

Mobile Garden

April 2025-March 2028 Proposal*

*This proposal is subject to funding.

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1. Mobile Garden's success so far

In 2024, Our Parklife has successfully enhanced the offerings at Mobile Garden, collaborating with local organisations and residents to diversify the activities available. This approach has successfully boosted attendance and engaged a wider range of interests. So far this year, the garden has welcomed over 900 visits with attendees being from a wide range of backgrounds, 71% being local and ages ranging from 4 years old to 75 years old.



From June to October, when the garden was at its peak activity, we achieved the following:

- Trained 17 Allotment Users, who collectively visited the garden over 100 times, dedicating more than 82 hours to tending their plots.
- Hosted over 40 Workshops, ranging from gardening sessions, Tai Chi, art and craft workshops, biodiversity related activities and natural remedies workshops.
- Celebrated the end of the season with a BBQ event, marking a successful summer and the harvest.

Some of these accomplishments were made possible through external funding, enabling us to deliver even more to the community:

- Groundwork London supported monthly maintenance sessions, facilitated 20 community gardening workshops, delivered some corporate volunteering days and contributed to the end-of-summer event.
- Social Farms & Gardens funded 8 workshops and the end-of-summer celebration.
- Places for People is funding 2 additional textile workshops and an after-school program for Mossbourne Riverside School to take place between January and March.
- Idverde provided in-kind support for maintenance sessions and activities.

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Attendees appreciate that Mobile Garden is local, accessible, and offers a “peaceful and relaxing, bubble-like secret garden” experience. Many highlighted the welcoming and inclusive environment, along with opportunities to connect with nature in meaningful ways. Comments included:

“My highlight about my involvement at the garden is being able to reignite my love of nature and connecting with the community.” Mobile Garden user

“Mobile Garden is a hidden gem!” Park BioBlitz attendee

“Workshops like these are invaluable to the community and the inner city.” Mobile Garden user

“It is really lovely to see people passionate about nature, and how much effort is put into helping wildlife thrive!” Park BioBlitz attendee

“It’s a brilliant idea to hold events like this in the community. It helps improve residents’ mental health and well-being! Thank you so much!” Macrame workshop attendee

“AH-MAZING! It was lovely to learn a new skill in such a lovely environment and to meet my neighbours, will definitely come again! Thank you!” Art and craft workshop attendee

*“Shahina led a very interesting and supportive session. I will definitely come back again. 100% worthwhile *****”* Crochet workshop attendee

2. Vision

This year, Our Parklife and its partners have laid a strong foundation, with plans to build on these achievements—subject to funding—and continue expanding the garden, empowering the community to take greater ownership. The key priorities will continue to be:

- Strengthening community engagement
- Advocating for sustainability and environmental responsibility
- Supporting physical and mental well-being
- Providing opportunities for education and skill-building
- Cultivating resilient and inclusive communities
- Encouraging a culture of mutual support

Garden users are actively encouraged to share their feedback and propose ideas for future activities at Mobile Garden. Several creative suggestions have already been discussed, and Our Parklife plans to assess their feasibility and develop them further in the coming year. These include:

