



Community Garden Policy

Document Number	DCY-EC-POL-
Responsibility	Community Team
Version Number	1.0
Effective Date	18 August 2026
Last Revised Date	August 2026
Minute Book Reference	C26173
Next Review Date	August 2030
Applicable Legislation	Local Government Act 1999; Environment Protection Act 1993; Disability Discrimination Act 1992
Related Policies / Procedures	Volunteer Policy; Grants and Sponsorship Policy; Community Land Management Plans Growing Community Guidebook: https://communitygarden.org.au/sa_book/
Related Strategic Documents	DCY Strategic Community Plan: VISION 2030
DCY Strategic Community Plan: VISION 2030	2. Our Environment 2.6 Living Sustainably 2.6.1 Support community groups to develop community gardens with Council's Community Garden policy and the established FLEC Community Garden serving as a valuable resource for others.

1. Objective

- 1.1. To provide a framework for the establishment, approval, and management of community gardens on Council-owned or managed land.
- 1.2. To ensure gardens are safe, inclusive, sustainable, and community-led.
- 1.3. While Council supports the establishment of community gardens, it encourages such gardens to be established and operated on privately owned land where practicable.

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2. Scope

- 2.1. This Policy applies to all community gardens located on land owned or managed by the District Council of Yankalilla.
- 2.2. It applies to community groups, incorporated associations, and partner organisations managing such gardens.
- 2.3. This Policy does not apply to privately owned land.

3. Definition

- 3.1. For the purpose of this policy:

“Council”, means the District Council of Yankalilla, including its elected members, employees, authorised officers, contractors and agents acting on its behalf.

“Community Garden”, means a shared space on Council land where community members collaboratively grow plants for personal or community benefit on a not-for-profit basis.

“Management Group”, means an incorporated association or recognised community group responsible for governance and day-to-day management of the garden.

“MOU”, means Memorandum of Understanding, which is a formal, non-legally binding agreement between two or more parties that outlines roles, responsibilities and expectations for a shared project or activity.

4. Policy Statement

- 4.1. Council supports community gardens as valuable community assets that promote sustainability, wellbeing, and social connection.
- 4.2. Gardens will be community-led and operate under formal agreements with Council.

5. Policy

- 5.1. Establishment: Consultation with Council regarding community support, site plan, and governance structure.
- 5.2. Site Selection: Preferred community land, owned by Council, must meet safety, access, sunlight, water, and compatibility criteria for garden sustainability.
- 5.3. Governance: Gardens must be managed by a management group with clear responsibilities.
- 5.4. Agreements: All gardens require a formal licence or MOU, aligning with the Community Land Management Plan and signed by both Council and the management group.

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- 5.5. Responsibilities: Council can provide oversight, whereas the management group manages operations, volunteers, risk and compliance.
- 5.6. Risk & Compliance: Risk assessments and legislative compliance are required.
- 5.7. Funding: Gardens operate on a not-for-profit basis; grants permitted.
- 5.8. Monitoring: Annual reporting at a minimum and regular review meetings are required.

6. Further Information

This policy will be available for inspection at the Council office listed below during ordinary business hours and provided to interested parties as per Council's Fees and Charges Register. Copies are available to be downloaded, free of charge, from Council's website: www.yankalilla.sa.gov.au/policies

District Council of Yankalilla
1 Charles Street
Yankalilla 5203

Phone: (08) 8558 0200

Email: council@yankalilla.sa.gov.au

Office hours: Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm (except public holidays)

7. Grievances

Any grievances in relation to this policy or its application should be forwarded in writing addressed to the Chief Executive Officer of Council.

8. Review Cycle

This document is subject to review in four (4) years from the date of adoption or more frequently if legislation or Council requires.

9. Document History

Date	Version	Council Resolution No.	Description of changes
August 2026	1.0	C26173	Adoption of Policy

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