

| Are the suggested sites in the right locations? | Are there other sites that should be considered? | Have the right priorities been identified? | Other comments | Council's Response |
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| Land that is vacant should be used for food growing. | Old Tesco site in Forres has been vacant for years. | Involving schools and health centres is very positive. | Great to see a food growing strategy being developed. | <p>Not all vacant land is suitable for food growing. The sites identified within the strategy have been subject to technical consultation to ensure there are no issues in respect of flooding, contaminated land and transportation. The former Tesco's site is an identified opportunity site for development in the Moray Local Development Plan 2015 and therefore is not identified for food growing. Instead it has been identified as a potential location for temporary events such as farmers markets subject to the landowners consent while it remains vacant should there be a demand.</p> <p>In the future food growing could be</p> |

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| | | | | <p>incorporated within any development proposal i.e. fruit trees and bushes.</p> <p>The positive comments in respect of the strategy and priorities are noted.</p> |
| <p>The state of the ground at Castlehill Church is detrimental to the town. There are allotments near the football pitches that are not well maintained.</p> | | | | <p>Small scale informal food growing at Castlehill is being taken forward by a community group.</p> <p>There is an existing allotment site in Forres however the purpose of the strategy is to offer a variety of food growing spaces (community orchards, community gardens, vegetable gardens and allotments) across the town that people can walk and cycle to.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land and progressing allotment/food growing sites and the maintenance and upkeep</p> |

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| | | | | of sites will be considered as part of this. |
| No allotments or food growing at Grant Park or Market Green | | | | Grant Park is no longer being promoted for food growing and Market Green is not identified as a food growing site. |
| <p>No allotments on parks leave as open space.</p> <p>Castlehill Church is not an appropriate location for food growing</p> | <p>Neglected Council house gardens</p> <p>Encourage those with big gardens to grow or share their garden spaces.</p> | | <p>What about future maintenance and grass cutting?</p> | <p>Identified food growing sites will not impact on the existing uses within open spaces. It is not proposed to replace existing uses i.e. playing fields or play parks with food growing. On the sites identified there is sufficient space to accommodate multiple uses. Food growing is no longer being promoted in Grant Park.</p> <p>The food growing sites identified are not exhaustive, if a community group wants to take forward alternatives or private garden ground there is nothing preventing this. The strategy has concentrated on</p> |

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| | | | | identifying community food growing sites in accessible locations that people can walk and cycle to. |
| No food growing at Grant Park | | | <p>Bee keeping should not be near cultivated land.</p> <p>Waste of money. Better to leave it to people who know that they are doing.</p> | <p>Food growing is no longer being promoted at Grant Park.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land and progressing allotment/food growing sites and the bee keeping etc. will be considered as part of this.</p> <p>The strategy is an enabling document and the Council is not in a position to finance the delivery of food growing sites. The Council will where feasible seek to provide non-financial support to community groups looking to develop food growing sites.</p> |
| Yes. | Leancoil Hospital and land around it, could also serve as a | | Food growing without chemicals, preferably organic. | Leancoil is in a good location and offers opportunities for food |

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| | therapeutic gardening GP prescribed. | | Need to identify mentors, plenty of local organisations and individuals with expertise to help bring forward food growing sites. | <p>growing. The strategy will be amended to reflect that food growing opportunities should be considered as part of any redevelopment of Leancoil.</p> <p>The sustainability/biodiversity section of the strategy has been enhanced and makes reference to not using chemicals.</p> <p>There is an action within the strategy to work with third sector partners to promote equipment and knowledge sharing.</p> |
| No food growing on memorial sites or Grant Park | | | | <p>Food growing is no longer being promoted at Grant Park.</p> <p>At the consultation event there was support for food growing at Castlehill/Thomson Memorial. Proposals would have to be sensitive to the location.</p> |
| No food growing in Grant Park. | Castlehill near the monument or the old | | Maintenance concerns | Food growing is no longer being promoted at |

