

# Everyday Growing Cultures in the North of England: participation, citizenship and local economies.

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# *Bringing together* two 'communities' in Manchester and Sheffield

## Growing communities

- plot holders; allotment societies; those waiting for plots; allotment governing bodies

- **Local organisations**



- Others (AAA/Diggers)

## Open data communities

- open data activists; developers; local government; data journalists
- Central government (DCLG)
- **Local organisations**



# DataGM BETA

freeing Greater Manchester's public data

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## Allotments

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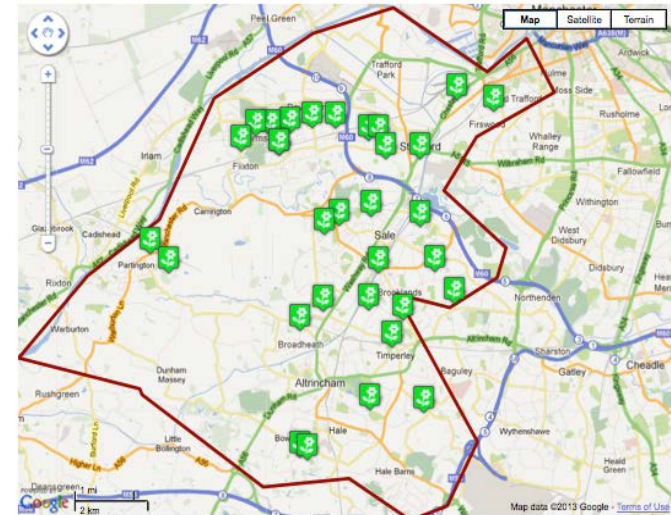
### Downloads & Resources

Description	Format	Hash
<a href="#">Salford</a>	KML	
<a href="#">Trafford</a> (downloaded 11 times)	XML	

This is a list of all known formats and datasets for *Allotments*. If you know of another (CSV, SPARQL end-point etc.) please edit this page and add it to the list.

### About this dataset

## Trafford Allotments



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Tags

Groups

- Salford City Council

This dataset is Open

License:

OKD Compliant::Other (Open)

# (original) Research Questions

**Commonalities:** ideas of knowledge sharing, collaboration, ‘the commons’: shared digital/land resources accessible to all.

- **What does digital engagement and transformation look like within these communities? (main question)**
- How can these communities further the national open data agenda so that it benefits citizens?
- How can a more widely adopted and enacted open data strategy benefit local economies?
- If unsuccessful in these aspects, what might open data’s unintended consequences look like?
- How can we think of forms of resistance, mobilisation of local histories and heritage identities?
- **How can we rethink received ideas of participation and enacting citizenship in light of these?**

# Data collection/Methods/Outputs/Engage ment

- In-depth interviews
- Analysis of council websites
- Participant observation
- Updating UK allotment dataset
- Mapping workshops + tours (new plots)
- Grow Your Own Data Hackday(s)
- Short film
- Website including toolkit + social media
- Reports & journal articles



The screenshot shows a blog post on the Datablog website. The header includes the site name 'DATABLOG' with the tagline 'Facts are sacred' and a category 'Life & style Allotments'. The article title is 'The English allotment lottery' with a sub-headline: 'Where in the longest waiting lists for council allotments? Which councils have closed their waiting lists? We have the data'. It features social media sharing buttons for Facebook (34), Twitter (128), LinkedIn (8), and Email. The author is Farida Vis and Yana Manyukhina, dated Thursday 10 November 2011. A photograph shows a lush garden with pink flowers and a small wooden structure. The text discusses the popularity of growing your own and the difficulty of obtaining waiting list data. A link to a report by Margaret Campbell and the National Society for Allotment and Leisure Gardeners is provided.



**MadLab  
Hack/makers  
space**

# For critical consideration

- Combining **theory** (building) with sound **methodology**
- What's with all the **mapping**? Neo-cartography + activism
- **Defining 'community'**: 'In contrast a focus on the role of *sociality* in the production of CittaSlow 'places' indicates how social relationships or 'bonds' are implicated in the forms of individual and collective human agency and creativity through which the social and material elements of urban contexts are constituted' (Pink, 2008: 185 – our emphasis)
- **Community-based participatory research: a guide to ethical principles and practice** – role of power (ethical principles: mutual respect; equality and inclusion; democratic participation; active learning; making a difference; collective action; personal integrity) (see [http://www.dur.ac.uk/beacon/socialjustice/ethics\\_consultation/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/beacon/socialjustice/ethics_consultation/))



Project website (under construction)

<http://everydaygrowingcultures.org/>

Allotment data website (in need of TLC – covered in weeds)

<http://allotmentdata.org/>

Allotment data - @allotmentdata

Farida Vis - @flygirltwo

Andrew Miles - @AGMcat

Erinma Ochu - @erinmaochu

Steven Flower - @steviefLOW

Ric Roberts - @RicRoberts