

50plus Nottinghamshire

LinkAge Plus

Golden Gardening Scheme

The Golden Gardening Scheme helps those aged 50 plus to maintain their gardens. Gardeners carry out jobs such as grass-cutting, weeding and low hedge-cutting. The scheme promotes community safety and crime prevention through regular maintenance of gardens. It also helps improve a sense of pride in a local community.

Golden Gardening Scheme

Objectives

- To keep people living in their homes longer.
- Improve independence, health and well-being.
- To promote community safety and crime prevention through regular maintenance of gardens.
- Improve a sense of pride in a local community.
- Undertake low level garden maintenance e.g. hedge-trimming, grass-cutting and weeding.

Activity

- Distributed a questionnaire to those registered with the scheme to establish outcomes and user satisfaction.
- Developed with workers from Nottinghamshire County Council supported employment scheme for people with learning difficulties.

Achievements against objectives

- Since September 2006 1001 gardens have been maintained.
- Service users reported that life is a lot easier for them due to the Gardening Scheme:

'Made life a lot easier, my lawns and hedge have never looked so good since my husband died'

'Vast improvement. Nice and tidy'

- The scheme has helped to reduce the number of elderly people worrying about the appearance of their gardens:

'It will make a great difference to the appearance of the garden. Taken away the worry over tasks I cannot now do myself'

'We have a very large garden, and the help given has taken a weight off my mind'

- People no longer have to struggle to maintain their gardens on their own:

'Easier on my back'

'Saving time and energy and not having aches and pains'

'Very big help. I have a back problem - thank you'

Wider achievements

- The scheme has raised awareness of the need for gardening schemes throughout the county.
- Gardening is essential for many people's well-being and helps them to cope independently.

Resources

The scheme subsidises the actual cost of the service provision for older people.

Key lessons learned

- The number of people able to benefit is severely limited by resources as people need a regular and ongoing service.
- The scheme is seasonal so cannot invest in permanent staff.
- Demand is high and the scheme is popular.

Further information

Mansfield – Golden Gardening Tel: 0844 980 8080

Ashfield – Ashfield Environmental Project Tel: 01623 553 558

Bassetlaw – DYNAH (Do You Need a Hand) Tel: 01909 478 913

South Broxtowe – Stapleford Bureau Tel: 0115 949 1175

Newark & Sherwood – Advice Centre Tel: 01636 893 241

Ref to website: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/social_care/notts50plusschemes-2.htm#notts_50plus_gardening

Related documents

See website above.

