

1

Community Gardens

Turn community land into shared productive gardens

Imagine unused community land transformed into thriving gardens — planted, tended and harvested by local people together.

Community gardens build food security, reduce isolation and give everyone access to fresh produce regardless of whether they have their own land.

Questions to consider:

- Where could a community garden work in Golden Bay?
- Who would be involved in running it?
- What would you grow?

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2

Neighbourhood Food Hubs

Small local groups sharing resources, skills and tasks

What if your immediate neighbours formed a small hub — buying food in bulk together, sharing growing and harvesting tasks, preserving together, and making use of each other's skills and equipment?

Small hubs reduce costs, build relationships and create genuine resilience at the street or valley level.

Questions to consider:

- Could this work in your neighbourhood?
- What would you most like to share or receive?
- What skills could you contribute?

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3

Satellite Living Series Groups

Bring practical skills workshops closer to home

The Aorere Valley Practical Living Series meets at Bainham Hall. But that's a long way to travel for many Golden Bay residents.

What if local satellite groups formed in different areas, learning together locally, then connecting online or at occasional shared gatherings to exchange ideas across the Bay?

Questions to consider:

- Where would a local group near you make sense?
- What topics matter most to your community?
- Would you help organise one?

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Aorere Valley Practical Living Series · connectedpathways.co.nz
Under the umbrella of Bainham Rural Women

4

Community Exchange Platform

An online network to share needs, skills, materials and produce

An online community platform where Golden Bay residents can post what they need and what they have to offer: Surplus produce, materials, tools, labour, skills, knowledge.

Think of it as a local circular economy: nothing wasted, everything shared, community connections strengthened.

Questions to consider:

- What do you have to offer that others might need?
- What do you need that someone nearby might have?
- How should something like this be organised?

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5

Mentoring & Skills Matching

Connect experienced growers with beginners

Golden Bay has a wealth of experienced growers, preservers, foragers and farmers. What if we created a simple system to match them with people who are just starting out?

A growing mentor could make all the difference. Sharing knowledge, avoiding mistakes, and building lasting friendships across generations and experience levels.

Questions to consider:

- Would you like to be matched with a mentor — or be one?
- What growing skill do you most want to learn?
- What could you teach someone else?

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6

Visitor Engagement & Adopt-a-Garden

Invite Golden Bay visitors to contribute and connect

Golden Bay attracts visitors who love this place and want to give something back. What if we gave them a way to?

Through 'Adopt-a-Garden' sponsorships, volunteer growing days, or knowledge exchange sessions, visitors could contribute meaningfully during their stay — and stay connected to the community year-round through an online network.

Questions to consider:

- Do you know visitors who would love to be involved?
- What could visitors contribute that locals most need?
- How could we keep engaged visitors connected year-round?

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Your Idea

What would YOU suggest?

We have shared some starter ideas — but the best ideas often come from the community itself.

What do you think Golden Bay needs to become more resilient? What would make the biggest difference to your household, your neighbourhood, or the Bay as a whole?

Questions to consider:

- What would make the biggest difference to your household or neighbourhood?
- Is there a skill, resource or connection that's missing in Golden Bay?
- What do you wish existed that doesn't yet?

Please write your suggestions on the notepad



What Else?

Your ideas, your community: Tell us what matters to you

The best ideas come from the community itself. We want to hear what excites you, what barriers you have noticed, and what is already working well that we should celebrate and build on.

There are no wrong answers — every idea helps us understand what Golden Bay needs or has to offer.

Questions to consider:

- What else excites you about growing food together in Golden Bay?
- What barriers have you noticed that we could address?
- What's already working well that we should build upon?

Please write your suggestions on the notepad