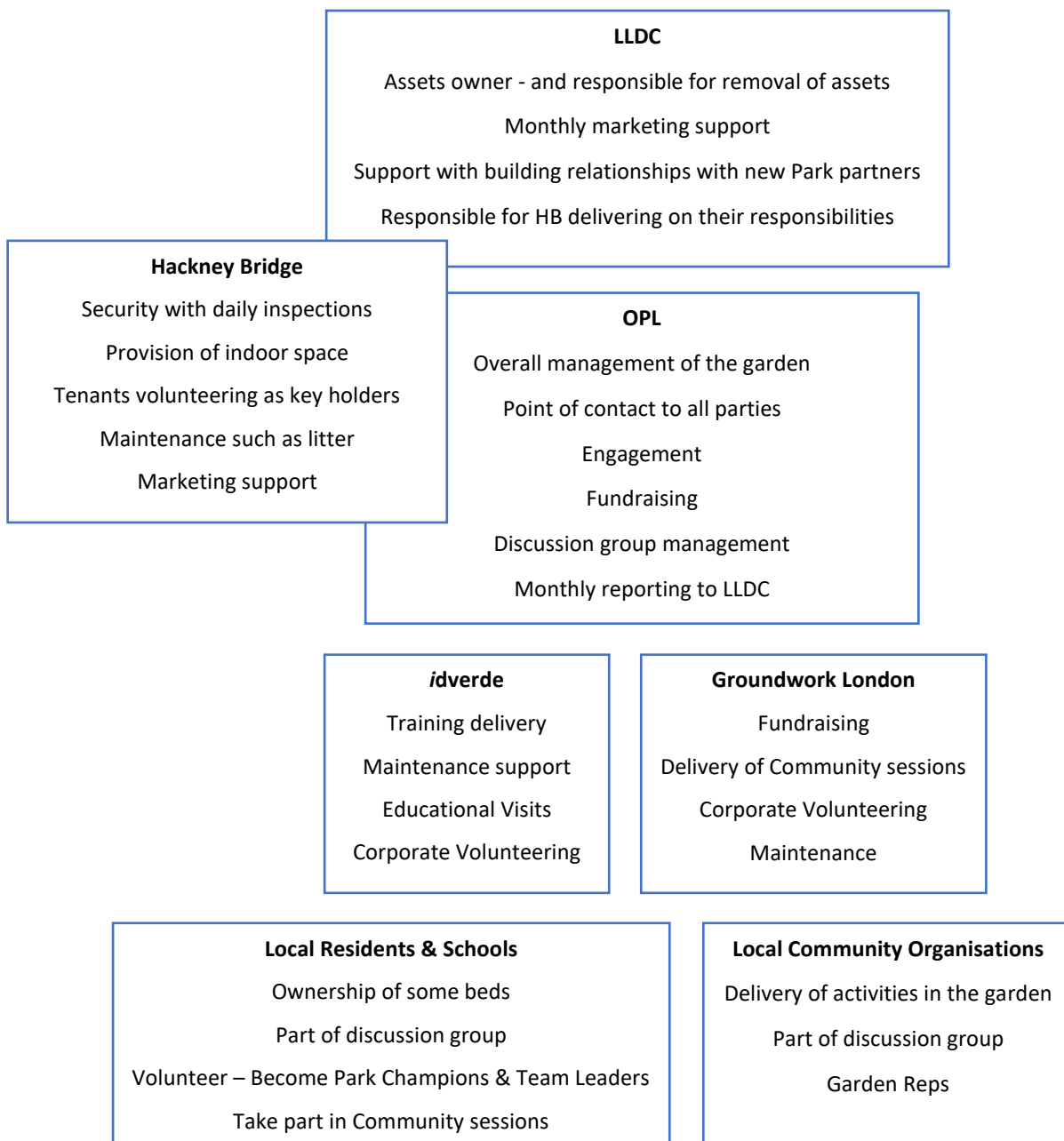
- Organising growing competitions
- Extending the garden’s reach by having Mobile Gardeners assist residents with their own gardening
- Hosting workshops on caring for indoor plants

- Exploring the idea of the garden becoming a plant nursery, where seedlings grown on-site could be sold to generate donations that are reinvested back into the garden.

By 2028, the aim is that Mobile Garden will be a thriving, sustainable hub for local food production, education and skills development as well as social connections. It will continue to serve as an inclusive space where people of all ages and backgrounds can come together to learn about gardening, wildlife, sustainability and healthy living. The garden will have hosted seasonal workshops, educational programs for children and adults and community events, fostering a sense of ownership and pride among residents. It will be a model for environmental stewardship, with composting, rainwater harvesting and biodiversity initiatives.

This vision sets the stage for growth, education and community building, focusing on the long-term impact both on the environment and on people’s lives.

3. Proposed structure and responsibilities



4. Proposed calendar*

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2025	Delivery of afterschool sessions, Badu and Yodomo workshops Fundraising Engagement Training Maintenance & prep for sowing season Monthly reporting			End of year reporting Continued engagement Further fundraising may be required Monthly maintenance sessions by Groundwork London with idverde's support Weekly gardening sessions (apart from the first week of the month) by Groundwork London from April to October End of afterschool sessions, gather learnings and develop for future Garden open several days a week unsupervised Local organisations using the garden as an outdoor space for their activities* Monthly reporting								
2026	Continuation of April-Dec programme Fundraising for gardening and maintenance sessions 2026 onwards			End of year reporting Continued engagement Further fundraising may be required Monthly maintenance sessions* Gardening sessions* Educational programme for local schools* Local organisations using the garden as an outdoor space for their activities* Garden open several days a week unsupervised Monthly reporting Further development based on local community feedback								
2027	Continuation of programme Review of current setup and discussions on beyond March 2028											
2028	Continuation of programme Discussions on beyond 2028			Final reporting								

* To be fundraised for – subject to funding.

Please note that any activities requiring fundraising will need a minimum of 3 months for fundraising efforts following LLDC approval.

5. Funding

The following funding is necessary to oversee and manage the garden from April 2025 to March 2028, ensuring a baseline level of activities is maintained regardless of external funding, as these expenses cannot be covered through external fundraising.

Categories	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Source of funding
Management and engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilisation • Project Management • Fundraising • Promotion • Ongoing general engagement • Reporting • Training delivery • Demobilisation 	£21,507	£18,359	£19,469	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some GM time in kind - £20,141 over the 3 years covered by OPL • Resources for fundraising in kind from Groundwork London and OPL • Remaining to be covered by LLDC: £39,194 over the 3 years
Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening sessions • Other activities collaborating with local organisations • Garden reps/team Leaders welfare • Education visits for local school 	Gardening sessions already funded externally. Additional activities to be fundraised for.	All to be fundraised for.	All to be fundraised for.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All activities to be fundraised for externally.
Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly maintenance • Other maintenance 	Maintenance is already funded externally.	Maintenance is to be fundraised for.	Maintenance is to be fundraised for.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Volunteers to cover some maintenance costs. • Idverde will continue to provide expertise and support in kind.
Materials and equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening kits • Refreshments • PPE & First Aid • IT software • Other 	£567	£628	£709	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum operations requirements to be covered by LLDC. • Additional requirements to be fundraised for as part of additional projects.

