

Highland Allotments Report 2023

Allotment gardening offers the benefit of a healthy lifestyle all year round that is active and sustainable, providing fresh grown food, creating spaces that are a valuable local asset, enhancing urban biodiversity, are a practical response to climate change, and contribute towards improved food resilience in communities.



This report details the data that the Highland Council holds regarding allotments in Highland.

Table 1: Allotment sites on Council land data June 2023

Allotment site	Allotment Association	No. of total plots	No. of full sized plots	No. of half sized plots	No of other sized plots	No. of community plots	No. of plots with no tenant	Fees	Waiting list	No. waiting more than 5 years	Requests for adjustments due to disability	Area
Lybster	Latheron, Lybster and Clyth Community Development Company/Lybster Allotments Association	14			6 plots + 8 polytunnel beds	1	0	£24 - plot, £5 - bed	6	0		1316 m2
Hawthorn, Inverness	Hawthorn Allotments	69	21	48	0	0	0	£55 full plot, £40 half plot	100	0	2	14682 m2
Nairn Sandown		79	6 x 300m2, 14 x 200m2	11 x 150m2, 24 x 100m2, 7 x 75m2	14	4	0	£10 membership fee + 27.5p per SqM		0		16456 m2
Nairn Mill Road	Nairn Allotment Society	43			33 plots + 9 raised beds	1	0		20	0		3885 m2
Ullapool	Lochbroom and Ullapool Gardens and Growers Society	60			40 plots + 20 polytunnel plots		0	£25 plot, £20 polyt, £6.50 sm plot	2	0		3377 m2
Wick	Wick Allotments	11	8	2		1	0	£30 full plot, £15 half plot	0	0		2100 m2
Milnafua, Alness	Alness & District Allotment Society	24			24		0	£80	10	0		2600 m2
Total		300							138	0		

The table above shows the following information for allotments on Council land.

1. Length of the waiting lists of each site
2. Number of people on the waiting list for more than 5 years
3. Any requests that have been made for adjustments to plots due to disability
4. Size of allotments sites (m2)
5. Plots data (total number of plots, no. of full plots, no. of half plots, no. of other sized plots, no. of community plots, no. of plots with no tenant)
6. A breakdown of fees for each site and size plot

The total number of people on waiting lists sits at 138. The total number of plots sits at 300. So, the waiting list number divided by the total number of plots across Highland sits at 46%. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 states a trigger point of 50% of demand for plots over and above provision, this has not currently been reached. Although taking the data in Inverness alone this figure is 146%, highlighting an uneven level of demand across Highland.

The Highland Council is currently reviewing its allotments policy. The review is taking account of the benefits of allotments and linking allotments into other areas of the Council's work. The data from this report is being used to guide the updated policy and actions will be identified as part of this review.

To join a waiting list for an allotment plot please contact allotment associations directly.

Allotment site	Allotment Association	Contact
Lybster	Latheron, Lybster and Clyth Community Development Company/Lybster Allotments Association	llccdc@outlook.com www.llccdc.co.uk/
Hawthorn, Inverness	Hawthorn Allotments	hawthornallotments@gmail.com
Nairn Sandown	Nairn Allotment Society	www.nairnallotments.org
Nairn Mill Road		
Ullapool	Lochbroom and Ullapool Gardens and Growers Society	mandy.wylie101@gmail.com
Wick	Wick Allotments	wickallotmentgrows@gmail.com
Alness	Alness & District Allotment Society	marymgillies@gmail.com

Information held about other allotment sites in Highland on non-Council land. To update Council records for these sites please contact communityfoodgrowing@highland.gov.uk:

Allotment Site	Contact
Kingussie Allotments Association	www.facebook.com/KingussieAA/
Dalnain Bridge Allotment Association	Unknown
Cromarty Allotments and Gardens Association	cagssecretary@gmail.com
Community Land Association Morvern (CLAM)	www.facebook.com/CLAMorvern?locale=en_GB
Blackthorn Allotments Association, Inverness	allotmentsblackthorn@gmail.com
Broadford Green Growers- Broadford and Strath Community Company	nicholas@broadfordandstrath.org
Lovat Estates, Beauly	info@lovat-estates.co.uk
Appleseed allotments, Applecross	www.applecrosscommunitycompany.org/company-projects/appleseed-allotments/
Rosemarkie allotments	rags.secretary@gmail.com
Culbokie Allotments	www.transitionblackisle.org/userfiles/file/Community%20gardens/Culbokie%20garden.html?07-10-2022-105509
Fernaig Community Trust	https://www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=226640
Dornoch and District Community Association	dornochallotments@aol.com
Tornagrain Allotments	nicole.petrie@morayestates.co.uk
Portree and Braes Community Trust	alec@portreeandbraes.org , www.portreeandbraes.org/allotments
Sunny Lochaber United Gardeners (SLUG), Fort William	Unknown

For other community food growing projects see the Highland Good Food Partnership Activity Map: www.highlandgoodfood.scot/food-map/

Allotment projects in development:

Allotment site	Contact
Balvonie Park Association, Inverness	www.balvonieparkassociation.wordpress.com
Dingwall Community Development Company	dingwallallotmentsassociation@gmail.com
Aviemore Allotments Association	aviemoreallotments@gmail.com
Knocknagael Ltd Inverness	www.knocknagael.org.uk/
Poolewe Allotments and Gardens Society	ajrwood@icloud.com
Culloden West Allotments and Gardens Association	cullodenwestallotments@gmail.com