



Launch your own local Right to Grow petition

Petitions are a helpful tool for gathering support and showcasing just how many people are seeking a particular change. If you'd like to use a petition to call on your local authority to adopt a right to grow, here's a template and some guidance you can use.

Where can I host a petition?

[Change.org](#) is a free, easy petition hosting tool. There are lots available though; you might want to use [Care 2](#) or [38Degrees](#), or another option.

What should it say?

Here's a suggestion of what you could say. Make sure to edit it to fit your location, and any other key facts about your area.

Title:

Support a Right to Grow in [AREA NAME]

Petition Text:

We know we can transform the lives of people in [LOCATION] for the better by actively growing food together in our neighbourhoods, as part of building our resilience in a changing world. The biggest obstacle to more local food growing is the lack of available land close to people's homes.

All around [NAME OF AREA], small parcels of public land are being left unloved, costing taxpayers money to maintain, and giving nothing back to the community in return. Community food growing projects [SUCH AS THOSE AT X, X AND X or 'across the UK'] as well as projects created havens for wildlife in built-up areas have shown that with a little TLC these parcels of land can be turned into something so much more valuable. In the middle of the cost-of-living crisis unlocking local healthy food could be a lifeline for many communities offering practical hope for everyone.

We think it should be easy for communities to identify this unused public land, and apply for free, straight-forward leases to take on the care of the land. That's why we are calling on you to give the citizens of [INSERT LOCATION] a Right to Grow.

Transforming space in urban locations for food growing creates neighbourhoods which are cooler in summer, less polluted, better for our mental and physical health, better for wildlife and encourages local food spend. And, because many of these actions are about giving power to people to shape their community, they turn out to be more sociable and more connected places.

We are calling on [NAME OF COUNCIL] to commit to the Right to Grow, and:

- Identify all council owned land suitable for community cultivation.
- Make this land available for cultivation by a simple licence to community organisations at no cost.
- Consider community food growing on sites awaiting development for other uses on a fixed term basis.
- Adopt a Right to Grow motion and support the Incredible Edible campaign for a national right to grow.

Who should my 'target' be, and how do I find their contact details?

The 'target' or recipient of your email should be council officials who make decisions for your local area on behalf of the local community. Most councils operate a leader and cabinet model. The full council elects a leader who, in turn, appoints and chairs the cabinet. Each cabinet member has a specific area of responsibility. You can usually find out who the cabinet is for your local council by searching "[name-of-area] Council Cabinet", and most councils will give you the contact details on the same page where the names of the council members are listed. You may also wish to include your MP on the petition. To find your MP's contact information use the Parliament's search tool [here](#).