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The Estate We're In: Garden of delights will be heading straight to Angell Town after Chelsea Flower Show

DAVID COHEN Wednesday 13 April 2016 11:48

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The Royal Horticultural Society garden at this year's sell-out RHS Chelsea Flower Show is to be relocated to a housing estate in Brixton immediately after the event, the Evening Standard can reveal.

In a boon for Angell Town's 4,000 residents, more than £40,000 worth of trees, shrubs and plants will be dug up and replanted in Little Angel's Park on the estate at the centre of our campaign, The Estate We're In.

But that's not all. Several Angell Town residents will help build the RHS Chelsea show garden, and some blooms grown by residents for the event will be included in the planting. There will also be an opportunity to attend the show's royal opening.



Teads

This unique project by the Evening Standard, the RHS and Angell Town follows five months of open days, leafleting, community planting and questionnaires. Residents consulted were overwhelmingly in favour of bringing the garden to the estate, but without its shipping container potting shed.



Ann-Marie Powell will create the Greening Grey Britain Garden with Angell Town residents (BBC)

Ann-Marie Powell, the designer charged with creating the 2016 RHS Greening Grey Britain Garden for Health, Happiness and Horticulture, said the vision was "not only to bring Chelsea to Angell Town, but also bring Angell Town to Chelsea".

Powell is a former gold medal-winner at Chelsea and it will be her third garden there. "Coming to Angell Town is like coming home because my family comes from estates like this," she said. "My dad was a private in the Army and

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worked himself up. I learnt from him and I am proof that no matter where you come from, if you want something and work hard, you can make it... my grandparents lived on a council estate, and a lot of my extended family still live there, I feel an affinity for people in places like Angell Town."

People such as Lorna Burke, 49, a mother of two who grew up in a working-class area in Nottingham near one of Powell's childhood homes, and who is among the residents, some as young as five, who will help build the garden. She said: "I've watched the Chelsea Flower Show on the telly but never had the opportunity to go. I can't wait!"

Celebrity florist Simon Lycett said he hoped his bouquet for the royal party at the opening "will include flowers grown by Angell Town residents in their own gardens".

The cost of up to £15,000 for relocating the garden, and a £3,620 grant for an Angell Town group to maintain it, is coming from our £1.5 million campaign, funded by Citi banking group, the Cabinet Office, Linklaters law firm, developers Mount Anvil and Citygrove Securities, Lambeth council and the Evening Standard Dispossessed Fund. Grants are managed by The London Community Foundation, the charity that holds the Dispossessed Fund.

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Dr Pepper

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Ooh, that probably means there'll be some (probably about £40,000 worth) of fancy trees, shrubs and plants being offered for sale down the local car boots/markets a couple of weeks after the flower show ends.

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