

SITE SECRETARIES GUIDANCE NOTE

POLYTUNNELS SPECIFICATIONS AND PROCEDURES

The specification and procedures affecting polytunnels has been updated and this Note provides revised instructions that take effect immediately. Site Secretaries Guidance Note No, 24 is now cancelled

Definition :

A polytunnel is defined as a permanent walk-in structure.

Construction :

The tunnel should be of a commercial design, composed of rigid tubular steel (or plastic) with a polythene or similar covering. Tunnels must be maintained in good order and should not be allowed to deteriorate or pose a risk to plotholders.

Dimensions :

The maximum dimension for a single structure is 20' (6m) x 10' (3m) x 8' 6" (2.5m) and only one tunnel of this size is permitted per plotholder. Smaller tunnels may be aggregated provided that the overall base area does not exceed 200 sq ft (c.22 sq m).

Location:

Tunnels should be sited towards the rear of plots and must not interfere with neighbouring plots or unduly restrict access to light.

Approval procedure

Plotholders must seek approval for tunnels through their Association Secretary who will refer the request to the Allotment Liaison Officer. The ALO will consult with both the plotholder and Association before confirming consent to a tunnel.

Self Managed Associations may approve the erection of tunnels without reference to the ALO.

The ALO will be the final arbiter and may require a tunnel to be modified, relocated or removed if it does not comply with the conditions above.

Exceptions:

Dispensation may be given by the ALO to exceed the specification in the case of group-use plots where there is a justifiable reason to do so.

