

Foodbank Community Gardener

Reports To: Foodbank CEO

Location: 36A Inchmuir Rd, Whitehill Industrial Estate, Bathgate, EH48 2EP

Employment Type: This is an employed role, with hours dependent on the season. This seasonal role is for 1-3 days a week (Funding 6-9 months)

Salary: £15.00 per hour

Closing date: 31st May 2025

Apply with Application Form (on our website) & CV to Jobs@westlothian.foodbank.org.uk

Position Overview:

The Community Gardener will continue to help us grow, maintain and develop community garden spaces used to grow fresh produce for foodbank clients. This role supports the organisation's mission to improve food security and promote sustainable, healthy eating. The Gardener will work closely with volunteers, community members, and staff to cultivate fruits, vegetables, and herbs, and to ensure productive, welcoming garden environments.

We operate a community growing project to support our food bank, including **three polytunnels, 100 fruit trees** and **335 raised beds**. This enables us to grow fresh, nutritious produce to supplement emergency food parcels and promote sustainable food access for our clients.

Key Responsibilities:

- Plan, plant, maintain, and harvest seasonal produce in the community garden.
- Ensure produce is harvested and delivered regularly and safely to the foodbank.
- Maintain soil health and implement sustainable gardening practices.
- Coordinate with and support volunteers, including supervising workdays and providing basic gardening training.
- Engage community members in garden activities and outreach events.
- Monitor garden health and address pest, irrigation, and weather-related issues.
- Keep accurate records of crops planted, harvested, and donated.
- Assist with grant reporting, community engagement, and storytelling as needed.
- Maintain tools, equipment, and garden infrastructure.

Qualifications:

- Experience in gardening, horticulture, agriculture, or related field (formal or informal).
- Passion for food justice, sustainability, and community development.
- Ability to work outdoors in various weather conditions.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Comfortable working with volunteers of all ages and backgrounds.
- Basic knowledge of organic gardening and composting practices.
- Self-motivated, organised, and capable of working independently and as part of a team.
- PVG Background check will be required.

Preferred Skills (not required):

- Experience in community organising or volunteer coordination.
- Multilingual or culturally competent in working with diverse populations.
- Knowledge of local food systems or food insecurity issues.