

# **Urban Food Justice**

a social platform on urban  
agriculture in the Leeds City Region

Workshop 2  
Land Access

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# Programme

**1.30 – 1.50 Knowledge exchange: learning from research and practice**

**1.50 – 3.00 Envisioning urban agriculture in the Leeds city region. Presentations from:**

Jenny Richardson,  
Caroline Scott, Pete Tatham  
Cllr John Illingworth  
Sonja Woodcock

**3.00-3.45 – Resource Bank: starting a land bank in Leeds**

**3.45-4.30 – Supporting Policy Making: from conversations to action points.**

# Urban Food Justice – workshop 2

Workshop 1 – Feed Leeds and Urban food Justice launch

*Workshop 2 – Land access*

Workshop 3 – Urban metabolism and soil rehabilitation

Workshop 4 – Social cohesion

Workshop 5 – Edible landscapes

Workshop 6 – Economic sustainability

Workshop 7 – Sustainable food planning

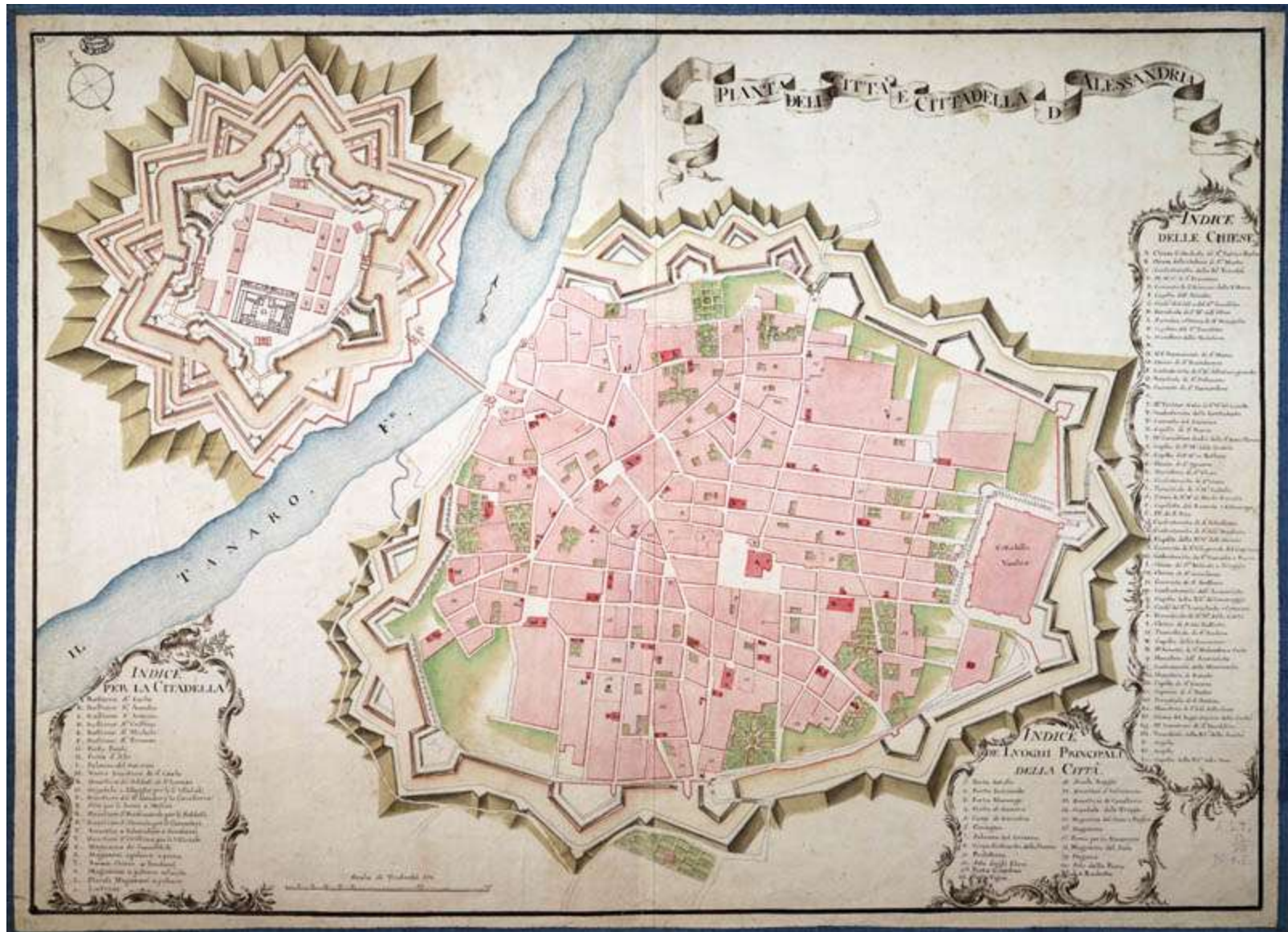
Workshop 8 – Leeds city region growing fair and concluding event

