

CHARITY NUMBER: 524509



Burton-on-Trent and District Scout Council Annual Report

Including District Lead Volunteer's Report, Trustees Report
and Receipts and Payments accounts.

Year ended 31 March 2026

Independently examined by Thomas Haslehurst of Haslehursts Chartered Accountants

BURTON UPON TRENT DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

Section 1 - Legal and Administrative Information

- Charity name: Burton Upon Trent District Scout Council
- Charity Commission registered number: 524509
- Financial year beginning: 1st April 2025 and ending 31st March 2026.
- Principal address is as listed on the Charity Commission website.

The district's governing documents are those of The Scout Association.

- The Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association.
- The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
- Burton Upon Trent's Constitution.

Our mission is to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. The method of achieving this is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership. See the mission and values statements in Section 7.

The charity has no specific investment powers.

Professional advice is received from:

- Our bankers, Lloyd's Bank, High Street, Burton upon Trent and
- Haslehursts Chartered Accounts, Village Road, Sutton Coldfield.

Section 2 - District Trustees

Trustee changes during the financial years saw the resignations of Mr Michael Hovers and Mrs Farzana Bi from the District Trustee Board. It also saw the appointment of Mrs Elizabeth Hall appointed as a Trustee.

The current Trustees are as follows:

• Nigel Evans	Chair	Appointed October 2019
• Graham Jacks	District Lead Volunteer	Appointed November 2024
• Elizabeth Hall	Trustee Board Member	Appointed February 2026
• Katrina Creaser	Trustee Board Member	Appointed September 2024
• Beverly George	Trustee Board Member	Appointed September 2022
• Robert Leadbeater	Trustee Board Member	Appointed September 2024

We are currently short of Trustee Board Members, including a youth member aged 18 to 25 years, and we will embark on a recruitment exercise following the guidelines of the Scout Association after the Annual General Meeting.

Section 3 – Activities and Achievements

The District Lead Volunteers have provided the following statements which represents their report of the financial year:

Introduction

The period has been characterised by strong programme delivery, continued volunteer commitment, and meaningful engagement with local communities. Young people have benefited from a balanced, safe, and high-quality programme that reflects the values of The Scout Association and the needs of the communities we serve.

Growth was not as positive as we would have liked. Numbers were slightly down in the census this year, from 847 to 837 with Beavers, Cubs and Explorer Scouts falling back, but a growth was seen in Scouts and Network. This year we did see the expansion of early-years provision with the opening of a new Squirrel Drey in Yoxall, strengthening our commitment to inclusive access and early skills development. We saw a large (almost 31% increase) in adult members from 223 to 292, which is encouraging.

Tightening the governance around Explorer Scout administration now gives us confidence all Explorers are known to the district and registered accordingly. This action has contributed to the fall in Explorer Scout numbers compared to last year.

Governance and Leadership

Governance standards remain robust, with oversight of safeguarding, finance, compliance, and risk management. The Trustees are updated on these subjects regularly at Trustee Board meetings.

Trustees have ensured alignment with national policy and supported Group leaders in delivering safe and effective programmes. Mandatory training compliance remains high, and the district continues to prioritise safe systems of work and transparent decision making.

The District continues to have a joint District Lead Volunteer team, with each DLV taking on part of the responsibilities that come with the role. This is working well and will continue for the foreseeable future.

Programme Delivery

Programme quality across all sections has remained consistently strong. Young people have participated in a wide range of activities designed to build confidence, resilience, teamwork, and practical skills. The District has organised a table tennis competition, a movie night, a day out at Rosliston Forestry Centre and several camps across Beavers and Cubs. Emphasis on the Scout section will take priority next year. Key programme themes delivered this year include:

- **Outdoor Skills & Bushcraft** Fire-lighting, navigation, environmental awareness, and various water activities.
- **Community Engagement & Celebrations** Young people took part in local events, including St George's Day celebrations, heritage visits, and environmental activities.
- **Creative & Skills-Based Sessions** Cooking, craft, music, problem-solving and themed evenings supported badge attainment and personal development.
- **Healthy Living & Food Education** Sessions on nutrition, food preparation, and safe cooking contributed to Skills for Life outcomes.

Programme planning continues to be youth-led, inclusive, and aligned with the Scout Method.

Top Awards & Youth Achievement

This year saw all Groups attain some top-level awards in their sections, reflecting the strength of programme delivery and the commitment of young people across Burton. The Explorer Scouts continue to progress towards their Chief Scouts Platinum and Diamond awards and the Kings Scout Award, together with a great number going through the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at all levels.

