and labour to do the job, renew plot borders, make arches, seating for pergola, green /glass house for growing our seedlings, propagation table, tools
- To start up the gardens as still planning stages - No funds at all now
- Tools, fruit trees, landscaping hardware
- Tools. Bird netting; other gardening equipment.
- Tree clearing, and supply & set up raised beds, for disabled persons
- Tutorial costs for workshops
- Upgrade weed tea, propagation, compost areas, and wicking beds, pest control
- Upgrading of beds, purchase of inputs
- We are looking for funding to get our old shed repaired.
- We have to move from our present site at some stage, possibly next year. Council will hopefully fully fund this. We are lucky to get support from local mines also. Until we move I am not sure what funds may be needed to establish ourselves at the new site.
- We need more accessible paths
- We need shade house and shade cover
- We would like funding to Chet nets for our fruit trees
- We would like to build some permanent trellis's and build up the soil more.
- We would love to update our water tanks to increase their capture rate
- Yes, basic infrastructure renewal e.g. garden bed edging
- Yes - to repair the reticulation
- Yes - infrastructure to create an undercover workshop/events area
- Yes - kids playground
- Yes - more plants and mulch; bee hotel; nesting boxes
- Yes - plants, mulch, tools, fertilizers, events, catering,
- Yes - rainwater tank
- Yes - replace the whole garden reticulation
- Yes Setting up our donated beehive
- Yes - to convert the garden into a permaculture space
- Yes - to start up a kids' kitchen garden cooking program
- Yes - We still have infrastructure to build
- Yes - we want to purchase a whipper snipper and other items for the running of the garden
- Yes, Covid recovery
- Yes, for garden bed reconstruction
- Yes, for our wicking beds
- Yes, need funding for project ie drainage, paths, structures, etc
- Yes, replace existing retic system
- Yes, water system.
- Yes, we want to buy an additional raised garden bed
- Yes, we would like to extend our education space and set up a food coop or regular sale of herbs/ greens/ excess
- Yes, a large shed.
- Yes, a meeting shed, hiring garden educators for members and public events, resurface driveway, new mower, mulch and fertilizer, cultural activities

- Yes, an opportunity exists to secure a water-harvesting option either off rooftop with drainpipe already in place, so a water tank could be installed, OR there is an existing convict drain cut into the rock where water could be harvested, OR an alternative option to secure water for future use in years of drought. Also need to replace some low-lying native bushes and replant the gully.
- Yes, completion of irrigation set up and perhaps a composting toilet on site
- Yes, developing the garden further to make it viable and more productive
- Yes, for ongoing repairs and maintenance e.g. leaking shed roof
- Yes, funds required for a pergola
- Yes, installation of water tanks, improved composting sites and a worm farm.
- Additional garden beds.
- Yes, needs IT - internet, website, computer, data projector
- Yes, provide a steel facade on existing garden beds made from wood (ex apple crates) to give them a longer life, a battery operated whipper snipper to keep weeds under control
- Yes, replenishment of consumables, signage,
- Yes, used to buy more garden beds etc and get the garden up and running properly
- Yes, water tanks, renovations
- Yes, we have no money for irrigation or to fill the garden beds with decent soil
- Yes, we need to rebuild garden beds at some stage and this requires funds for sleepers
- Yes, we run with very old tools, manual equipment and an aged kitchen which all need addressing for future sustainability. We also have issues with our building but this will become the leaser property after our next lease extension in 2022.
- Yes, we usually have \$1,000 and recently had to buy new equipment, replace old and broken garden tools, we have tried to maintain some of them if we can save them. We always need money for sugar cane mulch. If we have more funding, we could host workshops and events, but do not have budget at the moment for that.
- Yes, workshop space, kitchen, solar, etc
- Yes. But it can't grow
- Yes. A watering system and a neater rat proof 3 bay compost structure, a toilet in nearby park
- Yes. Although a community garden has been operating for approx 8 years in Holbrook, this is a completely new garden on a new site. We have applied for some grants to cover the cost of new garden beds, irrigation, shed, a table setting, as well as miscellaneous other supplies.
- Yes. Consumables for garden education; PPE for school visits and Covid safety
- Yes. Creating paths, fencing, shelter, potting areas, composting bays, seating.
- Yes. Develop local composting facility & associated infrastructure
- Yes. drainage swale to alleviate flooding & water saturation
- Yes. Fencing, pathway maintenance
- Yes. Infrastructure funds required, such as steel seedling nursery benches and more shade cloth canopies over garden beds.
- Yes. More growing plots are required.
- Yes. New nursery tables, equipment, irrigation system, expansion of the site
- Yes. Ongoing running costs
- Yes. onsite toilet, drainage swale with bioretention filter
- Yes. plant and equipment.
- Yes. Red gum sleepers currently surrounding plots are rotting and need replacement over 10 years with recycled plastic sleepers.
- Yes. Shade area and Self watering/wicking garden plots
- Yes. Solar power and improved accessibility

