

# Allotment Plot Holder's Cultivation Checklist

Use this checklist to stay compliant and to avoid non cultivation warning letters

## **Minimum Cultivation Standards**

- During the growing season, keep at least 75% of your plot actively cultivated with vegetables, fruit, flowers, or green manures.
- Remove weeds regularly, especially invasive ones such as bindweed, couch grass, nettles, brambles and horsetail. These should not be composted unless they are totally dried out and dead.

## **General Maintenance**

- Mow and/or strim your paths and path edges regularly to keep them clear and safe.
- Maintain sheds, greenhouses, polytunnels and compost containers to a high standard. Repair or remove broken items.

## **Regular Attendance**

- You will need to visit at least 2 or 3 times a week during the growing season.
- Check your plot and structures at least once a month in winter, especially after stormy, windy weather.

## **Soil Care**

- Improve your soil by covering exposed areas with manure, compost, or green manure.
- If none of these are available, cover exposed soil with membrane or cardboard.

## **Waste and Rubbish**

- Compost as much of your green waste as possible
- Remove non-compostable waste promptly. It can be taken home or to the Summer's Lane recycling centre. Do not allow it to accumulate.

## **Communications**

- Inform the secretary if you'll be away for a month or more due to holiday or illness.
- Request temporary exemption if necessary.
- Read your allotment emails and notices posted on the site.

## **Need Help?**

- Ask your neighbours and/or your zone rep.
- Use gardening magazines and books and the internet – especially allotment blogs
- Refer to The National Allotment Society website where you will find lots of useful information. To access the members' area, you will need to enter, under email address, **s507c** and the password **2188214**.