



Our Year 2019 - 2020



**Greener
Kirkcaldy**

**Over 300 events
with more than
3,000 people**

**1,700 home
energy advice
visits and 700
handy service
visits**

**More than 80
volunteers gave
over 5,000
hours**

**781 kg bikes
491 kg furniture
176 kg electronics
183 kg textiles
Saved from
landfill**

**10.7 tonnes
food waste
redistributed by
our community
fridge**

**960 people
reduced their
weekly car
mileage by
cycling and
walking more**

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.

Between April 2019 and March 2020 our activities included:

- Cooking workshops and courses
- Growing workshops at Ravenscraig Walled Garden
- The Cosy Kingdom energy advice service
- Reuse and repair workshops including sewing classes, furniture upcycling, computer and bike maintenance
- Climate change information events and activities
- A transport behaviour change project including cycle rides and training, led walks, Kirkcaldy walking and cycling guides, a free bike borrowing scheme, fuel efficient driving, electric vehicle events and air travel reduction activities
- The Kirkcaldy Walking Festival and the first ever Kirkcaldy Cycling Festival
- Outdoor Kids Clubs and Kids Cooking Clubs
- Open days, talks and workshops with groups and organisations
- Volunteering opportunities in our community gardens, community building, cooking for our events, leading cycle rides and walks and blogging for our website

Our work in 2019-20 was funded by: Fife Council, the Scottish Government, The National Lottery Community Fund, Climate Challenge Fund, Local Energy Scotland, Energy Saving Trust, Robertson Trust, Paths for All and Rank Foundation.

10 years of Greener Kirkcaldy!



2019 marked our 10th Anniversary, which we celebrated with a special Anniversary Ceilidh in November. Greener Kirkcaldy formed in 2009 when a group of local people got together with the aim of doing something positive for the community and our environment. We started our first project 'The Advice Centre' on Kirkcaldy High Street in 2010 and have grown steadily since - creating a community training garden and orchard at Ravenscraig Walled Garden, developing a Fife-wide energy advice service 'Cosy Kingdom' and finally opening our own community building in Kirkcaldy town centre in 2019. We are very proud to have been part of the Kirkcaldy community for the last 10 years. We've delivered a range of exciting projects, worked with lots of incredible people and **helped people save over 38,000 tonnes of carbon**, by reducing energy use, driving less, growing food, cooking from scratch and reducing waste to landfill.

We'd like to say a big thank you to all of our past and present funders, donors, members, partners, volunteers, staff, board members and anyone who's ever attended one of our events or taken part in one of our activities. We couldn't have achieved everything we've done without your ongoing support.



Headline moments

April 2019 - We opened our new building at 8 East Fergus Place with a series of community open days. Over 3 days we welcomed approx. 288 visitors and were joined by special guest, Jamie Scott, Head Chef and Patron of the The Newport Restaurant and BBC Professional MasterChef winner from Fife.



April 2019 - We opened our Lang Spoon Community Kitchen. Over the last year, 300 people have taken part in a range of cooking courses and classes, community meals, kids cooking clubs, a cooking club for older people, volunteering and employability training.

THE LANG SPOON
COMMUNITY KITCHEN



April 2019 - We also launched our Community Fridge redistributing food waste from local businesses and providing access to nutritious food. Almost 3,000 people visited the fridge last year and 10.7 tonnes of food was saved from landfill.



June 2019 - We were very excited to win the Partnership Award at the Fife Voluntary Action Awards for our Cosy Kingdom partnership with St Andrews Environmental Network and Citizens Advice & Rights Fife. Over the last year, the partnership has supported participants to save almost £1.1 million through energy, debt and benefits advice.

July 2019 - 284 people took part in 22 walks run by 9 organisations during our second Kirkcaldy Walking Festival.

September 2019 - We organised the first Kirkcaldy Cycling Festival. 243 people took part in 6 events over the week.



October 2019 - We held our AGM in our new building for the first time. Our keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Dixon, Director of Friends of the Earth Scotland. We were also joined by a panel of special guests including Jess Pepper, Climate Reality Leader, Karen Dorrat from EATS Rosyth and Catherine Payne, Environmental Strategy Officer at Fife Council.

October 2019 - We installed solar panels on our roof, a Tesla Powerwall battery storage system and an electric vehicle charging point with the help of funding from Local Energy Scotland, The National Lottery and donations from our community. We hope to generate 18,200 kWh per year.



