

2020-2023

# Our Strategic Plan



The Ripple Project  
198 Restalrig Road South  
Edinburgh  
EH7 6DZ

Co Ltd By Guarantee No 214364  
Scottish Charity No SC 024973

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## Introducing the Plan

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As Director of the Ripple, I am proud to share this summary of our strategic plan for 2020 and the coming years.

The Ripple is a community organisation that is led by, works with and serves its local people. Without our volunteers and the relationship we have with local people, we would not be the organisation that we are. We seek to listen, understand and react to local needs and aspirations to make life better for everyone.

With a small but committed staff team we are able to provide a space that brings people together on a daily basis to eat, share, learn and grow. We provide safe spaces for older people and young people to be themselves, make friends and take care of themselves.

With partners we provide locally accessible services that contribute to local wellbeing through our mental and physical health programmes as well as working together to making a difference through wider community plans and locally led structures.

I look forward to the coming years at the Ripple, working side by side with local people to deliver the changes needed for people to live good lives and thrive in their own community.



Rachel Green  
Director

The Ripple has been part of the communities of Restalrig, Lochend and Craightinny for over 20 years. In this time, we have worked operationally from year to year. It feels good to now have a strategic plan taking us into the future that sets out how we will continue to achieve our purpose, mission and values.

Lesley Cruickshank  
Chair



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## OUR PURPOSE

To tackle poverty and inequality by responding to local priorities, circumstances and needs in a sustainable way by helping the people of Restalrig, Lochend and Craigentenny to help themselves.

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## OUR MISSION

We will achieve this vision by:

- Working with local people to create and deliver local services that are accessible and fit for purpose
  - Providing opportunities for local people to eat more healthily, and reduce their food insecurity
  - Helping local people to make positive choices around their mental health and reduce social isolation
  - Encouraging local people to get involved in their community
  - Supporting local people to stay active and physically well
  - Including local people so that they feel valued, connected and influential
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## OUR VALUES

We will carry out this work in the following ways:

- by respecting the individual and valuing the right of people to make their own choices
  - by valuing equality of both opportunity and outcome
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  - by increasing the ability of individuals and groups to influence issues that affect them and their communities through individual and/or collective action.
  - by maximising collaborative working relationships in partnerships between the many agencies which contribute to CLD, including collaborative work with participants and communities.
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## Our Outcomes

### Children and young people - The Difference we want to make

- Young people will increase their confidence
- Young people can easily access opportunities to make positive use of their leisure time
- Young people are able to build relationships of trust with significant adults
- Young people will make positive behaviour changes
- Young people are better able to make informed changes regarding their health and wellbeing
- Young people have increased opportunities to learn, achieve accreditation and make a positive contribution to their community

### Health and Wellbeing - The Difference we want to make

- Local people will have increased opportunities to socialise and connect with others
- Local people at risk of poor physical and mental wellbeing will increase their knowledge and understanding of healthier lifestyles.
- Older vulnerable people will have increased access to good quality healthy meals.
- Local people will have the support they need to understand how to care for themselves and the support they need to make positive changes.
- Local people at risk of poor physical and mental wellbeing have increased opportunities to access groups and activities that will support their wellbeing
- Local people will have increased their capacity to manage their own health and wellbeing.
- Local people feel valued and connected to their own community.
- Local people will have the opportunity to be better informed about local issues and the services and support available to them.
- Local people will have a voice to raise issues of importance.

### Volunteering - The Difference we want to make

- Our volunteers are valued, supported and enabled to participate fully.
- Our volunteers and all of its benefits are celebrated.
- The places and spaces where we volunteer are developed, supported and sustained.
- There are diverse, quality and inclusive opportunities for everyone to get involved and stay involved.

## How are we going to do all this?

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This strategy is supported by our operational plan which shows how we will use our money, staff time and other resources to achieve our goals. We will:

- Design activity linked to the strategic plan and define what it will deliver.
- Plan, track and assess all our projects and day to day activity
- Evaluate the impact to learn and improve

All our activities will be focused on one of the following

- Achieving the outcomes – the change we want to see
- Creating and maintaining the right organisation
- Working in partnership to increase opportunities for local people and
- Creating a space where local people have control over their own lives



Helping the people of Restalrig, Lochend  
and Craigentiny to help themselves