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| <p>Some of the areas are not practical for food growing.</p> | <p>Tesco site.</p> | | | <p>Grant Park.</p> <p>Castlehill is already identified as a potential food growing site.</p> <p>The former Tesco's site is an identified opportunity site for development and therefore has not been identified for food growing. It has been identified as a potential location for temporary events such as farmers markets subject to the landowners consent while it remains vacant should there be a demand. In future food growing could be incorporated within development proposals i.e. fruit trees and bushes.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land and progressing allotment/food growing sites and the maintenance and upkeep</p> |
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| | | | | of sites will be considered as part of this. |
| Mannachie Park has scope for raised beds and bee keeping alongside the existing community orchard. | Meadowlark Nursing Home grounds could be used as a community garden for residents. | Regular press articles in the local press and social media about the positive impact and ideas and proposals to engage people in a positive way about food growing. | Maintenance and processes, rules/regulations for food growing areas and allotments. | <p>Mannachie Park is an identified food growing area within the strategy.</p> <p>The strategy focuses on identifying sites for food growing on publicly accessible land and is not exhaustive. There is nothing to preclude other/further sites from coming forward at locations including land at Meadowlark.</p> <p>The steering group set up to deliver the strategy is going to continue to meet twice per year. Promoting food growing and progress on the identified actions within the strategy will be the focus for activities.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land and progressing allotment/food growing</p> |

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| | | | | <p>sites and the maintenance and upkeep of sites will be considered as part of this.</p> <p>Food growing is no longer being promoted at Grant Park.</p> |
| No food growing in Grant Park. | Old Tesco site and Castlehill site | | <p>Is there demand and how will areas be properly maintained?</p> <p>Where is the money coming from?</p> | <p>The former Tesco's site is an identified opportunity site for development and therefore has not been identified for food growing. It has been identified as a potential location for temporary events such as farmers markets subject to the landowners consent while it remains vacant should there be a demand. In future food growing could be incorporated within development proposals i.e. fruit trees and bushes.</p> <p>Castlehill is already identified within the strategy.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land and progressing allotment/food growing sites and the maintenance and upkeep of sites will be considered as part of this.</p> <p>The Council is not in a position to financially contribute to the delivery of food growing spaces. The strategy is intended to enable community groups to develop sites and where feasible the Council will provide non-financial support and signposting to resources.</p> |
| <p>No food growing in Grant Park</p> <p>Not every available greenspace should be used for food growing.</p> | <p>Revitalise community garden at Transition Town Forres, as it is not used to its best and some plots are neglected.</p> | | <p>People who are interested in growing are already involved and after initial enthusiasm new volunteers will drop off.</p> | <p>Food growing is no longer being promoted as Grant Park.</p> <p>It is acknowledged there is an existing community food growing space in Forres. The aim of the strategy is to provide a variety of sites across towns and villages that</p> |

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| | | | | <p>are accessible on foot and by bicycle.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land and progressing allotment/food growing sites and the maintenance and upkeep/appearance of sites will be considered as part of this.</p> |
| | <p>The more central the location within a town or village the better.</p> <p>Leancoil Hospital grounds</p> | <p>More awareness needed of why we need growing addressing issues like peak oil, food security adding and increasing our resilience to climate change.</p> | | <p>The aim of the strategy is to provide a variety of sites across towns and villages that are accessible on foot and by bicycle.</p> <p>The actions set out within the strategy seek to raise awareness of the benefits of food growing and how it can increase resilience to climate change.</p> <p>Leancoil is in a good location and offers opportunities for food growing. The strategy will be amended to</p> |

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| | | | | reflect that food growing opportunities should be considered as part of any redevelopment of Leancoil. |
| No food growing in public green spaces including Grant Park. Royvale and St Catherines Road. | Beside Castlehill | | Proposals for protection against deer. | <p>Food growing is no longer being promoted at Grant Park and there are no proposals for St Catherine's Road. It is considered there is scope to introduce food growing around the edge of Roysvale Park without impacting on existing uses.</p> <p>Castlehill is already an identified potential food growing space in the strategy.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land and fencing etc. will be addressed through leasing agreements.</p> |
| | Between Grant Drive and Ferry Road Auchernach Garden Land behind Forres Academy | | More allotments provision to encourage interest before developing communal green spaces. | Land at Auchernack was assessed for suitability as a potential site (on the basis of no longer taking forward land at Grant |