March 2020 - Covid-19 hit. We closed our doors to the public, moved our events online, and played a key role in local emergency response work. Between April and August, with the help of our amazing volunteers, we made and delivered over 7,400 meals to vulnerable people in Kirkcaldy and our energy advisors made crisis gas and electricity meter top ups for hundreds of families at risk of disconnection.

2020 and beyond

In Summer 2020, thanks to funding from Fife Council, we launched a new food pantry - the Lang Toun Larder - at 8 East Fergus Place. The pantry collects food that is unsold or surplus from local businesses and redistributes this to members, who can 'shop' the pantry once a week.



Our new partnership project, Climate Action Fife, started in October 2020 and will pilot a range of activities to tackle climate change in Fife. We're working in partnership with Fife Council, Fife College and Fife Communities Climate Action Network on this project, which is the first in Scotland to be funded by the National Lottery's new Climate Action Fund.



Our new cycle social enterprise - the Lang Toun Cycles community bike shop - will open in November 2020, thanks to 2-year start up funding from the Climate Challenge Fund and Smarter Choices, Smarter Places.



We are now part of the new Love Oor Lang Toun regeneration group and are working closely with them on a number of projects for Kirkcaldy.

In 2021, thanks to Zero Waste Scotland funding, we will be working in partnership with Fife Council's Resource Efficient Solutions, to support Fife Pride and Kirkcaldy Parks Half Marathon to reduce single-use items at their events.

In August 2020, we reviewed our 5-year Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Future, setting out our new priorities and updated plans for 2020 to 2023. We added in three new priorities:

- **More action to tackle the Climate Emergency**
- **Training and employability**
- **Town Centre Regeneration**

You can read the review on our website: www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk.

Debbie and Steve had health issues, were struggling to budget and found it difficult to heat their home. They were confused by their energy bills and heating controls. We visited them at home and talked them through these. We also installed thermal curtains and energy saving LED bulbs and helped them apply for the Warm Home Discount. Our partners, Citizens Advice and Rights Fife, helped them access new benefits too. Debbie and Steve are now more confident managing their energy use and can now affordably keep their home warm.

COSY KINGDOM



Rosa had a new baby and wanted to learn how she could make the most of her budget to feed her young family affordably, whilst also ensuring they ate healthily. After attending our Smart Cooking course, Rosa's confidence increased and she is now more inspired to cook from scratch and try new recipes. She learned how to waste less food, budget better and plan healthy meals.

George used to drive to work every day. He wanted to cut down his driving, and increase his weekly exercise, so was considering cycling to work. He had a bike and had once been a regular cyclist, but hadn't cycled for years and wasn't very confident cycling on the road. George joined our cycle rides to help build his confidence. After attending 3 rides, he felt that cycling in a group, and learning some off-road routes, had increased his confidence enough to try cycling to work.



"The staff I've met at Greener Kirkcaldy are excellent. Very knowledgeable, welcoming and friendly. It's a real pleasure to visit"

"I haven't been on my bike in years. This ride was great - I probably wouldn't have got my bike out of the shed otherwise"

"I'm now better at planning and deciding on meals, and wasting less food"

"The community fridge is a great idea! I'm feeling healthier and it has given me my dignity back"

Greener Kirkcaldy was a huge help in my life. What they do in the community is invaluable. So grateful. Thank you so much"

"I would like to thank Cosy Kingdom. Absolute pleasure meeting them. They showed me how to reduce my bills and chatted about other support available. Lifted a huge burden"

"My kids love the Greener Kirkcaldy clubs, the staff are brilliant, they love being outside and it gives them a real sense of achievement"

"I am so glad I found you. I can't tell you how happy I am to feel that I might be able to alter and repair my own clothes"

Well taught workshop - excellent mix of sitting and learning and practical walking about seeing the community garden. It was great to see how I can do things myself"

"You do a great job motivating people to change to more climate friendly ways of living"

"I started the course hoping to increase my confidence and inspire me to cook. It has done so much more than that. I am now more confident in the kitchen and love trying new ideas and recipes"

Find out more about our work at: www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk
Support us by **becoming a member, donating or volunteering**
Keep up to date by **joining our mailing list**, or following us on **social media**



Contact us

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Greener Kirkcaldy