

## Lewisham

Lewisham is proud to have 40 allotment sites, 3 of which are privately owned, within the borough. This is an above average number of sites compared to other London boroughs and they provide valuable social, health and environment benefits which are enjoyed by over 900 plotholders.

Lewisham is a diverse community made up of many different groups and individuals. We value and celebrate that diversity and believe it essential to try to understand the different contributions, perspectives and experience that people in our community have.

## Code of Conduct.

This code of conduct has been drawn up to help ensure all those involved on allotments are able to enjoy cultivating their plot in a friendly and co-operative environment.

### Respect for others.

Plotholders must:-

- # Treat others with respect
- # Understand all views are important even if they are not the same as their own.
- # Respect individuals rights to manage their plot and grow the produce they wish as long as it is within the rules of the established Tenancy Agreement and Allotments Legislation.

## Equal Opportunities

Every allotment member is on equal terms with all other members and is expected to behave in a manner supportive of all terms within this code of conduct and the allotment tenancy agreement.

#### Plotholders must:-

Not commit any acts of discrimination against any person or body on grounds of their race, religion, ethnic origin, gender, sexuality, age, or disability.

Understand that all forms of discrimination, including bullying and harassment are unacceptable and contravene the Council's Equality and Diversity Policy.

(Cont. over).

# Disputes

It should be recognised that disagreements may occur on allotments sites and it is expected that plotholders resolve these amicably.

Nevertheless, any disputes that may arise, and which cannot be satisfactorily resolved between the parties involved, should be referred in the first instance to the site committee. If this does not result in a satisfactory conclusion then it can be referred in writing to the Allotments Officer at the following address –

Green Scene – Allotments,

Wear Side Service Centre, Wearside Road, Ladywell, London SE13 7EZ

On receipt of a complaint the Council Officers will:-

Respond in writing within 10 days.

Respond professionally and with impartiality and objectivity.

Endeavour to clarify any misunderstandings related to the Tenancy Agreement and/or Self Management Agreement

Seek to resolve issues as quickly as possible.

Keep the matter confidential between the parties concerned.

Offer to arrange mediation to help resolve interpersonal disputes where the Council considers this to be appropriate.

<u>The decision of the Council will be final and binding on all the parties</u> involved in the dispute.