# **1) Knowledge exchange: learning from research and practice**

# Land access: a crucial problem for urban agriculture

- People living in cities
- Preferred land in urban or peri-urban areas
- Land control: ownership/prices
- Planning regulation/development frameworks

# Agriculture is back in the city



How do these initiatives access the  
land?

Type of land access



## Squatting

**Detroit : 47 square miles of vacant land - 30,000 acres**







## Squatting

Sipson, London – Grow Heathrow

<http://www.transitionheathrow.com/grow-heathrow/>







## Guerrilla gardening


Todmorden. Police station



## Sharing private property: Landshare


It's growing > 70495 members so far

Log in or [Sign up](#)



# landshare

Connecting growers to people with land to share

United Kingdom 


Home About Landshare Community Map & Listings Take action Landshare toolkit

70495

MEMBERS SO FAR!!

LATEST GROWER

FIND OUT HOW IT WORKS



I WANT TO }

FIND LAND


OFFER LAND

HELP OUT

LATEST LAND WANTED

LATEST LAND OFFERED

### LATEST FROM THE NEWS



#### The Big Dig

Posted on 8th August 2012

**66** More than 100 of the UK's community food-growing gardens will be throwing open their gates to the public during September 2012, in the largest open event of food-growing spaces ever seen in the UK.

[Read full post](#)

99

## Temporary lease: meanwhile uses



Cultivate London, Brentford Lock polytunnels



Todmorden



**Temporary lease: growing licences (occupational leases)**





## **Temporary lease: growing licences (occupational leases)**

Todmorden - Graveyard beds.

This is the church of England grave yard , they gave permission to grow as it is a church school next door.



## Temporary lease: growing licences (occupational leases)



York – Edible York propaganda bed on Peasholme Green.

<http://www.edibleyork.org.uk/our-projects>





## Temporary lease: **Community Rail Partnerships**

Association of Community Rail Partnerships

<http://www.acorp.uk.com/>

London Road Station Partnership,  
Brighton

<http://londonrdstationpartnership.wordpress.com>





# Temporary or ongoing lease: Farm Business Tenancy (FBT)

Typically used for Community Supported Agriculture (producer-consumer partnership)



Sims Hill Shared Harvest - Bristol

<http://simshillsharedharvest.wordpress.com/2011/06/>





# Community assets transfer: community-led public open space (shared management)



Growing kitchen  
residents group,

Wenlock barn  
estate,

Hackney,  
London



<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/Assets/Images/community-garden.jpg>

