

# TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the period

From (start date) 

0	1	0	1	2	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

 to end date 

3	1	1	2	2	3
---	---	---	---	---	---

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT
Other names the charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1 0 2 0 0 4 2
HQ registration number	1 0 0 0 1 6 6 2
Charity's principal address	SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT THE ORCHARD SCHOOL, CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD OLDBURY Postcode B 6 8 0 A N

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**  
*(These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)*

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	CHRIS WALLACE	CHAIR	
2	LUCY CARTER	SECRETARY	
3	GEMMA DIXON	TREASURER	JAN 23 - MAR 23
4	KIERAN ANDREWS		
5	WILLIAM FELLOWS		
6	RYAN HADLEY		
7	NICOLA JOHNSON		
8	ALISTAIR HEAD		
9	LYNN TYLER		
10	STEPHEN DAVIES		
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

**Names and addresses of advisers (optional information but encouraged as best practice)**  
*(These will be published in the annual report of the charity)*

Type of advisor	Name	Address

**Section B****Structure, governance and management**

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

The District's governing documents are those of the 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 of The Scout Association.

How the charity is constituted

(e.g. trust, association, company)

The District is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

Trustee selection methods

(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

The District is managed by the District Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group 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.

Policies and procedures adopted for:

The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 8 Trustees (including 2 Ex Officio Trustees, and 2 co-opted Trustees) and meets every # months.

a) the induction and training of trustees; b) trustee consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

This District Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

**Risk and Internal Control**

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 has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.
- Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The District through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from the annual District levy. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of the levy 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 a group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for young people aged 4 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include two signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C	Objectives and activities
-----------	---------------------------

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

**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 these objects

The District works to support Groups and Explorer Units to provide active and safe Scouting and provides activity opportunities to enhance the programme offered by Groups. The District is responsible for implementing a safe recruitment process, in line with Policy, Organisation and Rules.

Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- contribution made by volunteers;
- policy on investments.

Public benefit statement

The District meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This year has been a whirlwind of experiences creating an immense range of emotions for myself particularly and has been a real learning curve for me and the District Team. Scouting this year has returned to as much as normal as it possibly can since Covid, but has felt the most normal it has been for a long time All groups are now returned to doing what they do best – providing amazing opportunities and experiences to around 500 young people. Our census figures had risen slowly (about 6% growth in young people and 4% growth in adults), which is always good and air of growing and exploring ways of offering even more Scouting opportunities seemed a focus for so many in our District

January started with a small but important awards evening at Smethwick Labour Club. A combined 185 years of service to Scouting was celebrated by some very committed adults from our District. As well as long service awards, wood badges were also presented as well as some national awards for outstanding service to Scouting.

We continued to offer out our monthly drop in's at District Office – some months were supported better than others depending on the needs of the members and who just fancied a cuppa, a cake and a chinwag. However, they did give opportunities for the District Team to meet and plan future events.

Chris Wallace, who has continued to be a star and real grounding District Chair has worked with Gemma (District Treasurer) to continue keeping us safe, financially stable and as legal as we need to be to comply with HQ and Charity Commission requirements. These 2 along with the exec have been a real steadying force, sounding board and a great source of knowledge for when things have been a little tricky. Thank you for your tireless hard work and commitment, it really is appreciated.

So the 2022 highlights in no particular order include:

- \*Sandwell opened its second Squirrel Drey in July 2022 at 617 Air Scouts in Wednesbury and the Squirrel Drey at 46th Sandwell celebrated its first birthday in October of this year.
- \*We held our District AGM for the year 2021/22 face to face – where we again celebrated the hard work of our District and Groups as well as sharing some of our future plans for 2023 onwards.
- \*Beaver International Badge Day – 9th April 2022 at St Peters Church Hall Great Bridge. Around 85 Beavers and around 25 adults turned up for a truly international day of friendship, fun, games, craft and food. They even gained a badge too!
- \*District Scout Camp at Patshull Campsite, Wolverhampton – end of July, attended by 5 groups – around 120 participants. A massive thank you to Chris Wallace and his Ariel Scout Team for being our amazing caterers. Also thank you to all the leaders who supported the event and just got involved and helping out where and when necessary.
- \*Ryan and a growing team of willing adults have continued to offer YL training at the District Office every other month. We really can see the impact this has on our YI's because when out visiting, they really are being the best they can be making a big difference to the sections and groups they support. Thank you to Ryan and the team that grows, changes and evolves every session.
- \*Appointed a new District Nights Away advisor – Andy Barlow, who has hit the ground running and has signed off 1 new permit and 4 renewals – again a massive thank you for all you have done, as even more young people now get to

experience the best bit of scouting – being away from home  
\* Civic Remembrance Parades were attended in Oldbury, Wednesbury, Smethwick, Tipton and West Bromwich, as well as some groups supporting more intimate ones at their local churches or community centres. It is so good to see the Scout uniform loud and proud at these events, proving that we are still well thought of and needed.

\*Queens Jubilee Party Day at the District Office in June – a day of madcap madness, drums, food, traditional games, crafts and challenges to celebrate this historic occasion.