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| | Randolph Lane two large grassed areas | | | <p>Park and Drumduan). The site was ruled out as being unsuitable as it failed to meet the required threshold for accessibility and lack of natural surveillance.</p> <p>The strategy is not an exhaustive list of potential sites, but instead has sought to identify a variety of sites across Forres that people can walk and cycle to. An effort has been made to ensure there is adequate coverage across Forres. There is nothing preventing other sites from coming forward if there is an interested community group.</p> <p>It appears there are no specific plans for these areas and therefore they are not being supported for inclusion at this time.</p> <p>The strategy will be reviewed every five years and therefore there is</p> |
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| | | | | scope to review sites in the future. |
| No food growing at Grant Park | | | Limited opportunities for areas for food growing in newer developments i.e. Ferrylea development. | Grant Park is no longer being promoted for food growing. Additional guidance to support the Moray Local Development Plan 2020 is currently being developed and includes a section on embedding food growing into new developments, including edible landscaping and creation of community orchards. It is a policy requirement that new developments of over 200 houses must provide allotment sites. |
| | Front of the Kimberley, Findhorn. Over the road from the ice house, Findhorn | | | The area of land is front of the Kimberly Inn has been assessed and will be identified in the strategy as an area suitable for herbs planters/beds. |
| No food growing at Grant Park | Land at Bogton has potential for allotments. More sites in the Pilmuir area. | Mentoring scheme to match those with skills to groups who need gardening expertise. | | Grant Park is no longer being promoted for food growing. Bogton is already identified as a potential |

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| | | | | <p>allotment site.</p> <p>The strategy is not an exhaustive list of potential food growing spaces and if there is demand for multiple sites in Pilmuir there is nothing preventing additional sites from coming forward. The Food Growing Strategy will be reviewed every 5 years and there will be an opportunity to remove or add in potential sites.</p> <p>The strategy includes an action to work in partnership with third sector organisations to developed equipment and knowledge sharing which could be expanded to include mentoring.</p> |
| <p>No food growing at Drumduan Road. Residents own this land.</p> <p>No food growing at Grant Park or Mannachie Park</p> | | | <p>This appears to be a plan to abdicate responsibility from the Council on areas previously maintained but now scruffy.</p> | <p>Drumduan Road has been removed as a potential food growing site as a result of identified ownership issues.</p> <p>Grant Park is also no</p> |

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| | | | | <p>longer being promoted as a potential food growing site.</p> <p>It is considered that there is scope for food growing sites a Mannachie Park and this can be accommodated without impacting on existing uses within the park.</p> <p>Council's maintenance of greenspaces was not a consideration in identifying sites. The key considerations were creating an accessible network of spaces with an opportunity for a variety of types of food growing.</p> |
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| <p>No food growing at Grant Park or Drumduan Road</p> | | | <p>Priority should be to keep the town beautiful and attractive. If people want to grow food they can do so on their own property.</p> | <p>Drumduan Road has been removed as a potential food growing site as a result of identified ownership issues.</p> <p>Grant Park is also no longer being promoted as a potential food growing site.</p> <p>Not everyone has their own garden, tools or the expertise to grow their own. Community food growing spaces offer the opportunity for people to come together and has many benefits including health and wellbeing, biodiversity enhancement and skills development.</p> <p>In terms of the appearance of food growing spaces. Where proposals require planning permission the Council will have control over the layout design and any buildings</p> |
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| | | | | proposed as part of the planning application process. |
| Forres greenspaces are being built over. Need to maintain open green spaces for wellbeing and recreation such as Grant Park, Roysvale, St Catherines Road, Market and Mosset Greens. | <p>Within established housing areas.</p> <p>Castlehill at the Thomson Memorial in town centre but out of sight.</p> | Developers should be required to provide in new housing areas. | <p>Allotments need to be properly managed and maintained.</p> <p>Allotments are hard work and demand commitment, what happens when initial enthusiasm reduces. Is there money to fund establishment of growing areas for</p> | <p>Grant Park is no longer being promoted for food growing. There is scope to accommodate limited growing around the edges of Roysvale without negatively impacting on existing uses.</p> <p>There are no sites identified at St</p> |

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| | | | <p>fencing infrastructure etc.?</p> | <p>Catherines Road, Market or Mosset Greens.</p> <p>Food growing spaces are considered complimentary to helping create multi-use greenspaces. Potential sites identified must not conflict with existing uses.</p> <p>The Council is in the process of developing guidance for leasing land. upkeep and maintenance will be addressed through leasing agreements.</p> <p>The Council does not have the financial resources to deliver food growing sites. Interested community groups will have to seek funding themselves and where feasible the Council will provide non-financial support including signposting to resources.</p> <p>The Moray Local</p> |
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| | | | | Development Plan requires developments of over 200 houses to provide allotment sites and further guidance is being prepared setting out how food growing can be incorporated into landscaping proposals for smaller developments. |
| No food growing on Roysvale or Grant Park. | Castlehill | Should have prepared a list of green spaces within towns not to be developed for allotments or food growing. | Where is the money coming from? | <p>Food growing is no longer being promoted at Grant Park. There is considered scope to incorporate food growing around the edges of Roysvale without negatively impacting on existing uses. Castlehill is already identified as a food growing site.</p> <p>The guidance issued by the Scottish Government to support the Community Empowerment Act requires Council's to identify suitable sites as opposed to unsuitable sites.</p> <p>The Council is not seeking</p> |

