

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 29 SEPTEMBER 2015

ALLOTMENTS IN ANGUS

1. BACKGROUND

The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 received Royal Assent on 24 July 2015. The Act requires each local authority to prepare and publish an annual allotments report for its area. The required report gives a range of detailed information on allotments in the area and the council's management of those allotments.

Angus Council currently owns four allotment sites, three of which are leased to allotment associations and one of which is actively managed by Angus Council.

2. CURRENT POSITION

The three allotment sites managed by Allotment Associations are located at Maule Street, Carnoustie, Croft Terrace, Kirriemuir and Brechin Road, Arbroath and are run by Carnoustie Allotment Association, Kirriemuir Community Allotment Association and Arbroath Allotment Association respectively. Each allotment association leases the entire site from the council for a set rent and then splits the site up into a number of plots which they lease to individual plot holders. Each allotment association is responsible for all aspects of plot and plot holder management, including plot rents, maintenance and management of their own waiting list etc., with Angus Council having no responsibility or control over individual plots.

The allotment site in Montrose however is actively managed by Angus Council. There are 23 plots which are leased individual to plot holders and there is a waiting list for them. The rents are set on a pro-rata basis (i.e. a larger plot commands a larger rent) and are broadly in line with plot rents within the allotment association run sites. Each plot holder is issued a lease which clearly states the annual rent and their obligations in terms of keeping the plot tidy and free from weeds etc. The leases were reviewed in 2014 as they had become outdated and inconsistent and some tenants had passed their plots to friends and family without notifying Angus Council, bypassing the waiting list. However, this has ceased since the new leases were issued and as a result the waiting list for the plots has reduced dramatically with the first available plot being allocated to the first person on the list.

The community and residents of Angus benefit from having access to allotment gardens with plot holders able to grow their own fruit, vegetables and flowers.

There are other allotments within Angus on privately owned ground.

In accordance with the requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 in the future and no later than July each year an annual report will be produced and reported to the Communities Committee.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Angus Council receives a rental income totalling £1,765 across the sites.

Contact for further information:

Ian Cochrane, Head of Technical and Property Services
Email: CommunitiesBusinessSupport@angus.gov.uk

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