

presentation to the
Growing Health Advisory Group
15 May 2013

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our landscape

High plateau on the northern fringes of the ancient Forest of Arden

Poor agricultural land, so undeveloped until the Industrial Revolution

post-industrial legacy

Areas of derelict land *and* multiple deprivation in many wards

Friendly population well-used to welcoming people

and . . . it's a city of trees . . . millions of them!

*plus 571 parks . . . 250,000+ back gardens — & garden estates
and 7,500+ allotments*



Birmingham
the city's legacy & where we are now

community growing activity

Lots of it going on!

Not just limited to food growing . . .

2009: the GEML project

but . . .

No overall strategy . . .

No overall picture . . .

Limited connections

. . . Clear need to “talk to each other”



Birmingham
community growing activity

April 2012: Website launched

September: Feeding the City event

November: First meeting (four since)

more than just a website



*a network for supporting urban (food) growing in Birmingham
& its environs*

THE BIRMINGHAM
BOTANICAL
GARDENS
TURN OVER A NEW LEAF

Allotments
in Birmingham

Martineau
Gardens

BOSF
Birmingham
Open
Spaces
Forum

Federation of
City Farms
& Community
Gardens


URBAN VEG


Birmingham Parks


BIRMINGHAM CITY
University


**BIRMINGHAM
in
BLOOM**

BEN

GROWING
Birmingham

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City Council run projects

Nechells Green Employment Preparation Team (about to close)

Four Seasons Garden Centre (about to become a social enterprise)

GEML (short-term project in Ladywood)

NHS decommissioned to voluntary sector

BSMHFT to BITA Pathways — Park Lane Garden Centre

Martineau Gardens Pottery Studio

Grants for therapeutic horticulture

BSMHFT (Charitable Funds) & BCC (Adults & Communities)

One-off grants

Making community facilities available

Public Health (NHS) to Martineau Gardens, Urban Veg (UoB) &

Birmingham Botanical Gardens

health related funding of community
gardening in Birmingham



Chris Blythe
Caroline
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A decorative green vine graphic with several leaves and clusters of small berries, arching over the word 'GROWING'.

GROWING

Birmingham