



## **Golden Gardening**

### **Bringing Colour to our Communities**

With more and more people finding themselves having to self-isolate as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of our golden, green fingered friends are now unable to make trips out to their local garden centres and nurseries as a regular activity they usually enjoy at this time of year. Wigan Borough Community Partnership in conjunction with local businesses, Rotary and other charitable groups aim to tackle this by delivering a selection of bedding plants that have been prepared by a local nursery.

Supported and delivered to their homes by their friendly team of volunteers, this project allows those who can't get out and about to grow flowers from bedding plants into hanging baskets or their own green spaces which will bring colour to their outdoor areas whilst remaining at a safe distance from others.

Any money raised will help towards further reducing the costs of the scheme. If the 'Golden Gardeners' do not have access to the web, their families can place the orders which may be welcome by those estranged from their parents or relatives because of the current controls. There will be a modest choice of three different trays of plants, starting from £10, with a retail value of over twice that figure, and they will work with a local, trustworthy supplier to guarantee quality and good value for money.

Trevor Barton MBE Chairman of Wigan Borough Community Partnership said 'Initially we will be targeting housing schemes across the whole borough and those who we know are socially isolated in communities. We are key workers and this project would not breach

government guidelines from the necessary journey aspect. A selection of small, medium and large flower trays is available to purchase from the website [www.wbcommunitypartnership.org/goldengardening/](http://www.wbcommunitypartnership.org/goldengardening/)

He continued ' We have started a Crowdfunding scheme to cover the cost of setting up the project and it would be great if anyone would like to make a donation to help towards the cost at [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/golden-gardening-1#start](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/golden-gardening-1#start)

ENDS

For further information contact Trevor Barton on 07973 16985 or Gemma Atkinson on 01942 363621 or Phil Hirst on 07929 244215

## THE AIMS OF WIGAN BOROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Offer support for new and existing organisations to develop

Provide advice and support to help organisations source and apply for funding

Provide learning and personal development opportunities on a wide range of subjects

Support a range of forums to maintain strong channels of communication between voluntary and community groups and local statutory organisations.

Support volunteers and promote good practice to volunteering.

Provide a range of information through Community Book, WBCP website, Boroughwide Newsletter, information leaflets, social media and email communication.