<http://www.flickrriver.com/photos/showitzer/2746976932/>





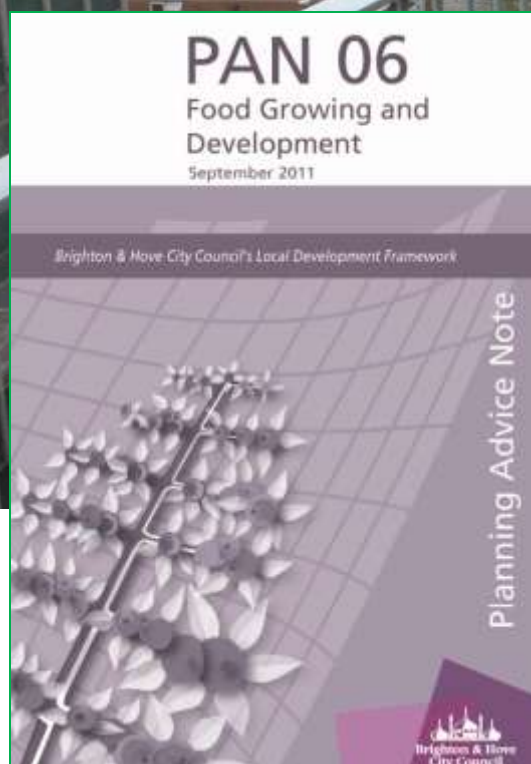
## **Community ownership of assets: Community Farm Land Trusts**

Biodynamic Land Trust, Stroud

<http://www.biodynamiclandtrust.org.uk/about/what-land-trust>



## New developments' food growing spaces:



Brighton planning brief

Since adoption, 45% of applications have proposed food growing

Increasing impact: from 33% (first 5 months) to 52% (2<sup>nd</sup> half)

## Planning advice – Food growing and development

### Key national policy references:

- Food 2030 (2010)
- Planning policy guidance 17 (2002)

### Key technical and practical considerations:

- Land
- Use of buildings
- Aspect and light
- Water
- Wind
- Soil
- Access
- Storage

### Management:

- in residential developments
- in public spaces
- in public buildings

### Design options:

- Rooftops
- Balconies
- Walls
- Internal atriums/courtyards
- External landscaping





## Chicago: city hall rooftop garden and beehive







**New York city (Brooklyn): Eagle Street Rooftop farm**

Eagle Street Rooftop Farm is growing vegetables on the 6000 sq ft roof of a warehouse  
<http://studio-g-architects.blogspot.co.uk/2010/11/sustainable-and-sustaining-communities.html>





**Philadelphia – vertical salad garden**



## **Istanbul (Turkey): urban agriculture in the moat and around city walls**



# Land reform and Food Commons

## Planners network UK: Manifesto for land reform in Britain

Environmental reorientation of planning, seek to secure social and environmental justice. Increase role of planning in agriculture – promote food security

<http://pnuk.wikispaces.com/file/view/20121027pnukmanifesto.pdf>

## Biodynamic Land Trust – Land as a common

<http://www.biodynamiclandtrust.org.uk/blog/7-reasons-why-land-essential-commons>

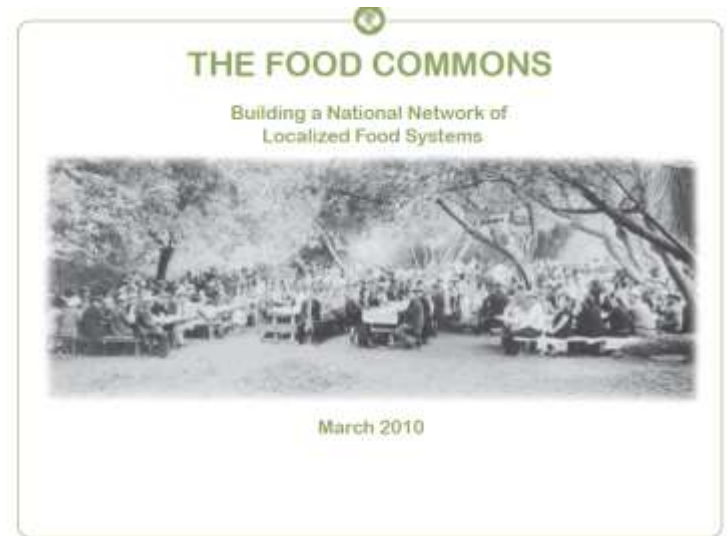
## The Food Commons project:

<http://www.onthecommons.org/sites/default/files/The%20Food%20Commons-2010.pdf>

## Localism Act – Community right to bid and Assets of community value.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/1987150.pdf>

## Localism Act - Neighbourhood planning



“Land is a form of commons—something we all share the same as we do air, water, scientific knowledge, and the Internet. People can use these commons for their own livelihood, but cannot diminish them for future generations. When the interests of the earth and the community are prioritized, private property can be treated as a commons.”

