Joint Authority Plant Nursery Partnership

How Does it work?





Introduction

- Partnership since April 2004
- Jointly employs
 - 12 staff during the winter
 - 23 at the peak production time

- Producing 1 million plants per annum
- 2,800 hanging baskets & floral planters

Manor Heath Nursery



The Site

- 19 Acre Green Flag Park
- Tropical House
- Walled Garden
- 2550 square meters heated glass
- Polythene tunnels























Bradley Nursery



The Site

- Nursery only
- 4200 square meters heated glass
- Polythene tunnels
- Standing area.





INTRODUCTION OF NEW TECHNOLOGY

- Bradley Nurseries have just taken delivery of a new transplanting machine, which will speed up production of the majority of seedlings.
- And cutting down the number of seasonal staff needed.















SAVINGS

• £ 11 Billion

Not Quite

Benefits

- One manager's salary
- Quantity discount by bulk buying
- Sharing growing space
- Shifting any surplus stock
- Work can be done anywhere
- Shared resources e.g. plant decoration
- Standardised production systems

Weaknesses

- Manager can only be in one place at a time
- Needs good working relationship with all staff
- Un supervised staff
- More meetings to attend
- Red tape only more of it
- Salary differential between authorities
- One salary and one allocation of annual leave

Opportunities

- Spread of good practice between areas
- Energy savings
- Standardisation of systems
- Skilled staff able to work where needed
- Dealing with a limited number of suppliers
- Lowering of costs
- Better service
- Strength with a larger and more diverse service
- Automation, one transplanting machine could operate for both nurseries

Threats

- Budget cuts and reductions
- Lack of space at peak times
- Carbon reduction targets Heating and vehicles
- Not enough hours in the day

Conclusion

- A challenging but interesting job
- Both authorities have gone from strength to strength
- Displays add a feeling of well being and prosperity
- Increases positive comments for both councils
- Good in Bloom results, less vandalism
- Better community cohesion



Questions?