\*YL Skills and Training weekend – at 1st Sandwell HQ.

Ryan and his team provided training, skills and practical Scouting activities for 21 YL's in Sandwell. A big thank you to Team1st Sandwell for hosting this event and sharing their knowledge and expertise with the young leaders and other adults present.

\*Chris Jones (1st Sandwell) and Nic J (DC) were named as 2 of 400 National Platinum Champions from over 5000 nominations nationwide. Well done and thank you to all who were nominated

\*Eat and Meet with Santa – Christmas Parties at Rowley HQ with around 100 Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs and around 35 Scouts and Explorers in the evening. Food, friendship, games and a lot of Christmas singing – a massive thank you to “Santa Carl” who stayed all day to be the best santa you could ever need.

\*The DAAC team have continued to provide invaluable support in welcoming new adults in to Scouting, discussing their potential roles and training commitments and being the first few friendly faces that encourage them on their scouting journey. Thank you for all this unseen work, time and commitment given to these roles.

\*The District Training Team have also really been working hard supporting members, holding validation evenings and generally showing support and commitment to all leaders who have training needs. A combined Sandwell and Halesowen team really works well and offers us the flexibility to offer the trainings and expertise we have. Thank you for your time and support.

\*District Carol Service (9th Dec 2022) at St James Church – West Bromwich. A combination of tradition, modern and down right crazy – ending with a massive snowball fight. Approximately, 120 young people and adults turned up to sing, eat and be merry! A really festive and enjoyable atmosphere was created. A big thank you to Revd Mark Wilson and the Church Wardens of St James for hosting and supporting this event. The food and gift collection from all who attended was really appreciated by 2 local food banks and the flowers and planters were very much appreciated by a local residential home.

\*I have attended 5 Group AGM's this year (Oakham, 1st Sandwell, 46th Sandwell, Abbey Hill and 617 Sandwell Air Scouts. Thank you for the invitations and thank you for everything you do to show due diligence in relation to the Trustee and charity commission expectations at your group level.

\*Phil Bird (Blue Ribbon) and Lewis Tucker (1st Sandwell) were both nominated and successfully awarded with the National Chief's Scouts Commendation Award for their service and commitment to Scouting in Sandwell. Well done, congratulations and definitely deserved.

There are probably many more things I have missed out because to be honest so much happens at District, Group and Section level, it really is impossible to keep up with everything. Please accept my apologies if I have missed anything out, especially if it was important, amazing and

fantastic!

This year also saw, as did the rest of the nation and the Commonwealth the death of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth second who passed away on 8th September this year. As a long serving patron of our organisation, her passing was a real blow to Scouting on the whole. Many sections and groups marked this sombre occasion with real professionalism and respect and showed their allegiance to her 70 yrs service in a way that made me feel very honoured and proud to be DC at the time.

The District has also benefitted again from funding, albeit much less, linked to its buildings that the District Trustees must ensure is used wisely to support the long-term development of Scouting in Sandwell. We hope to continue in the same vein, ensuring our buildings

Whilst the past year wasn't anywhere as challenging as the previous year, we believe Scouts across Sandwell have a lot to be proud of and as we look back, we can see how the efforts of these twelvemonths have enabled us to grow strongly and provide that super quality Scouting we have always done. A calendar of District events – some whole District and many for specific sections has been put together and shared with groups. We have tried really hard to listen to you all and take on board as much as we can – your ideas, suggestions and feedback from previous events etc so hopefully the District Team and myself can provide you with a District to be proud of and that you want to Scout in and be part of.

The future- January 2023 onwards... hopefully holds...

\*Our Top Awards and Thanks Evening for young people and adults

\*The continuation of District Drop in evenings

\*More Sports Events, Section Badge days, sleepovers and camps

\*More growth, recruitment and promotion – hopefully another Squirrel Drey and a new Explorer Scout provision

\*Out Transformation Journey – Scout Association changes – will start to be more obvious and will see and hear much more as we all journey on the good ship transformation together

The first few months have been a whirl wind but the amazing people around me have kept me grounded, enthused, motivated and have shown so much support and kindness it is unbelievable. A special thanks to my Dave and my mom for all their love and support and slaps when they think I needed a reality check! A big thank you to all of you present and all the members who are not here tonight – your support and faith in me really does make my role much easier and to be honest, without what you do, I would not have my role...

