

Grow Together

Application guidelines

2026

Application guidelines

Grow Together community garden programme

This document sets out the requirements for applying to The Gas Hub's Grow Together community garden programme.

This document, along with the Grow Together [terms and conditions](#) apply to any application submitted to the programme.

Introducing Grow Together

The Gas Hub's community garden programme

Community gardens bring people together to grow fresh, healthy food while learning practical sustainability skills.

They create opportunities to share knowledge, build community connections, and encourage healthy lifestyles. Organic waste from gardens can be converted into biogas and upgraded into biomethane, a renewable gas. Through Grow Together, The Gas Hub supports community gardens while helping communities learn about renewable energy and sustainable resource use.



What's involved

By applying for a community garden, you will:

- Have permission from the landowner for the garden
- Have a suitable site available for the garden to be established
- Manage the garden and provide regular updates to The Gas Hub
- Be responsible for the day-to-day running of the garden to ensure it is well maintained

We'll provide the successful applicants:

- Up to \$2,000 towards Birdies raised garden beds
- Up to \$3,000 towards soil, plants and garden tools for initial set up
- Signage for the garden
- Up to four staff to help the community group setup the garden, along with food for a BBQ to the group.

Funding and support are provided for the initial establishment of the garden only. Ongoing operational and maintenance costs remain the responsibility of the successful applicant.

Successful applicants

Successful applicants may be asked to provide:

- Provide periodic updates to The Gas Hub.
- Share photos of the garden's progress.
- Submit a short six-month update.
- Provide a brief impact summary after the first year.
- Support opportunities for storytelling, photography and videography.



Application requirements

Eligible applicants

- ✓ Schools and kura
- ✓ Community groups
- ✓ Charitable organisations
- ✓ Marae
- ✓ Community centres

Ineligible applicants

- Private individuals
- Commercial businesses
- Existing gardens seeking routine maintenance funding
- Organisations unable to obtain landowner approval
- Projects located outside The Gas Hub network regions

Application requirements

Applications must clearly outline:

- Who will be responsible for managing and maintaining the garden.
- How the garden will benefit the local community.
- The goals and intended outcomes of the project.
- How the community will be involved in creating and maintaining the garden.
- A plan for the garden's long-term sustainability, including volunteer involvement and ongoing costs.
- Any te ao Māori values, practices, mātauranga Māori, or opportunities for cultural learning that could be incorporated into the garden.
- Any sustainability initiatives that will be incorporated, such as composting, water conservation, or waste reduction.

Application requirements

The successful applicant must provide:

- All required consents and licenses for The Gas Hub to create exclusive photography and videography content for social media, website and other communications.
- A planting kick-off event for the group to attend – with expenses paid for and hosted by The Gas Hub including use of a BBQ.
- Opportunities for The Gas Hub staff to participate in volunteer activities and community events.

Health and safety

Successful applicants are responsible for:

- Providing a safe environment for participants.
- Ensuring volunteers and participants follow any site-specific safety requirements.
- Managing risks associated with garden activities and equipment.

What makes a strong application?

Applications are more likely to be successful where they demonstrate:

- Clear community benefit and impact
- Strong community participation and support
- A realistic plan for ongoing maintenance
- Opportunities for education and skill development
- Environmental sustainability initiatives
- Inclusion of diverse community groups
- Alignment with local community needs and the objectives of the Grow Together programme.



Process for consideration

- All proposals are reviewed by a panel of staff from The Gas Hub.
- You will be notified if your proposal was successful by Friday 30 October 2026.
- If you are successful, we will be in touch to make all the necessary arrangements.

All applications must be made via The Gas Hub website on the official application form by Sunday 11 October.

