

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period:

From	01 APRIL 2025	To	31 MARCH 2026
	(period start date)		(period end date)

Charity Name	WORTHING DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL
Charity Registration Number (if registered - leave blank if excepted charity)	305916
HQ Registration Number	S10001256/015528

Objectives and activities

Summary of the purpose and objects of the charity as set out in its governing document	The objectives of the charity are as a part of The Scout Association. The Purpose of Scouting Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. The Values of Scouting As Scouts we are guided by these values Integrity – We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal Respect – We have self-respect and respect for others Care – We support others and take care of the world in which we live Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes Co-operation – We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends The Scout Method Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of scouting and: - enjoy what they are doing and have fun - take part in activities indoors and outdoors - learn by doing - share in spiritual reflection - take responsibility and make choices - undertake new and challenging activities - make and live by their promise
Summary of the main activities in relation to the purpose and objects	Worthing Scouts directly delivers an Explorer Scout and Scout Network programme for over 250 young people in Worthing, through a collection of Explorer Scout Units and the Network. We have specialised Programme Sub-Teams that deliver climbing, archery, shooting and more to members through Worthing. The Young Leader scheme has over 100 members, who gain skills for life and help deliver great programmes for our sections. Our groups provide programme for over 1250 Young People in the Squirrel, Beaver, Cub and Scout age ranges and work with us on ensuring a high quality programme. None of this would be possible without the 350 adults who

	make this happen, whether youth facing or behind the scenes - they all power towards the goal of providing great bits for our Young People
Statement confirming the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	The Trustees confirm that the charity meets the Charity Commission's Public Benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.
You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about: • <i>Policy on grant making</i>	The District is managed by the District Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout District which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year identifying the difference and impact the charity's work has made, including on sustainability	During the year, over 100 young people have achieved their top award. Our adults continue to develop their skills towards the wood badge, and Worthing has had over 30 achieve this during the last year.
You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about: • <i>Achievements against objectives</i> • <i>Fundraising activities</i> • <i>Contribution made by volunteers</i>	Not included – see annual review document on worthing-scouts.org.uk for more information

Financial review

Review of the financial position	The Charity prepare the financial statements on a cash basis and provide an overview of the entire charity. The charity has drawn down its reserves to purchase a minibus to help with the delivery of the activities of the charity. The trustee board considers that it has drawn down excess reserves, and now manages against a reserve policy with designated funds.
Policy on Reserves, why they are held, and the amount of reserves	The policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the charity should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Trustee Board considers that the charity should hold undesignated funds, circa £12000. The charity holds reserves against specific risks, as identified in the reserves policy – which brings total reserves to ~£77,000 The charity held reserves of approximately £80,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.

	However, this can be explained by holding funds for an explorer trip to Kandersteg in 2027 The charity also holds funds designated for explorer units, network and programme sub-teams which are self-funding entities, and considers cash held by these teams/units is appropriate.
Policy on Investments and investment performance	The Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the charity obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.
A description of the principal risks	The District Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the District is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are: Damage to buildings, property and equipment The District would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Districts. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The district directly leases one property from West Sussex County Council, and has plans in place to manage this to ensure it is safe, secure and functional. The District has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. Injury to leaders, helpers and supporters The district through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities. Reduced income from fundraising The District is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The trustees could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the District on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently. Reduction or loss of leaders. The District is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the District. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the District as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the District.

	The district is directly responsible for the Explorer Scouts (14-18) and Scout Network (18-25) membership and has controls in place to ensure the spending on these sections is commensurate with the number of Young People taking part. The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered
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Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document	The charity's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) of The Scout Association.
How the charity is constituted	The charity is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts. It is constituted as an educational charity.
Trustee selection methods	The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
Policies and procedures for the induction and training of trustees	All Trustees complete The Scout Association trustee and mandatory learning within the first six months of joining the Trustee Board, they also complete other Scout Association mandatory learning periodically as required.
Additional governance arrangements	The charity is managed by the Trustee Board, the members of which are the "Charity Trustees". As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate. The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 5 Trustees (including 2 Ex-Officio Trustees, and 0 co-opted Trustees) and meets 5 times a year. The Trustee Board is supported by a Board Administrator. The Trustee Board exists to support the Leadership Teams in meeting the responsibilities of their appointments and in supporting them to run high-quality and safe programs that give young people skills for life. The Trustee Board maintain appropriate governance policies and oversight. The Trustee Board is responsible for carrying out its purposes for the public benefit, complying with the charity's governing document and the law, and managing the charity's resources responsibly. The Trustee Board is responsible for ensuring the charity is well managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good order and everyone follows legal requirements and Scout Association Policy, Organisation & Rules. This includes responsibility for: • Promoting a positive image of Scouting in the community, as well as its development; • Developing, maintaining and regularly a risk register, including putting in place appropriate mitigations;

	• Ensuring that the finances are properly managed, and there are sufficient resources (and reserves) to deliver high quality Scouting; • Ensuring a system of internal controls is in place that is designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss; • Ensuring that property is appropriately managed; • Maintaining appropriate insurance of persons, property and equipment; • Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support; • Having an open and transparent selection process for the recruitment of Trustees; • Appointing Advisors as required; • Ensuring effective administration is in place to support the Trustee Board; • Ensuring compliance with applicable governance and charity regulations, including in respect to safety and safeguarding; • Ensuring incidents are appropriately reported in line with regulation and policy; • Ensuring applicable policies and regulations are regularly reviewed and changes implemented as appropriate; • Ensuring transparency of operations, including in the preparation of accounts and holding and AGM; • Ensuring compliance with Data Protection legislation; • Acting as a responsible employer for any employees, who are effectively managed.
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Plans for future periods

Plans for future Periods	Continued development for international scouting opportunities for a broader range of members across the district. Embedding best practice and empowering our groups to deliver excellent scouting opportunities.
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Reference and administration details

Principal Address	Scout HQ, GLEBE ROAD, WORTHING. West Sussex ENGLAND BN14 7PF
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	Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	KEVIN JENKINS	Chair	
2	MIKE HUDGELL	Lead Volunteer	
3	MARGARET WILLIAMS-FULLER	Treasurer	
4	LILY WINGROVE	Youth Lead	
5	STUART BURCHETT		
6	DAVID WILLETT		
7	AL CHARTRES		
8	BARBARA WELLS		Till 10 th March 2026
9	KINZA WILLIAMS -FULLER		
10			
11			
12			

Name and address of advisors

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Independent Examiner / Auditor	Colin Dadswell FCA FCCA DChA	<i>Caladine Limited 22 Upperton Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 1BF</i>
<i>Detail others</i>		

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:

Signature		
Full name	KEVIN JENKINS	MAGS WILLIAMS-FULLER
Position held	CHAIRMAN	TREASURER
Date	/08/2026	/08/2026