But remember, Sandwell Scouts is and will always be a TEAM and... "Together, Everyone Achieves More"

Thank you for all you have done and in advance... thank you for everything you will continue to do and as our Scout promise says... I promise I will do my best for you, your young people, their families and the wider community. You are an inspiration to me and so many young people and families. x

Section E	Financial Review
<p>Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves</p>	<p><b>Reserves Policy</b></p> <p>The District's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £20,000. The District held reserves of approximately £90,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.</p>
<p>Quantify and explain any designations</p>	
<p>Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)</p>	
<p>Further financial review details (optional information)</p>	
<p>You <b>may choose</b> to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);</li> <li>• how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;</li> <li>• investment policy and objectives;</li> </ul>	<p><b>Investment Policy</b></p> <p>The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. The District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies. The District Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the District 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 District Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.</p>

**Section F Other Optional Information**

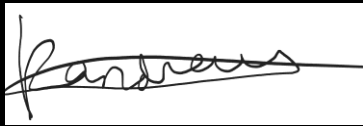

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

--

**Section G Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	KIERAN ANDREWS	NICOLA JOHNSON
Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	TRUSTEE	DISTRICT COMMISSIONER
Date	2 7 1 0 2 4	



Charity Name <b>Sandwell Scout District</b>	No (if any) <b>1020042</b>
--	-------------------------------

CC16a

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period Start Date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
------------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis) to the nearest £	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership Fees	24,185			24,185	19,367
Short Term Investment Fund Interest	247			247	69
Refund of Short Term Investment Fund	20,533			20,533	
Cash Deposited	303			303	
COVID Grants				-	8,001
Other Income	226			226	150
Activities & Events	4,991			4,991	1,757
Uniform / Badges / Log Books	36			36	49
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>29,392</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>29,392</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Membership Fees	21,830			21,830	19,006
Utilities	2,165	1,783		3,948	2,115
Rates	400			400	776
Activities & Events	7,255			7,255	1,430
Closure of Short Term Investment Fund	20,533			20,533	784
Cash Deposited from last year	231			231	
Volunteer Expenses	38			38	122
Miscellaneous Expenditure	206			206	-
Uniform / Badges / Log Books				-	70
Maintenance	7,323	29		7,352	149
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>59,980</b>	<b>1,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,793</b>	<b>24,453</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>59,980</b>	<b>1,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,793</b>	<b>24,453</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 9,460</b>	<b>- 1,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 11,272</b>	<b>4,939</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>90,591</b>	<b>18,844</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>113,434</b>	<b>108,495</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>81,131</b>	<b>17,031</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>102,162</b>	<b>113,434</b>

### Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Barclays Bank Account	81,131.00	21,031	
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>81,131</b>	<b>21,031</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
			-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regis Scout HQ	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	kandrews	KIERAN ANDREWS	05/13/2024	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

<b>Report to the trustees</b>	Charity Name SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT		
<b>On accounts for the year ended</b>	31/12/2023	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1020042
<b>Set out on pages</b>	3, 4 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

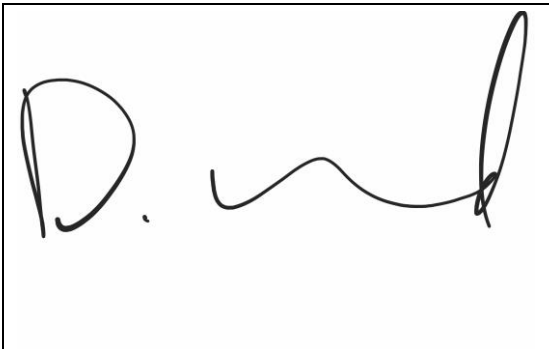
**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

<b>Signed:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	20/10/2024
	<b>Name:</b> DAVID ROBERT WESTWOOD		

<b>Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):</b>	NONE
---	------

<b>Address:</b>	16 Drayton Road
	Smethwick, West Midlands
	B66 4AJ

**Section B****Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**

**Receipts and payments accounts**

For the period from	Period Start Date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
------------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

**Section A Receipts and payments**

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Fund) to the nearest £	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Membership Fees	24,185			24,185	19,367
Short Term Investment Fund Interest	247			247	69
Refund of Short Term Investment Fund	20,533			20,533	
Cash Deposited	303			303	
COVID Grants				-	8,001
Other Income	226			226	150
Activities & Events	4,991			4,991	1,757
Uniform / Badges / Log Books	36			36	49
<i>Sub total</i>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>29,392</b>
<i>Total receipts</i>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,520</b>	<b>29,392</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Membership Fees	21,830			21,830	19,006
Utilities	2,165	1,783		3,948	2,115
Rates	400			400	776
Activities & Events	7,255			7,255	1,430
Closure of Short Term Investment Fund	20,533			20,533	784
Cash Deposited from last year	231			231	
Volunteer Expenses	38			38	122
Miscellaneous Expenditure	206			206	-
Uniform / Badges / Log Books				-	70
Maintenance	7,323	29		7,352	149
<i>Sub total</i>	<b>59,980</b>	<b>1,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,793</b>	<b>24,453</b>
<i>Total payments</i>	<b>59,980</b>	<b>1,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,793</b>	<b>24,453</b>
<i>Net of receipts/(payments)</i>	<b>- 9,460</b>	<b>- 1,813</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 11,272</b>	<b>4,939</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>90,591</b>	<b>18,844</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>113,434</b>	<b>108,495</b>
<i>Cash funds this year end</i>	<b>81,131</b>	<b>17,031</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>102,162</b>	<b>113,434</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Barclays Bank Account	81,131.00	21,031	
	<i>Total cash funds</i>	81,131	21,031	-

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regist Scout HQ	Restricted Fund (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
k.andrews	KIERAN ANDREWS	05/13/2024