Total amount	£22,074	£18,987	£20,178	Total: £61,239
Covered by OPL	£8,109	£5,840	£6,192	Total: £20,141
To be covered by LLDC	£13,965	£13,147	£13,986	Total: £41,098

6. Costs detailed

Legend:

To be covered by LLDC
To be covered by OPL
Funding already confirmed
To be fundraised for

	Year 1 April 2025-March 2026				Year 2 April 2026-March 2027				Year 3 April 2027-March 2028			
	N. of days	Rate	Projected cost	Comments	N. of days	Rate	Projected cost	Comments	N. of days	Rate	Projected cost	Comments
Mobilisation												
Meetings and creation and review of agreements and materials	5	£ 371	£ 1,855	Estimating that this should be more straight forward based on similar previous years agreements			N/A				N/A	
Fundraising and development time	15	£ 371	£ 5,565	Aim will be to fundraise for 3 years. 10 Fundraising days in kind	9	£ 393	£ 3,537	Includes fundraising for additional projects at the garden. 3 Fundraising days in kind	9	£ 417	£ 3,753	Includes fundraising for additional projects at the garden. 3 Fundraising days in kind
Engagement												
Promotion face to face at local events	5	£ 318	£ 1,590	Attendance at about 10 events and community meetings	5	£ 337	£ 1,685	Attendance at about 10 events and community meetings	5	£ 357	£ 1,785	Attendance at about 10 events and community meetings
Promotion materials			£ 227	Flyers & Banner			£ 138	Updated flyers			£ 144	Updated flyers
Signage through site				To be covered by Hackney Bridge				To be covered by Hackney Bridge				To be covered by Hackney Bridge

Online promotion - social media and website	8	£ 318	£ 2,544		8	£ 337	£ 2,696		8	£ 357	£ 2,856
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Programming

Gardening sessions - Gwk Weekly apart from first week of each month			Funded externally	Delivered and funded by Groundwork London			To be funded externally				To be funded externally	
Budget to contract local organisations			To be funded externally	Estimating requirement at 10k to uplift activities from 2024			To be funded externally				To be funded externally	
School activities			To be funded externally				To be funded externally				To be funded externally	
Biodiversity related activities			Funded externally	Delivered by idverde			Funded externally	Delivered by idverde			Funded externally	Delivered by idverde

Maintenance

Monthly maintenance			Funded externally	Delivered and funded by Groundwork London			To be funded externally					
Other maintenance			In kind	Idverde to provide expertise as well as Apprentices to support monthly maintenance sessions								
Other maintenance			Funded externally	Delivering Corporate Volunteering days that will be funded by the Corporates			Funded externally	Delivering Corporate Volunteering days that will be funded by the Corporates			Funded externally	Delivering Corporate Volunteering days that will be funded by the Corporates

Training

OPL delivery of training to garden reps and allotment users	2	8	£ 31 636	4 sessions a year	2	7	£ 33 674		2	7	£ 35 714	
General Project Management												
Weekly/Monthly meetings, liaison with all parties and planning	19.5	71	£ 7,235	Average of 3h per week	19.5	39	£ 7,664	Average of 3h per week	19.5	417	£ 8,132	Average of 3h per week
Reporting Monthly, quarterly and annually	5	1	£ 1,855	Average of a day a quarter + additional time for annual	5	3	£ 1,965	Average of a day a quarter + additional time for annual	5	7	£ 2,085	Average of a day a quarter + additional time for annual
Materials and equipment												
Refreshments for allotment users, garden reps and activities attendees			£ 180	Based on uplifted level of activities			£ 230	Based on uplifted level of activities			£ 300	Based on uplifted level of activities
PPE & First Aid Box			£ 65				£ 65				£ 65	
Kits for allotment users	5	28	£ 140	Based on same number of beds but some allotment users rotating	5	29	£ 145	Based on same number of beds but some allotment users rotating	5	30	£ 150	Based on same number of beds but some allotment users rotating
IT software for website calendar			£ 32				£ 33				£ 34	
Other materials/equipment required for the upkeep of the garden			£ 150				£ 155				£ 160	

£

Total 61,239

Total £

LLDC 41,098

Total £

OPL 20,141

7. Garden features, layout and tools

As of Dec 2024, the garden features include:

- 69 planters
- 3 picnic tables and 6 benches
- 1 waste bin
- 2 notice boards
- 1 mud kitchen
- 1 BBQ
- 3 water tanks + an irrigation system + a tap
- 1 pond
- 3 small lights
- 1 polytunnel
- 1 welfare cabin (no electricity)
- 1 tool shed (no electricity)
- 1 textile garden made out of 3 planters
- 1 timber shed (no electricity) used as storage
- 2 gates and a fence all around
- 1 composting bay