# New demands for urban land: summary

**Increasing community demands** for food/seeds sovereignty, participation in place making, building resilient cities and communities

**Local authorities** and in particular planning and parks services have a key role in ensuring social and environmental justice through the promotion of urban agriculture

**Temporary leases** and community gardens are good as an initial tool to inspire food growing and provide training and community engagement, but pose limits to long term engagement, investments and funding opportunities

**Community allotment provision** should still be a preferential choice, although horticultural training should be mandatory and socio-economic background of plot holders considered for future allocations.

**Land asset transfer to local communities** is also a viable way to reinstate control to local communities, provided that this happens within a progressive planning framework with a set of pre-requisite, redistributive criteria.

**On the long term**, the local development framework can include planning notes recommending food growing facilities in all new development sites.

# Reports and policy documents

- Kaufman and Bailkey (2000), Farming inside cities: entrepreneurial urban agriculture in the United States
- The food commons (2010), Building a national network of localized food systems
- Planning advise note (2011), Food growing and development. Brighton & Hove
- A manifesto for planning and land reform (2012), Planners Network UK
- Mogk J. , Kwiatkowski S. and Weindorf M. (2011), Promoting urban agriculture in Detroit,



# Links and where to find support

Community Land Advisory Service: <http://www.communitylandadvice.org.uk/>

England Land Advisors:

**Rebecca Marshall or Jade Bashford**

email: [england@communitylandadvice.org.uk](mailto:england@communitylandadvice.org.uk)

tel: 0117 9669491

Growing together: <http://giving.nesta.org.uk/project/growing-together/>

Asset transfer unit: <http://www.atu.org.uk/Document.ashx?ID=295>

Incredible Edible Todmorden:

- <http://www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk/resources/insurance-licences>
- <http://www.incredible-edible-todmorden.co.uk/resources/land-share-and-using-public-land>

Stroud Common Wealth:

[http://www.stroudcommonwealth.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.stroudcommonwealth.org.uk/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1)

Meanwhile Space: [www.meanwhitespace.com](http://www.meanwhitespace.com) / [www.meanwhitespace.org.uk](http://www.meanwhitespace.org.uk)

Other resurces:

- <http://www.transitionnetwork.org/ingredients/building/community-ownership-assets>
- <http://www.biodynamiclandtrust.org.uk/resources/press-research>
- <http://en.communitylandadvice.org.uk/case-studies>
- <http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/SharedFiles/Download.aspx?pageid=133&mid=129&fileid=50>
- <http://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/SharedFiles/Download.aspx?pageid=133&mid=129&fileid=126>

## **2) Envisioning urban agriculture in the Leeds city region**



# “Envisioning” presentations

- Jenny Richardson: Leopold Street project
- Caroline Scott, Pete Tatham: Edible enterprise hub
- Cllr John Illingworth: a vision for Burley Mill
- Sonja Woodcock: Eat the Street. An Urban  
Agriculture Initiative for Armley

### **3) Resource bank**



# Resources for urban agriculture

- *Land*
- Skills
- Time (people/hours)
- Funding
- Tools (waterbutts, spades...)
- Other material resources (seeds, plants, compost)
- Services (transport, water)
- Available outlets

# Land bank

- Land announcements
- Mapping exercise, in partnership with Tom Bliss and Leeds Met students:
  - **Group 1**: will map *municipal parks* with a dedicated gardener
  - **Group 2**: will map community gardens, available plots in allotments, land offered by private landowners, *any other land*



## 4) Supporting policy making

# From “conversations” to action points

How do we make these envisioning projects real?

Three parallel discussions:

- 1) Key people; identify what is “key” and which key people should be contacted. We need names (councillors, council officers, key stakeholders in local organisations, landowners, etc.)
- 2) How do we approach key people. Mapping of actions and opportunities. What you will actually do after the workshop.