

CASE STUDY: PELAW VIEW: COMMUNITY CENTRE

Background

DCA hosts a project called Growing Durham that encourages and provides support for people to get involved in growing some of their own food. Pelaw View Community Centre is situated on the Sherburn Road Estates in a deprived area of Durham city. The development manager for the centre wanted to explore opportunities to create more positive links between geographically close but divided estates.

Support from DCA with community growing

DCA are working with Pelaw View Community Centre and the nearby Laurel Avenue Children's Centre to develop a community garden. The idea is to build a broader, long term partnership model and as a result a successful funding bid has enabled the community centre to coordinate woodworking courses with a local social enterprise Woodpile as part of a wider project that aims to create an 'Edible Estate, through shared community activities, spaces and events over the next two years. Growing Durham are supporting the whole estate to start growing for themselves through edible hedgerows and support with individual gardens, and cookery courses through Wellbeing for Life are taking place in the centre's cafe.

"The Edible Estates project will better connect the area as a whole, giving rise to more pride in the area, more healthy lifestyle choices and more social interaction. Long may this project continue."

Mark Hatcher,
Development Manager