- Yes. To improve the design of the garden and to improve the infrastructure and amenities such as garden paths, shelters or workshops, raised garden beds. To fund bilingual support workers to help run workshops in the garden.
- Yes. We need to rebuild 27 6Sqm x 400mm Treated Pine raised plots
- Yes. Would be used for workshops and materials
- Yes. A pergola.
- Yes: we need to build sturdy trellises. At the moment we use bamboo frames but as the general public has complete access, we need something more permanent and a lot safer
- Yes, replacing garden beds, making paving accessible, include seating, improve chicken coop to minimise neighbour disturbance from noise and rats, replace perimeter fences

Memberships and Affiliations

As an organisation, is the garden affiliated with or hosted by another organisation?
[Survey Question 39]

Almost half of the community gardens (48%) are independently managed with no host as shown in the table below.

Affiliation	Number of Responses
Independently managed (no host organisation)	89 (48%)
Managed through a local council or State programme	34 (18%)
Other	37 (20%)
Affiliated with a church or school	25 (13%)
Don't know	2 (1%)
Total	187

Responses falling under "Other" included:

- A collection within the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
- A project of a community development organisation
- A project of Green Skills Inc.
- Affiliated with a church or school, Managed by SCRAP Ltd (non-profit - onsite)
- Affiliated with a church or school, we are auspiced by Oxley Creek Catchment Association
- Affiliated with a Learn Local Adult Education Centre
- Affiliated with botanical gardens
- Affiliated with Mullum SEED (local DGR-registered environmental organisation)
- Arid Lands Environment Centre are our auspicing body
- Association (just for this garden at the moment)
- Auspiced by CRC
- Auspiced by creek catchment group
- Auspiced by Garfield community association
- Auspiced by local community organisation (Axedale our town our future). MoU in place with Uniting church (the landowner)

- Auspiced by local incorporated not-for-profit
- Auspiced by neighbourhood centre
- Canberra Organic Growers Association
- Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Club
- Erindale is a COGS garden, one of 12
- Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre Inc
- Garden Clubs Australia affiliate
- Garden Clubs of Australia. Land & infrastructure owned by TCC
- GCA affiliation/Trident Insurance/NWSS sponsorship
- Independently managed on Council land.
- Landcare and they have requested we become independent ASAP
- Landcare Broken Hill occupies its community garden site in partnership with Broken Hill Community Inc. the owners of the freehold. It is a community body, with a number of board members in common.
- Local Friends and Neighbours organisation
- Managed by Diversitat which is an NGO that supports the refugee and migrant community in Geelong.
- Managed by the Jindivick Progress Assoc
- Managed through local Area Committee
- Membership of Community Gardens Australia
- Neighborhood House
- NGA
- North West Disability Services
- OCCA
- One project of a community group/network People Matters Hackham West
- Owned by 3 charities
- Owned by Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL club
- Partnered with Gawler Environment Centre
- Shire owns the land
- Student group at Macquarie University
- Trust
- WBCG is a project of Moreland Community Gardening Inc, which holds lease for land and insurance, bank account etc
- We are affiliated under the Port Elliot Town & Foreshore Improvement Association
- We are coordinated by The Big Fix Ltd and land provided by school.

As an organisation (or through a key member) what other groups is the garden associated with? [Survey Question 40]

Community Gardens Australia (CGA) is the main group that the gardens associated with (62%). It is worth noticing that a considerable portion of gardens (17%) does not connect with any other organisation. Some gardens are associated with more than one organisation.

