

The Edinburgh Community Climate Fund

(1a) Organisation/group name:

Wester Hailes Growing Communities

(1b) Project name:

Wester Hailes Summer School Farm

(2) Tell us about your organisation / group (what do you do?) (150 words maximum)

Wester Hailes Growing Communities (WHGC) established as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2017, supporting residents of council estates and other communities in Wester Hailes to work together with their neighbours, instigating and developing community greenspace projects.

Addressing mental & physical wellbeing, food poverty, isolation, and unemployment directly we have sought to use the wide expanses of amenity grassland across the estates as a community asset. WHGC have constructed three 'neighbourhood gardens' each serving a part of Wester Hailes and gone on to deliver a range of associated projects including community food activities, outdoor play workshops for children, training and work experience projects for young adults, and School Farm project in local primary schools.

By creating places and activities for people to come together, we aim to build a sense of belonging and mutual support which increases the resilience of communities, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, or financial circumstances.

(3a) Please select the fund criteria which your project relates to (Select all that apply)

- ☒ Create opportunities for community leadership and learning on climate change
- ☒ Reduce greenhouse gas emissions within communities and contribute to the net-zero target for Edinburgh
- ☒ Generate sustainable projects for the benefit of local people to build resilience or adapt to climate change within communities
- ☒ Build relationships between neighbourhoods of different socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds to work together on just, equitable and accessible climate and resilience activities contributing to the cities net zero agenda, also ensuring that activities work towards reducing or removing barriers for disabled people in the transition to net zero.

Deadline for applications: 12th February 2023

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(3b) Tell us about the project you would use the money for. (500 words maximum)

We want to build on the success of our 'School Farm' projects delivered during term time at both Canal View and Sighthill primary schools by offering a 'Summer School Farm' project, for pupils and their parents/carers to engage with so the pupils can continue to practice the skills learnt during term time and share them with their families. This will be delivered from the existing Greenway Community Garden between Murrayburn & Hailesland.

As part of the project each family would be able to register for a free growing space as well as make use of the polytunnel and communal fruit orchard around the perimeter of the garden.

To support the families and deliver the activities we want to recruit two sessional workers to deliver the programme over the summer holidays. The sessions will run for two hours, 4 times per week.

The programme would cover the basics of food growing and the benefits of growing it locally right on your doorstep, reducing food miles and food waste.

- Knowing your soil
- Growing food from seeds
- Crop shelter/protection
- Managing and growing crops
- Harvesting and storage
- Fruit and forest gardens

We will intertwine fun climate activities for the children as well as incorporating weekly picnic events where fresh produce will be prepared into delicious meals and shared by the participants and wider community.

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(4) Describe your project in no more than 30 words (this will be used for publicity)

Wester Hailes Summer School Farm will deliver family growing sessions four times a week, helping families grow produce together directly in their community and share it at weekly picnic events.

(5a) Who do you hope will benefit from this project? Food insecurity is a major concern in Wester Hailes. The three primary schools in our DMH catchment area have concerns that approximately half of their pupils (400 pupils) are at risk of 'holiday hunger'. This figure doesn't include the children in nursery or high school. The Holy Trinity Church food bank provide food parcels to approximately 45 households/week within our catchment area, this equates to 1,000 food bags / year. Since the beginning of the pandemic, specifically in Wester Hailes the two local food banks have seen a dramatic increase in referrals for their support, provision of food parcels at Holy Trinity food bank increased by 25% in January 2021 the highest number it's ever been.

(5b) Is your group open to all?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If no, please explain:

(5c) Will the project have a positive impact on any of the following protected characteristics?

☒ Disability

☐ Marriage
or civil
partnership

☒ Pregnancy
and
maternity

☒ Race

☐ Sex

☒ Age

☐ Sexual
orientation

☐ Religion or
belief

☐ Gender
reassignment

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(6) Where will the project be delivered? The project will be delivered from the Greenway Neighbourhood Garden serving the communities of Dumbryden, Murrayburn and Hailesland within Wester Hailes.

(7) Project start date: 01/07/2023
Project end date: 13/08/2023

(8) How many people do you hope will benefit from your project? 60 children plus parents/carers

(9) Is anyone else working with you on the project?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes, please tell us about this:

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(10) Do you require permission from anyone or any additional insurance to carry out your project?

☐ Yes

☒ No

If yes, please tell us about this:

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(11) Please outline a breakdown of the cost of delivering this project (including VAT).		(12) Do you have additional funding or income from charges which will contribute to this project? If yes, please detail below	
Goods/Equipment/Time etc	£	Source	£
Community Garden Manager	1764		
Sessional Worker 1	1680		
Sessional Worker 2	1680		
Portaloo Toilet Hire	700		
School Farm Teaching Packs	300		
Food & Drink	630		
Total Expenditure	6754	Total income	

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