



Housing and Technical Resources
Executive Director **Jim Hayton**
Support Services

Memo

To:	Paul Manning, Head of Finance Services	Our ref:	
cc:		Your ref:	
From:	Margaret Hogg, Finance Adviser	If calling ask for:	Margaret Hogg
		Phone:	01698 454921
		Date:	11 November 2009

Subject: Financial Resources Scrutiny Forum Query – Care of Gardens Query

In response to your memo dated 10 November 2009, I attach details of the current scheme offered by South Lanarkshire Council.

I can also confirm that there is no distinction made to the qualification criteria or the service delivered between Owner Occupiers and Council House Tenants only to the funding of the service. Council House Tenants are funded through the Housing Revenue Account (rent collected) and Owner Occupiers from the General Fund.

If you require any additional information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Margaret Hogg

Finance Adviser

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Care of Gardens Criteria

About the Care of Garden Scheme:

Housing and Technical Resources provide a **free basic** garden maintenance service for people over 70 years of age and/or physically disabled residents throughout the whole of South Lanarkshire.

Provided that your garden is not an estate sized garden and there is no other Adult in household between 16 and 69, who is able to maintain your garden, we will tend to your garden during the growing season (April to October). **If you are under 70 years of age confirmation that you are in receipt of disability living allowance (DLA) or registered blind will be required (please note do not send original documents)**

Qualification for Scheme:

The scheme is open to households where the persons are over the age 70 with no one else between the age of 16-69 living with them.

If persons within household are on Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Proof of this is required

If persons within household are registered blind, Proof of this is required

If persons suffer or have recently suffered the following:-

Stroke

multiple sclerosis

rheumatoid arthritis

recent heart surgery

kidney disease (requiring dialysis)

on oxygen for respiratory disease

(proof of this would be required)

What we offer:

Grass cutting/Strimming

The scheme will cut grass and strim round lawns and obstacles (vertical edges are not included in scheme).

this will be done approx every fortnight.

Please be aware that feeding the lawn may result in the workmen being unable to maintain your lawn

Hedge trimming

The scheme will be able to maintain hedges by trimming them twice a year.

All hedges must be at the most 5ft tall as operatives will be unable to maintain any hedges higher than this for Health and Safety reasons.

Weedkiller

The Scheme will apply weedkiller once a year. To all path areas

All work carried out will be weather permitting and the scheme can reschedule work as and when required.

If it is found that you or someone else have been tending to the garden then the Care of Garden scheme may not tend to your garden until next time in the area.

Please make sure that were required operatives are able to get access to the garden, failure to do this will result in your garden being missed out until next time in area.

Please make sure that garden is clear of an risks to operatives health and safety (this includes dog faeces), the garden will be tended to once the risk have been removed

Please note that operatives do work on a rota which is constantly being updated therefore they will be unable to give time or dates as to when they will be in an area. Also if any of the above should occur then operatives will not be able to get back out to tend garden until next time in area.

What we can not do

The Care of Gardens scheme will be unable to tend to any of the following

- Landscape or renovate your garden
- Plant and/or maintain flower beds, vegetable plots, rockeries, shrubs etc
- Prune or maintain trees
- Maintain or repair fences, gates and or paths
- Use edging shears on flower beds or border edges
- Pick up leaves

However you may wish to ask another gardener or volunteer group to do any of this work.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions in regards to your Application then please contact the Care of Gardens Admin Team on 0141 584 2704/2705 who will be able to advise you on the application and what can be offered