Association	Number of Responses
Community Gardens Australia (CGA)	116 (62%)
Garden Clubs of Australia	29 (15.5%)
Diggers Club	23 (12%)
Australia Food Sovereignty Alliance (AFSA)	4 (2%)
Seed Savers Network	15 (8%)
None	31 (17%)
Other	42 (22%)
Unknown	1 (0.5%)
Total	187

Responses falling under “Other” included:

- Another community garden
- Care, GTT, CWA
- Adelaide Hills Outdoor Playgroup, Sturt Upper Reaches Landcare Group
- Barrier Field Naturalists Club; Western Landcare
- Freecycle and Facebook plant swap and recycling groups
- Local Environment groups & initiatives
- Spring Bay Mill, Triabunna
- Gawler Environment Centre
- Permaculture Australia
- SUSTAIN: Australian Food Network
- Qld Landcare/Bushcare
- QWaLC
- Rare Fruit Society of SA
- Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria, Werribee Park Heritage Orchard, Moonee Valley Garden Network (Council organised), My Smart Garden
- Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria
- Community gardens in our local areas
- Community groups in the area & Local council
- Cultivating community, McCracken St food share pantry
- Kiama Community Garden

- Moreland Food Garden Network, Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria, Broadmeadows and District Garden Club, Pascoe Vale Food Swap, Pascoe Vale Food Collective
- MVCC groups - e.g. land for wildlife
- Everett Street Childcare Centre, Pentridge Community Garden, Brunswick Football Club
- Food co-op
- North west Support Services sponsorship
- Garden is part of Hunter Sustainability Landcare Team
- Green Adelaide
- Harvest Swap, Nambour Community Centre
- Loaves and Fishes (food bank) school canteen association
- Local disability and mental health support groups.
- Local permaculture group
- Logan City Community Gardens
- Oxley Creek Catchment Association
- Port Phillip EcoCentre and Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria
- Queensland Water and Land Carers (QWALC)
- RHSV & MVCC community Garden group
- Royal Horticultural Society
- SA Beekeepers society
- ACT for Bees (pollinator network), City farm, BD composting group
- The Carbon Farm, Southern Cross Uni.
- They should be associated with Endeavour (disability crowd), Native Plants Queensland, they are associated with Landcare (but have not attended for some time), the local Orchid Society, etc.

Further Support

Different comments were entered for this question. Yet, it is worth highlighting an emphasis on the request for information sharing and promotion of gardens including training, as well as networking opportunities for gardens/gardeners locally and across Australia.

How can we better support? [Survey Question 4]

- Fix a couple of typos in the survey
- A regular on-line newsletter would be helpful
- Advertising the fact that we would welcome new members and working with similar organisations for support and grants.
- Advice and resource for social media promotion, getting more members, educational workshop packages and resources
- Advice for negotiating permits and regulations of local government.
- Advise on funding and support organisations and assistance by any organisation
- All is well. Provision of seeds as required per season.
- Always like to hear about other gardens, activities, ideas etc.
- Any promotion of our garden & plant nursery would be greatly appreciated!
- Assistance with expanding the local community membership base through local contacts would be very helpful - as 1:2 current members is moving interstate in January 2022 - and remaining 1 member will require immediate/short- to long-term support from others with all Hilltop Garden activities. We are currently seeking advice/assistance on this situation
- By keeping us in the community garden loop
- Campaign to make grant applications less complicated

