

**COVID-19 LEVEL 3 PLAN FOR COMMUNITY GARDENING**

**Background**

Community Gardens are considered Food producers and moving to Alert Level 3 means that all horticultural activities can resume, as long as strict health and safety practises are observed at all times.

# **Operating your Garden but not selling**

**You can still operate your Gardens safely even if you’re not selling produce.**

This is because ‘Food Producers’ are an essential service. Members of the Community Gardens Association should think of themselves as Food Producers. If you have a City Mission or local food bank you might want to organise for a single collection of food for them as they are apparently not able to access as much food as they normally can. This way you produce a great outcome for the city.

**To keep your Gardens operating (but not selling or distributing produce):**

You will need to follow these critical guidelines:

1. Do not carry out any Garden Volunteer sessions.
2. You are unable to sell produce.
3. No more than 2 staff on site at any one time. Staff must sign in and out of the site.
4. Good record keeping of the produce harvested, where it was made available and/or where it was sold. Record who, when and time on site.
5. Social distancing of 2 metres is maintained at all times.
6. Limiting, or eliminating if possible, physical interaction between staff, e.g. through physical distancing, split shifts, staggered meal breaks, and flexible working arrangements.
7. Eliminating physical interaction with Food banks and people walking through the garden
8. Maintain hygiene basics of hand washing and sanitisers.
9. Frequent cleaning of premises, especially counters and other high-touch surfaces (cleaning advice is available on the Ministry of Health website).
10. Ensure all hard work surfaces such as food prep areas and equipment are disinfected with a treatment of a 1 % solution of a 12% DDAC like Path-X or Sodium Hypochlorite 4% (Bleach) or other suitable broad spectrum disinfectant. Treat at the beginning of each shift and at the end of the day.
11. Ensure gloves are worn at all times on the site and are either of a disposable type or can be effectively sterilised before reuse.
12. In all situations, it is advised to treat all people in the work environment as though potentially infected and as such the use of face masks are advised to be worn at all times.
13. Ensure Gate and rules signage is displayed at all times.
14. Do not share tools, have your own set and bring them to and from the garden.
15. All communal facilities including toilets should be closed.
16. Do not attend the garden or your allotment if you are showing coronavirus symptoms or if you are unwell.
17. Limit your time on site to an hour or two at the most.
18. Travel to the garden is permitted in your own bubble.