

## Questions regarding the report on allotments ETS Jan 2022

1. Why has the waiting list fee, which has raised over £30,000 not been spent as it was intended? The allotment strategy recommended introducing this fee for a specific purpose. It was supposed to be ring fenced to pay for improvements to the waiting list management. See below (from the allotment strategy).

### **Covering the costs of managing the waiting list**

Managing the waiting list has a cost attached which currently is included in the general cost of running the service, meaning that the waiting list service is in effect paid for by existing plot holders and the allotment service subsidy.

**This strategy recommends to help fund better management of the waiting list a non-refundable waiting list fee (£15) should be introduced.**

**People on the waiting list are important stakeholders in the allotment community – this charge should always be related to the service they receive.**

*Brighton and Hove Council Allotment Strategy 2014*

2. Is it correct that the waiting list stands at over 2500 people? (An all-time high) Has the new GDPR interpretation (meaning site reps cannot directly contact people on the waiting list to let plots to them) slowed down the lettings process and what is the allotment service doing to speed it up?

3. Over the last two years inspections have been suspended. This means there are many overgrown plots, whose tenants have not been evicted, that are not appearing in the vacant plots figure which stands at 249 plots. (Appendix 1) The true number of overgrown and unrented plots is likely to be a lot higher.

It is not stated if the figure is 249 full plots or 249 half plots. The same applies to 'unlettable plots'. Are there 51 unlettable full plots or 51 unlettable half plots?

If these are full plots, they represent a lost potential annual income of £25,000. Shouldn't that figure be included in the value given for forecast revenue?

4. In the breakdown of resources that are allocated to the Allotment service (3.6) customer and client receipts are given as £134,000. However, in 'Appendix 1' last year's rent income is stated as being £130,000 donations are stated as being as £6500 and waiting list fee as raising £14,500 which totals £151,000. Why is £134,000 used instead?