- Clearer access to resources or other community gardens would be amazing. It would be great to be able to contact someone to ask questions when we run into a random problem
- Come and visit us!!! PS I may have underestimated the size of the land!
- Community Gardens Public Liability insurance. At the moment this takes \$150 per month of our hard-earned funds from BBQ fundraisers and Cash for Containers money.
- Compile policy documents to assist Community garden develop Policy manuals
- Continue advocacy - including with local councils.
- Decreasing the amount of paperwork and bureaucracy - take this away all together from community having to manage
- Details re available grants to apply for.
- Do not ask for personal details from the person responding it is inappropriate
- Do not know
- Educational support for all aspects of gardening; links to available grant sites.
- encourage local government to provide more support such as contract maintenance workers do some work in the garden when they are in the area
- Free Advertising of our garden
- Funding? or at least alerting us to new government / industry funding opportunities when they arrive
- Having an umbrella insurance policy would be really great.
- Help finding ongoing staff funding would be amazing
- Help gain promotion to increase members.
- Help get Local Councils to assist us more
- help provide realistic information on how to get the community involved in the gardens
- Help to network and raise profile. Guidelines.
- help with becoming independent
- Help with finding new members
- Helping to publicise our garden. Helping to arrange visits to and from other community gardens
- Horticultural advice for Native plant suitability to an area that would tolerate wet feet would be useful. We have a specific area where plants need replacement but they need to be kept within 2m height and not place leaf or flower litter into adjacent pool. Also needs to tolerate heat as it's against a west facing wall.
- How to start up educational components of the garden
- I am no longer a member but spent many, many days working in the garden with my friend Robert Young who comes from an orcharding family in Victoria. While there we grew some exotic vegetables with seeds from local Chinese and Indian communities (Winter melon, snake gourds) and Delia Hobden, head of the orchid society for many years, donated many rainforest plants to enhance the look of the garden (filling the tractor tyres which as far as I'm concerned should not be used for food). My friend Lorraine donated bromeliads and my friend Patricia donated the three large planters (twice as large as the ones already there) so that while no one came to the garden except as visitors, many people felt (particularly after the exhibition) that it was part of the community. We had a native beehive which mainly attracted ants (particularly during floods). I thought it could have become a showcase for producing food as well as a place of education. Not just for gardening but as an enhanced ecological space (wallabies visited regularly, a goanna lived there), it was only a block away from Tyto wetlands. To my way of thinking too much emphasis was on making it easy for people to cut the grass (a weed). Let me know if you'd like any photos about the exhibition. Cheers, Carolyn Osterhaus
- I don't have any knowledge of CGA, will investigate

- I really don't know how to answer this as we are only new at this and just getting started
- I would like information on how other gardens deal with theft from public. We are looking into cameras but it seems so extreme and then you have to deal with the theft!
- I would really appreciate some guidance and support with transforming this 'wasted' garden into something people utilise, contribute to and benefit from
- Ideas swapping is always good. We have an informal network with other community gardens, and that also helps
- If possible, more regular contact with community gardens or a short online newsletter, etc
- If we could have someone come out and specifically give information on how to improve the garden and ideas for increasing participation would be of assistance
- I'm a new member. I've very little knowledge on the organisation. I'm not sure that most of these answers are accurate.
- I'm not sure. We're becoming a member when I finish this survey
- Info on finding ideas
- Information and sharing from other gardens and key topics.
- It's always good to know what others are doing.
- Keep up the good work and assist when needed.
- Keep us informed of new ideas and better ways to retain and get new members
- Keep us informed.
- Low cost forums within a defined area where there can be an exchange of ideas. e.g. western suburbs of Melbourne. Broker low cost insurance that is fit for purpose. Assist Councils in best practice Community Garden Policy.
- Make funding applications less complex. Application writing is hard.
- Make it compulsory for people to grow a percentage of their food.
- Mentoring, garden advice, committee support, funding.
- More information about your role
- More info on how to run a garden i.e. the details not how to set one up but what works and what doesn't.
- More networking with other garden groups, unfortunately we don't have budget to send members to paid events. Help with sharing information about how we can best comply with changing COVID requirements, A voice to Govt. for community gardening.
- Most of our members live in apartments and/or are middle-aged to senior, with limited access to tools and skills for repairs/improvements in the garden such as mending garden beds. A tool library would be helpful.
- Networking & publicity is always helpful. Being located at a remote regional location, many of the benefits of having closer proximity to funders, corporate sponsors, a broader & larger community base, and government decision-makers are denied to us, so we welcome more 'friends' of influence with the capacity to generate greater support.
- Networking, information sharing, funding opportunities
- New member and grateful that this different type of garden, an educational display of edible Australian plants is included
- Newsletter about how other community gardens are dealing with issues
- Not sure, but thank you for asking!
- Nothing comes to mind
- Nothing yet until we can get built
- Not sure at this time. Send us an email so we can contact you if need be in the future.