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| | | | | to develop allotment sites and instead is looking to support and enable communities to take sites forward. |
| No food growing at Grant Park | | Involvement with most disadvantaged areas. | If communities have ownership of projects they will be more successful. | <p>Grant Park is no longer being promoted as a food growing site.</p> <p>Data including identified areas of disadvantage were used to identify food growing sites.</p> <p>The Council is not in a position to deliver food growing sites. Interested community groups will have to progress establishment of food growing spaces.</p> |
| Merson Park would need some type of shelter to support growing. | All schools across Moray growing. | Educating young people how to grow their own. | | <p>Detailed arrangements and layout for specific sites will be considered when sites are being developed.</p> <p>The strategy seeks to promote food growing in all schools and the food growing toolkit being development will be targeted to schools that</p> |

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| | | | | are not currently growing. |
| | Seafield Hospital, Buckie, raised beds or planters | | Creation of mini markets to sell local produce, | <p>Despite not being identified there is nothing precluding raised beds or planters being provided at Seafield Hospital.</p> <p>The first step is to get a food growing site/s established in Buckie and then consider further supporting actions like setting up markets to sell produce if there is demand.</p> |
| | <p>Raised beds in Buckie Square around the memorial.</p> <p>Target areas of disadvantage in towns and villages.</p> | I | Monthly market or premises to distribute food. | <p>There are already raised beds in the Buckie Square that could be utilised for food growing alongside flowerbeds.</p> <p>GIS data has been used to identify areas of disadvantage and food growing sites have been identified in these locations.</p> <p>The strategy seeks to develop pilot food growing projects in the</p> |

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| | | | | <p>Locality Plan areas of Buckie Central East and New Elgin East.</p> <p>The first step is to get a food growing site/s established in Buckie and then consider further supporting actions like setting up markets to sell produce if there is demand.</p> |
| | Anywhere where there is unused land in the community. | | | <p>A network of food growing spaces is identified across towns and villages in Moray, where they do not impact on existing uses. Not all unused land will be suitable for food growing. All of the sites identified have been subject to technical consultation to ensure there are no issues in terms of transportation, flooding or contaminated land.</p> |
| | | Needs to be a combined strategy with food preparation and consumption. | What is the point of growing food if younger generations do not know how to cook with it? | <p>Moray College UHI is open to delivering grow your own and cooking classes if there is demand.</p> |

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| | | Needs to be a series of classes held in local communities on what to do with the food once it is grown, covering all age groups and some can be inter-generational. | | <p>Organisations such as REAP and Moray Food Plus work in the community promoting food growing and cooking from scratch but are constrained by funding.</p> <p>There are actions within the strategy that seek to support food growing in schools.</p> <p>The Anderson's Nursing Home Case Study within the strategy sets out an existing intergenerational project that could be replicated elsewhere.</p> |
| Neither of the two areas in Cullen are suitable- the area of ground north of the viaduct or an area round Logie Park. | <p>In Cullen there is an area of grass within the boundaries of Cullen's Community Centre</p> <p>The Lawtie Lands (managed on behalf of Cullen Community by Moray Council) part of which is already used by Cullen Community</p> | The section on Social Prescribing seems to concentrate on the use of existing NHS estate instead of developing a more joined up approach where the health care providers interact with existing and to be developed resources (edible gardens elsewhere for | There needs to some interaction (maybe there is) with the Moray Wellbeing Hub who, along with others, may be involved in a wellbeing initiative based at Cullen's Community Centre. | The sites identified at the community centre and adjacent to the school have been assessed. The site close to the school lacks natural surveillance, however as there is community interest in taking it forward; it is now identified as a potential site within the strategy. |

