



# Skills For Life

Our plan to prepare better futures in Scotland  
2018-2023

[www.scouts.scot/strategy](http://www.scouts.scot/strategy)

**#SkillsForLife**



**Scouts**  
Scotland

# Who we are

We are Scotland's largest co-educational youth movement. Each week we help almost 40,000 young people across Scotland enjoy fun, friendship and outdoor adventure.

## Our mission

By 2023 we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders, delivering an inspiring programme.

We will be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

## Our values

Scouts are guided by their values - acting with care, respect, integrity, cooperation, exploring our own and others' beliefs.

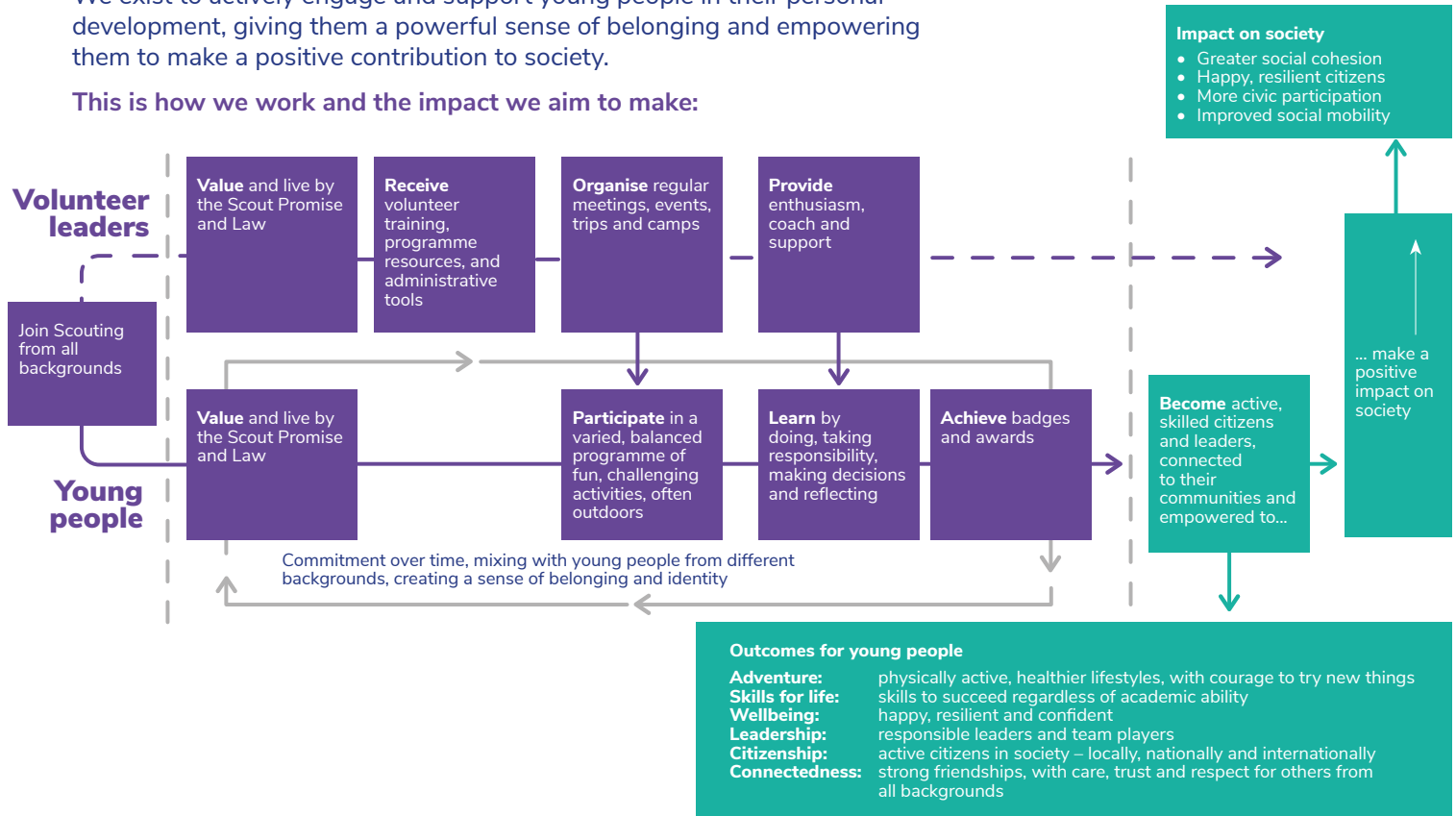
## What does Scouting do?

- We bring people together across divided communities through shared experiences with those from different backgrounds – improving social cohesion.
- We help young people develop the values, self-belief and belief in others that will help them become confident, active citizens – developing better mental wellbeing.
- We give young people opportunities to improve the lives of those around them through community impact projects – encouraging civic participation.
- We help young people develop the skills, character and values that they will carry with them throughout their lives – increasing social mobility.

