

## Scrutiny Topic Assessment Form

### What is the broad topic area?

Edible York: Creating food growing space across the city

### What is the specific topic area?

To explore what role can the Council play in the above

### Our ambitions for the review. We will:

Look at current York initiatives (Edible York, Abundance, garden sharing)

Look at current policy and performance

What are the regulatory & institutional barriers?

Undertake an audit of demand for land for the purpose of food growing (public and private & the assets we already have)

Look at good practice in other local authority areas, including the 'Incredible edible' movement

Learn how the council can work in partnership with a wide range of community groups to create resilience and community cohesion

Look at how to promote more home and community vegetable plots, composting etc

Develop a plan to make local food growing schemes happen For example: garden share, more allotments, temporary or longer term use of CYC and development land for food growing, volunteering schemes, education/ demonstration projects etc

### How well do we perform at the moment?

Strong demand for allotments – some ad hoc garden sharing and parish council initiatives

First Edible York community vegetable patch near Barbican- summer 2010

Edible York launch event Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 2010

Edible York website – no promotion by the council of this initiative

No audit of what is happening across the city

### Who and how shall we consult? Do we need any experts/specialists? (internal/external)

Ward Committees & Parish Councils, Edible York/Incredible Edible groups, BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers), St Nicholas Fields, Relevant CYC officers

Other possibilities include – Askham Bryan College, York Rotters, students, Allotment Associations, Joseph Rowntree Foundation; York Natural Environment Trust

Other local authorities in terms of good practice

London Assembly review - 'Cultivating the Capital' and consultees

### What other help do we need? E.g. training/development/resources

Information could be gathered over a series of meetings & information gathering sessions, visits, plus community based activity in conjunction with Edible York and other named groups

### How long should it take?

Approximately 6 months but this could be dependent on Member availability

### What will be the outcome of any review?

The Council will have a strategy for partnership working and community engagement in developing locally grown food.