

Our Strategic Plan 2018 - 2023

Greener Kirkcaldy is a community-led charity and development trust. We would like to see a future where everyone is able to heat their home affordably, eat well, and tread more lightly on our planet. We work towards that by delivering practical projects tackling fuel and food poverty, improving health and wellbeing, and bringing the community together. We employ 11 full-time and 9 part-time members of staff and have around 50 regular volunteers.

We take a community development approach, building on the skills and assets within our community. Our activities include cooking and gardening courses, the Cosy Kingdom energy advice service, upcycling and repair workshops, cycling and walking activities, community gardens, volunteering and outdoor Kids Clubs.

We are currently carrying out a major project, to refurbish and fit out our new premises on East Fergus Place in central Kirkcaldy. The new building will be a base for Greener Kirkcaldy and our new **Community Food Hub**. We plan to move to East Fergus Place in early 2019 and launch the Food Hub soon after.





We have written our **Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Future 2018 – 2023** after consulting our members and the wider community. It sets out our ambitions for the years ahead and gives us a route map for planning our projects and services. You can read the full version (28 pages) on our website at: <u>www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk/about</u>.

Our approach

Our aim is to create a financially sustainable future for Greener Kirkcaldy so we can meet the needs and aspirations of our community. We will achieve this by:

- Growing our membership and offering good-quality volunteer opportunities
- Launching our new Food Hub social enterprise project in early 2019
- Seeking continued grant funding as needed
- Exploring other options to finance our work, including donations, sponsorship and social enterprise activities
- Continuing to build strong local, regional and national partnerships

Our projects and services

We looked carefully at the ideas that were suggested during our community consultation and assessed them on how well they contribute to Greener Kirkcaldy's aims, their feasibility, timescales and degree of difficulty. We then used that information to decide which ideas to prioritise over the next five years.

Energy

Our Cosy Kingdom team make over 1,000 home energy advice visits each year, helping people out of fuel poverty and tackling carbon emissions. We work with partners St Andrews Environmental Network, Citizens Advice & Rights Fife, Fife Council and others to deliver this service across Fife. Our priorities now are to reach people most affected by fuel poverty, and people who want to reduce their carbon footprints. We will also focus on securing longer-term funding for the service.



In addition to our advice work, we plan to explore the potential for community-scale renewable energy projects.



Natural Play

We will run outdoor school holiday and after-school Kids Clubs with a fee, alongside a free outreach programme for families on low incomes. The activities will take place in Kirkcaldy's parks, woodland and beaches, encouraging children to explore and enjoy the natural world.

Food and Growing

The Food Hub will be a place for people to come together to grow, cook, eat and learn, with training, volunteer and work experience opportunities, and life-long learning around food production and preparation. It will include a training kitchen and an event space at East Fergus Place, and a satellite site at Ravenscraig Walled Garden, where we have recently developed a new Training Garden and classroom.



Activities will include courses, community meals, a food Coop promoting local produce and a 'Community Fridge' to redistribute short-dated food. We'll be working with many other organisations and partners including Fife Council, NHS Fife and Kirkcaldy Food Bank.

Waste Reduction

We will build on our 2015-18 project, Too Good To Waste, which encouraged people to reuse and repair through programmes of sewing and furniture repair and upcycling workshops, and bicycle and computer maintenance courses. We will develop these into a social enterprise model, introducing charges for some activities while offering free sessions to community groups whose members are mainly people on low incomes.





Transport

We will encourage walking and cycling as alternatives to short car journeys, by running cycle training, a bike loan scheme, and group walks and rides. We will also promote route planning, alternatives to air travel, fuel-efficient driving, and electric and hybrid cars to help people make greener travel choices. We plan to carry out a feasibility study into developing a low-carbon transport social enterprise, for example a bicycle reuse project or an electric bicycle hire scheme.

Delivering this plan

We have set ambitious social and environmental targets for the next five years. We will increase our membership from 500 to 1000, our number of volunteers from 50 to 100, and the total number of people taking part in our activities each year from 5000 to 8000. By 2023, we also aim to be reducing our community's annual carbon footprint by 12,500 tonnes CO2e.

Our financial targets are:

- By April 2020: Food Hub project to be generating income of £47,000
- By April 2021: the Food Hub to be earning £62,000 and all of our core projects to be earning some income through sales and/or service level agreements
- By April 2023: 40% of our income to be earned through social enterprises, service level agreements, donations and sponsorship

We will organise ourselves to achieve these targets by building the skills and capacity of our staff team, employing external consultants, and establishing project working groups with partners, volunteers and other stakeholders. We will carry out a review of this Strategic Plan each year.

We will keep partners, members and the wider community informed and engaged in our progress. People will be encouraged to get involved through consultations, surveys, working groups and volunteering.

Volunteer with us! We're always looking for new volunteers to join us - see what opportunities we have on offer: <u>www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk/volunteer-with-us</u>

Did you know that you can **become a member** of Greener Kirkcaldy? Our members play a key role in setting our priorities, and get discount on our events and activities. Find out more: **www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk/signup**

Keep up to date by **joining our mailing list**, liking our **Facebook** page or following us on **Twitter**!

www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk

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