

Green and Grow Coordinator



Post:	Green & Grow Coordinator
Salary:	£30,480 FTE pro rata
Contract:	3 days per week fixed term 2-year contract (with strong possibility of extension)
Location:	Working from home due to Covid. When appropriate, based at Wen's Shoreditch office and Limbrough Community Food Hub with local travel. Options to work flexibly.
Reporting to:	Wen Programme Manager Jo Wilson
To apply:	Please complete an application form and send to jobs@wen.org.uk
Deadline:	Monday 22 nd February 2021 at 10am

ABOUT THE ROLE

Wen is looking for a dynamic and experienced coordinator with a passion for community gardening and the importance of green spaces to lead our local food growing, nature and health projects.

This role will coordinate a small but vital network of community food growers in Tower Hamlets sharing skills and resources. Previously known as the Tower Hamlets Food Growing Network, Wen have been building the network since 2010 running workshops, practical support and four immensely the popular seasonal gatherings each year that have become a thriving space for people to share their passion for growing. We advocate for the importance of green spaces for health and well-being, support groups that want to grow on vacant land and equip people with the skills to grow.

As Green & Grow Coordinator you will work collaboratively with communities and groups to support and promote the value of community led greening project, gardening and food growing as a way of taking local action on global issues. You will bring the network together to share ideas and skills at regular seasonal gatherings, support the development of news spaces and deliver social and therapeutic horticulture programmes and organic gardening courses.

The networks developed across Tower Hamlets around food growing is a vital part of our work shaping a just and sustainable local food system for Tower Hamlets. During the pandemic communities have been more committed to growing local food than ever. Since 2018. We've led the borough's Food Partnership, which coordinates organisations and individuals to take collective action for a better food system in Tower Hamlets. We've also just launched a five-year programme of community climate action on our food system: Just FACT (a Just Food and Climate Transition for Tower Hamlets).

RESPONSIBILITIES

Network development

Green and Grow Coordinator

The logo for Wen. is a red circle with the text "Wen." in white, sans-serif font.

- Coordinate and develop the successful network of community led food growing activities, bringing new community groups, gardening projects, local nature based health and wellbeing organisations and passionate gardeners to the network
- Increase participation, build capacity and facilitate skills sharing across the network by developing responsive training and workshops about food growing and therapeutic gardening
- Support residents to get involved in existing or new community growing projects
- Build relationships with partners and stakeholders including Public Health, Local Authority, NHS and various Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and explore new partnerships with community food projects and corporate responsibility programmes.

Building power and collaborative working

- Co-create a policy agenda with the network around land use and the importance of greening/growing projects to health & well-being, air quality and reducing the borough's carbon emissions
- Explore how network members can support each other through, for example, sharing tools, resources and seeds.
- Organise occasional small community garden developments and practical support
- Develop funding and contract bids in collaboration with line manager

Events and communication

- Co-Create and run seasonal public facing events with network members
- Send regular newsletters and create new website content e.g. blogs, resources
- Maintain the directory of local growing spaces and network mailing list

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Experience

- At least 1 year's project coordination experience
- Working with community groups to deliver training, workshops, events or network building
- Interest or skills in gardening, community greening or food growing
- Solid knowledge of issues around land use and the benefits of greening and growing
- Excellent communication skills, the ability to disseminate information to a wide range of audiences across platforms e.g. social media, newsletters, websites
- Experience of working alongside communities or vulnerable groups such as older people, youth groups, people with mental health issues or BAME women's groups
- Self-motivated and ability to work to deadlines and under pressure
- Enthusiastic, inclusive and friendly approach to working with people and communities

Desirable

- Understanding of Tower Hamlets geography and demographics
- Building cross-sector networks
- Hands-on experience developing/building new garden spaces or delivering therapeutic gardening activities
- Track record of fundraising – grants and corporate
- Experience of coordinating volunteers, and knowledge of volunteer management best practice

Green and Grow Coordinator



- Budget management
- Policy development
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About the recruitment process

To apply for this role please fill in the application form and the equal opportunities form. We will be marking your application based on how you fulfil the person specification. Make sure your statement answers each point on the person specification. You may want to use the points as subheadings in your response. You should prioritize covering the points in the person specification thoroughly above the 'flow' of your writing.

We particularly encourage applications from people of colour, who are currently underrepresented at Wen.

Wen's work, including this role, is open to all genders and aspires to be a trans inclusive organisation

If you have any questions about the role or the application process, please email jobs@wen.org.uk. We are happy to talk the role over with you in more detail, and having questions now will not count against you in the interview!

About Wen

Wen works both in East London and nationally to support women and their communities to take environmental action.

We work across a wide range of environmental issues, including building resilient and sustainable local food systems, food growing, nature based wellbeing sessions in women's refuges, our Environmenstrual campaign and our work on the Feminist Green New Deal.

Wen has been supporting women and communities to grow their own food, and become advocates for environmental action in Tower Hamlets, for over ten years. Wen leads on the Tower Hamlets Food Partnership, bringing organisations and individuals together to build a better food system for everyone in Tower Hamlets. Members include housing providers, food charities, small businesses, schools, social enterprises, community gardeners and the council.

Wen strives to take an inclusive, feminist and intersectional approach to everything we do. This can be seen within our organisation through our participatory leadership model, the types of projects and campaigns we choose to work on and importantly we advocate movement building.

- We are online: www.wen.org.uk
- Instagram: [@Wen_UK](https://www.instagram.com/Wen_UK)
- Twitter: [@Wen_UK](https://twitter.com/Wen_UK)
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/WEN.UK1988