Young people across Burton have demonstrated commitment, enthusiasm, and resilience. Badge attainment has been strong across all sections, with notable achievements in:

- Outdoor Challenge Awards
- Creative and performance badges
- Cooking and healthy living
- Teamwork, leadership, and personal development awards

Residential experiences continue to be a cornerstone of Scouting in Burton. Throughout the year, young people participated in multiple camps and outdoor experiences showing increased confidence, improved communication skills, and strong peer support.

All the leadership teams in Burton should also be commended for their enthusiasm and diligence in providing development opportunities for our young people.

Rangemore Scout Centre

The district's residential building closed at the start of 2026 to allow for a complete refurbishment of the toilet facilities. This did over run and naturally resulted in an impact on the income opportunity over that period. However, the new toilets have been very well received by those that have used the centre since, and all agree it was much needed and a great improvement. Bookings for the rest of the future are looking positive.

Compliance

Safeguarding remains the highest priority. All activities were delivered in accordance with national policy, with appropriate supervision, risk assessments, and emergency procedures in place.

Significant trustee engagement at group and district levels has ensured that compliance with the Charities Commission Regulatory Note objectives issued in February have been achieved.

In general, our record on compliance is excellent and both the Groups and the District teams are keeping well on top of it.

Moving forward

Our #Skills for Life strategy has evolved into our new strategy, launched in April as 'A place to belong'. The district is excited about what this will bring to all scouts in Burton Upon Trent.

Section 4 – Policies and Risks

Reserves Policy

The District Trustee Board continue to allocate reserves for:

- Ongoing Capital Development of Rangemore Scout Centre £20,000
- Development of the District £20,000
- District operational costs £5,000

Grant Making Policy

The Trustees do not make grants to outside organisations

Investments Policy

No investments are held by the Charity.

Review of Major Risks

- **Financial** – risks managed by retention of reserves as outlined above.
- **Property** – risks managed by adequate oversight of the facilities ensuring compliance with regulatory regulations.
- **People** – risks managed by application of the Scout Associations policies on Adventurous Activities / Emergencies/ Safeguarding, Bullying and GDPR.

The Scout District and the Groups within are all operated following the information and guidelines in the Policy Organisation and Rules as amended and updated regularly by The Scout Association

Section 5 - Treasurer's Report and Financial Accounts

Treasurer's Report

The total income for the year was £66,874 (2024/25 £66,752).

This includes:

- £21,838 Campsite income, (2024/25 £21,326)
- £23,814 Sectional Activity income, (2024/25 £36,361)
- £16,000 Loan repayments from District groups (2024/25 £7,900)

Total expenditure for the year was £108,727 (2024/25 £67,682).

This includes:

- £16,585 Campsite Repairs and Maintenance (2024/25 £25,776)
- £6,014 Campsite Utilities (2024/25 £9,635)
- £18,284 Sectional Activity Expenditure (2024/25 £33,102)
- £12,713 District Expenditure, (2024/25 £8,803)

In additional to this, £55,486 has been spent in investing in the District Campsite Rangemore with the development of the internal toilet and bathroom facilities. Following the statement of intended reserves spend in the annual accounts last year this investment has now taken place, and the Bathroom Development works are now complete.

The accounts continue to be prepared on a receipts and payments basis and cash held at the end of the year is £68,729 (2024/25 £110,582). This being a decrease of £41,853 from the prior year (2024/25 Deficit £930). Following the completion of the Bathroom Development project, work has been completed by the Trustee Board and the wider District Operational team to review future investment spend requirements at Rangemore.

Katrina Creaser ACA - Burton Scouts District Treasurer

Summary Accounts

(insert .pdf)

Detailed Accounts
(insert .pdf)

Section 6 – Financial Declaration

Independent examiner

Insert Haslehurst's note

Section 7 - Mission statement

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. We will continue to prepare more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders who deliver an inspiring programme and promoting a place to belong.

As Scouts we are guided by these core 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.

Our strategic priorities are:

- **People:** More well trained better supported and motivated adult volunteers, and more young people from diverse backgrounds.
- **Programme:** A fun, high-quality programme consistently delivered and supported by simple digital tools.
- **Perception:** Scouting is understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a key role in society today.

Our objectives are:

- We want to Grow;
- Become more Inclusive;
- Be More Youth Shaped
- Impact our communities.

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.

We expect scouting to reflect the societies in which it exists and actively work to welcome all individuals without distinction. This diversity should not only be reflected in the membership, but also the methods and programmes used within the Movement.

Every Scout should be involved in community service and share their experiences to inspire others. Through activities and projects, Scouts contribute to their communities and become leaders of positive change. Burton upon Trent Scout District aims to develop Scouting through the full application of the UK Scout Association Policy and programme.

Section 8 – Trustee Declaration

District Trustee

I declare, in my capacity as a charity trustee, that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign on their behalf that this is a true representation of the year.



Nigel John Evans
District Chair
18th September 2026