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| | <p>Allotment Association</p> <p>An uncultivated strip of land owned by Seafield Estates, between Findlater Drive - to the east, the primary school playing field - to the north and the millennium woods - to the west.) It is being actively considered for the purpose by the community centre because the Allotment Association could be involved and it is convenient for the primary school</p> | <p>example) so as to achieve a much more cost effective and sustainable outcome.</p> | | <p>The site within the grounds of the community centre is a good central location within Cullen and will be added as a potential site within the strategy.</p> <p>Social prescribing does not need to be confined to NHS sites and could be delivered on any of the identified growing spaces if there are partner organisations interested.</p> <p>Officers would be happy to have discussions about an initiative at Cullen Community Centre. It should be noted the Council is not in a position to financially support the project.</p> |
| Grant Park should not be included. This is an area that is well used for events, Highland Games, Theme Day, cricket, cross country, orienteering, football, school sports | | | | Grant Park is no longer being promoted as a food growing site. |

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| | Phoenix Centre Queen Street, Buckie | | | The Phoenix Centre is already being utilised for food growing and will be identified as an existing food growing space. |
| | | <p>Providing support for gardening "beginners" (e.g. compost, access to gardening tools or funding of equipment) seems crucial as well. Avid gardeners already work on soil; if Moray Food Growing Strategy is meant to become a success, it needs to specifically address and support those without access and knowledge about growing food. These are very often the most vulnerable residents, so they and their children could benefit most; the allotments could provide them and neighbours and friends with access to healthy food - which in the long run would save money for health</p> | <p>Organic agriculture is by now widely acknowledged as the most sustainable way to produce food. Hence a Food Growing Strategy needs to include raising public awareness for soil quality, protection of pollinators,</p> | <p>The strategy is supported by a number of actions including equipment and knowledge sharing.</p> <p>Moray College UHI has expressed an interest in delivering grow your own classes if there is demand. There are other organisations that are promoting food growing and cooking lessons including Moray Food Plus, REAP but are reliant upon funding.</p> <p>Delivery of actions highlighted in the Locality Plans produced for Buckie Central East and New Elgin East have seen a community garden being established at New Elgin Hall and a monthly community lunch event being hosted in Buckie.</p> |

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| | | services etc. | | |
| | | | <p>Offering food growing classes in schools is very important in implementing a food resilience program at a community level. Creating opportunities for the students to both learn about growing food as well as preparation and preservation of food is a fundamental element in community food production. Children usually are very interested in food, and giving them opportunities to grow and eat their own food can be very successful.</p> | <p>The strategy is supported by a number of actions including working with schools to promote food growing. A food growing toolkit for schools is being developed with Moray College UHI. The toolkit includes instructions for growing your own and a simple recipe.</p> |
| <p>The sites suggested all look good for some sort of community growing.</p> <p>Where allotments aren't appropriate due to the small size of the sites or a very high level of resident dislike for the idea, that fruit</p> | <p>The grassland at the far eastern end of Mannachie Rise could support one or two fruit trees such as a plum tree or two.</p> <p>Site of the old Tesco's could be used for raised beds on the concrete or planting of</p> | <p>Education to change the mindsets of many residents who like to cover their gardens with gravel, paving, plastic grass, decking, manicured lawns devoid of life , flowers that have no value to pollinators etc. thinking it makes their</p> | <p>Hazel trees or the cultivars of them and plum and apple trees can provide a lot for biodiversity and also human food with quite low levels of effort.</p> <p>With weather becoming more extreme with droughts</p> | <p>Supportive comments are noted. Various sites for community orchards have been identified. Mannachie Park is already identified as a food growing space and there is scope to expand the existing orchard subject to there being no impact on existing uses.</p> |

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| and nut trees and soft fruit bushes would be good for helping biodiversity and providing healthy human food to reduce packaging, transportation and providing a little extra food security. | some fruit trees or shrubs. Maybe Tesco's could be persuaded to use this to demonstrate their interest in the community? | gardens look "respectable". This fashion is bad for biodiversity, climate change, climate resilience and food security. | and wild unseasonal temperature fluctuations these perennial plants will be more resilient. | <p>The former Tesco's site is an identified opportunity site in the Moray Local Development Plan 2015. On that basis it has not been identified as a potential location instead it is identified as a potential location for temporary events such as farmers markets etc. subject to the landowners consent while it remains vacant should there be interest.</p> <p>The sustainability section of the strategy has been enhanced to incorporate biodiversity covering aspects like planting for pollinators and creating habitats for wildlife. There is also reference as to how food growing can increase resilience to climate change.</p> |
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