- Now that you've secured the voluntary services of my Neighbor Nilofer Golvala, I'm sure the assistance you can offer will grow and we will avail ourselves of these new services
- Organise a sponsored Australia Wide Community Annual Garden competition (with different categories) to promote community gardens and the positive social and health benefits to the members of those communities where they operate. It could be done virtually with Gardens lodging a submission providing details of the garden/farm, history, membership, structure, current projects, impacts on individuals and the community and supported by photos and videos. A great way to promote community gardens/farms around Australia.
- Organise free training for community gardens in a region eg legal issues, fundraising, or mental health first aid.
- People management, conflict resolution, mental health issues a big issue in our area
- Please include our garden on your national map
- Please update our web address to <http://lindecommunitygarden.net909.org>
- Possible help with finance
- produce a list of workshop presenters for every state, specifying each person's expert subjects or general info, with approx cost associated. We have approached the ATO in regards to an ABN but we have a ruling that we are not eligible hence with no ABN we can not apply for a grant from the SA government.
- Promote what gardens are doing through general media and lobby for Staff supported school and community gardens nationally
- Promotion
- Promotion of activities?
- Promotion of the garden to encourage new members
- Promotion of upcoming events
- Provide information about the benefits of your group. Host meeting of local gardens.
- provide information on funding opportunities available
- Providing information about other community garden's activities
- Providing our details to interested parties.
- Providing regular updates on successful initiatives across CGAs
- Providing us with a database of other Community Garden group in WA, alert us to grant opportunities, and more
- recognise our category as we are not community gardens club and not a city farms, we operate as communal edible landscape gardens as social and ecological service organisation.
- Running events that promote knowledge of good sustainable practices. Things online so everyone in the country can access them. Have the recordings made available as well.
- Send a newsletter
- Send survey out early in the year, not near Xmas. Give us a guide as what you can offer.
- share ideas of what other groups are doing
- Shared Experience of governance and possibly learning how other Community Gardens deal with various issue. Not having to come up with in house solutions. Possibly just getting together with other community gardens.
- Sharing ideas and grant information
- Sharing knowledge and expertise in running our garden
- Sharing knowledge and ideas
- Sharing or resourcing. Assistance through start-up, model templates and guides for financial and regulatory requirements.
- Supply funding. Contact councils for groups when starting up or have a Rep at Council presentations or council subcommittee presentations, etc

- Tell us how we can access \$ to pay a coordinator long term
- The community garden will be reactivated in the Autumn
- The question before this needs a “none” option, also more than an annual survey may help?
- There are a number of Community Gardens throughout the Shire including Alexandra, Toolangi, Taggerty and Yea all run by different communities and structured differently. Happy to provide contact details for these gardens so survey can be sent directly to them and information gathered is accurate
- There is sufficient support for our current needs.
- To share worthwhile ideas from around Australia for the betterment of all community gardens.
- Unsure
- Unsure. The biggest issues are communication (electronic and face to face), lack of Business Acumen and interpreting skills, me being the only one who possesses these
- updating our garden with the latest in funding sources for groups without charity status, organic pesticide info, latest trends etc.
- We are awaiting presentation of Council plans to physically amend the garden because of supporting walls that are currently collapsing.
- We could become members and have a chat about what support is available.
- we have been as to go independent but we have no funds so we need help with funding.
- We need some support in the form of a regular gardener.
- We really need help attracting new members and applying for grant funding. Our site is big, beautiful and productive but we need more hands to keep it managed.
- We would love to know where to look for grants and assistance in the financial space.
- we're all a bit busy to do much beyond what we do - but we love your website and resources to refer others to if they are contemplating setting up a community garden.
- We're doing okay at the moment thanks
- Why ask questions about one individual volunteers gender, income etc. Not indicative of the whole group. Support by encouraging more locals to volunteer regularly. Need not just for gardeners but builders and handymen.
- Would love to know more about Community Gardens Australia and network with other gardeners to help our space become more cohesive with the community.
- Would Love to see a group insurance plan for the garden members. I know this is in the works.