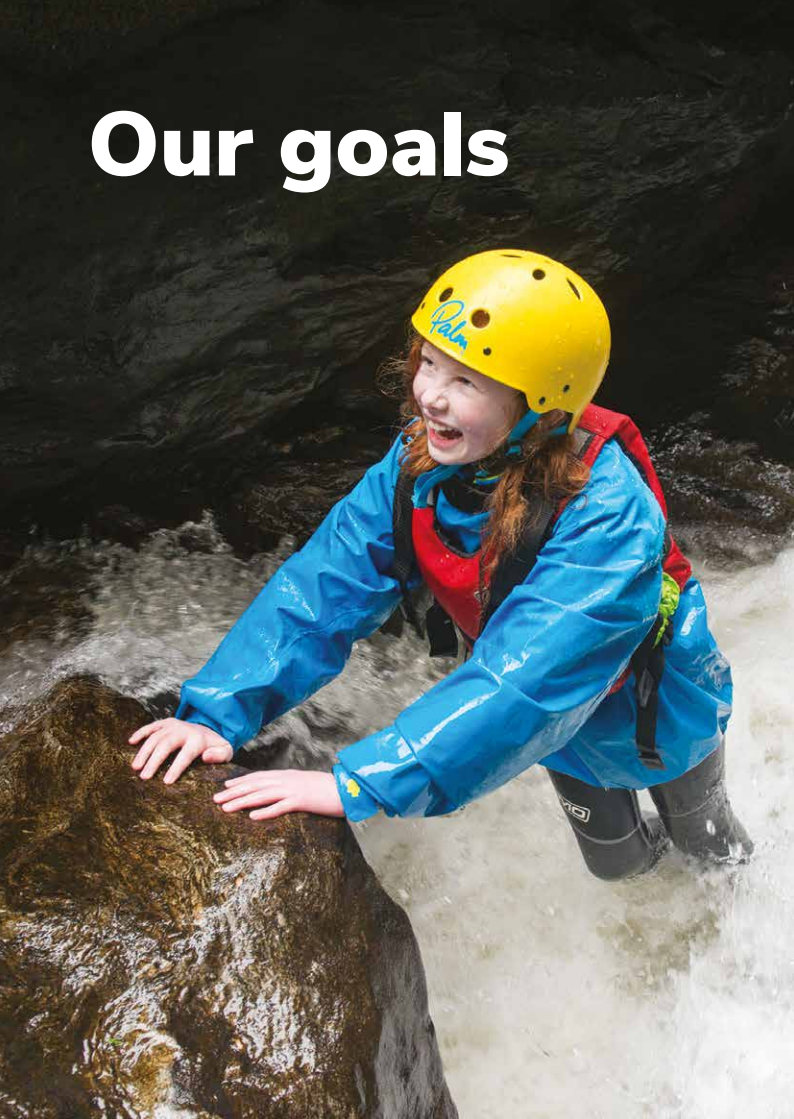
# Theory of Scouting

We exist to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, giving them a powerful sense of belonging and empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

This is how we work and the impact we aim to make:



# Our goals



## Growth

We have been growing for over a decade, and want to continue that trend so that we can bring skills for life to more young people across Scotland.

### Our Growth goals

- 5,000 more young people (6-25)
- 1,000 more adult volunteers
- 500 more Young Leaders

### What we will do

#### Explore early years provision

Research suggests that the earlier a young person accesses non-formal education, the more positive the impact.

**By 2023:** we will have helped research, pilot and evaluate different models of reaching young people under 6.

#### Scouting in Schools

**By 2023:** Scouts will be running in more schools, allowing us to reach different people and increase our impact.

# Community Impact

We want to provide even more opportunities for young people to be active citizens and have a positive impact in their communities.

## Our Community Impact goals

- 50% of youth members taking part in community impact projects
- 50% of youth members achieving the Scouts top awards

## What we will do

### Community Impact

We will work with partners and funders to provide more opportunities for young people to take action in their communities.

**By 2023:** our A Million Hands campaign will support even more young people to help others by taking action on issues chosen by them.





# Inclusivity

Scouting is open to all. We now have over 7,000 female members, and Scout groups are opening and thriving in new communities across the whole of Scotland.

## Our Inclusivity goals

- Scouting membership reflects society in Scotland
- 200 new sections, especially in areas of deprivation, remote and rural areas, and in new communities

## What we will do

### Reach more under-represented communities

We know that we have more work to do to reflect the make-up of our local communities in Scotland, and reach all the young people who could benefit the most from Scouts.

**By 2023:** we will open 200 new sections, especially in areas and communities that are currently under-represented in our membership.

# Youth Shaped

Young people are at the heart of Scouting. We support young people to shape their experiences and take on leadership roles at Scouts.

## Our Youth Shaped goals

- Young people shaping their Scouting experience through our Youth Approved Awards

## What we will do

### Partnerships to enhance the Scout Programme

We want to improve young peoples' further education and employability opportunities.

**By 2023:** we will work with employers and education agencies to improve their understanding of what Scouts achieve.

We will work with partners such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme, the Awards Network, and Education Scotland so that young people and young adults can access more through Scouting and achieve the highest awards.





# Help us make a difference

We have loads of opportunities for you to work with us to bring skills for life to even more young people.

- We can partner with you on projects that benefit young people and their communities.
- We are deeply engaged with tens of thousands of young people across the country and our experience can inform education policy at local and national levels.
- We can harness your expertise in delivering our programme.
- We need funding for local and national projects that will help us deliver this strategy.

Find out more:

[www.scouts.scot](http://www.scouts.scot)

Scouts Scotland is a registered Scottish charity No: SC017511

  
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