

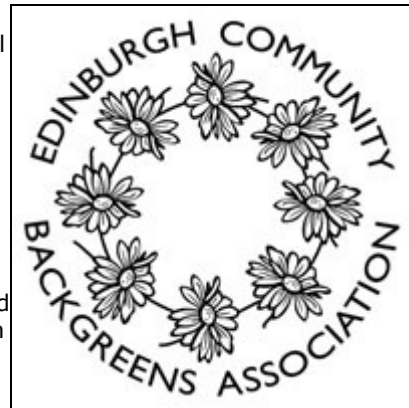
## Edinburgh Green Caretakers - Scottish Pioneering Food Waste Community

### Composting Using Rocket In Vessel Composters



In Spring of this year, Edinburgh Community Backgreens Association (ECBA), took delivery of eight, A500 Rocket in vessel composters for a pioneering city centre based tenement housing project.

Edinburgh itself has a very high concentration of householders living in tenement blocks (55%). These blocks backing onto previously verdant and blooming, green areas that the locals shared as a communal environment, but over time and through lack of interest and willing participants these greens became over run with bushes, weeds and trees, the locals caring less and maintenance of these areas completely ceasing. Greig Robertson the founder of Re-solution a sustainability consultancy, saw an opportunity to get these individual communities working together to bring back the peaceful and once loved back greens.



ECBA working with tenement volunteers stripped and cleared 6 sites, the project aiming from the start to gain community involvement, the project aim once this initial step was completed was to then continue with environment based workshops, composting and allotment growing, allowing the householders to learn, to grow their own produce and to compost their own catering wastes in the blight of household organics collections by the council.

For this particular section of the project ECBA decided with the collaboration of Scottish Organic Services to commission 8 In vessel composters at individual sites, specially crafted composting sheds with a simple and unique waste collection method were employed. Working and attaining the approval of the State Veterinary Service the first of these sites opened to host a visit from the Community Composting Network (CCN) , the Scottish Community Recycling Network (SCRN), SEPA (Scottish Environmental Protection Agency) WRAP (waste and resource action programmed) and the local council on the 1st of May this year.

The plan for the future? " We have proved that it is possible to install these Rocket composters in tenement backgreens. This year, we now need to prove that we can encourage a high rate of participation amongst residents, if so I would hope to be able to role this service out to hundreds of sites throughout Edinburgh" Greig was heard to say.