

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 1<sup>st</sup> Hexham Scout Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 1st Hexham Scout Group for the year ended 31/03/2025.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 1st Hexham Scout Group 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 1st Hexham Scout Group 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 completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the 1st Hexham Scout Group as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:



Name: IAN JEFFERSON

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): A.C.A. (ICAEW)

Address: 5 Backhouse Lane, Woolley, Wakefield, WF4 2LB

Date: 23/04/2025

# 1st Hexham Scout Group (Charity no. 1050271)

## Receipts and payments account

Year start date

Year end date

For the year from	01/04/2024	To	31/03/2025
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### Receipts and payments

	2024/25	2023/24
	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>		
Membership Fees	12,093	12,563
Donation	1,275	362
Gift Aid	2,293	5,410
Other similar income	500	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>16,161</b>	<b>18,334</b>
<b>Grants</b>		
Grants	4,750	4,785
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>4,750</b>	<b>4,785</b>
<b>Fundraising events (gross)</b>		
Fundraising	1,103	996
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,103</b>	<b>996</b>
<b>Lookwide Centre Income</b>		
Hire of building	12,786	11,935
Hire of equipment	-	55
Other Scout hut income	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>12,786</b>	<b>11,989</b>
<b>Uniformed Income</b>		
Uniform, Badges	-	537
Camps & events	47,373	23,939
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>47,373</b>	<b>24,476</b>
<b>Investment income</b>		
Bank interest	213	135
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>135</b>
<b>Total Gross Income</b>	<b>82,385</b>	<b>60,716</b>
<b>Asset and investment sales, etc.</b>	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>82,385</b>	<b>60,716</b>

# 1st Hexham Scout Group (Charity no. 1050271)

## Receipts and payments account

For the year from	Year start date 01/04/2024	To	Year end date 31/03/2025
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### Receipts and payments

	2024/25	2023/24
	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	£	£
<b>Payments</b>		
<b>Charitable Payments</b>		
Membership subscriptions paid on (National/County/Area/District)	7,195	6,376
Youth Programme and activities	1,303	447
Adult Support & Training	1,895	60
Water, Sewerage, electricity, gas, Broadband	3,994	4,110
Insurance	1,022	994
Repairs and Renewals	3,661	2,973
Material and Equipment	2,674	1,776
Admin	594	584
Events & Activities	57,554	15,217
Uniforms	672	392
Minibus	2,238	1,594
Badges	402	1,580
Projects	10,307	5,656
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>93,510</b>	<b>41,757</b>
<b>Fundraising expenses</b>		
Fundraising events costs	146	297
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>297</b>
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>93,656</b>	<b>42,054</b>
<b>Asset and investment purchases, etc.</b>	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>93,656</b>	<b>42,054</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 11,271</b>	<b>18,662</b>
Cash funds last year end	35,132	16,470
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>23,861</b>	<b>35,132</b>

# 1st Hexham Scout Group (Charity no. 1050271)

## Receipts and payments account

For the year from	Year start date 01/04/2024	To	Year end date 31/03/2025
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### Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

	2024/25 Unrestricted funds £	2023/24 Unrestricted funds £
<b>Cash funds</b>		
Group Current Account	4,625	11,238
Group Deposit Account	18,837	11,576
Troop Current Account	-	11,689
Explorer Current Account	294	357
Expenses Card Account	104	272
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>23,861</b>	<b>35,132</b>
<small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account)</small>	<small>ok</small>	<small>ok</small>
<b>Non monetary assets for charity's own use</b>		
Badge stock	100	300
Land and buildings	417,643	335,097
Motor vehicles	5,000	6,500
Scouting equipment, furniture etc	67,340	35,000
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>490,083</b>	<b>376,897</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts not yet paid	-	-
Expenses incurred but not invoiced	-	-
Subscriptions not yet paid	-	-
Loan - detail	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>513,944</b>	<b>412,029</b>

The above receipts and payments account and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustees on Xth X 200X (the date of the Trustee Board meeting that approved the accounts) and signed on their behalf by

Signature

Print Name

Chris Payne	Chair
Bradley Stead	Treasurer

# 1st Hexham Scout Group Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date) **01 April 2023** to (end date) **31 March 2024**

Section A	Reference and administration details
Charity Name	1st Hexham Scout Group
Registered charity number	1050271
HQ registration number	10010811
Charity's principal address	Lookwide Centre Maidens Walk Hexham Northumberland NE46 1DP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
Stuart Ford	Group Lead Volunteer	
Chris Payne	Chair	
Bradley Stead	Treasurer	
Kim Metcalfe	Secretary	
David Newman		
David Hefferin		
Adam Davidson		

**Section B Structure, Governance and Management**

<p>Type of governing document</p>	<p>The Group'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 of The Scout Association.          The Group has a constitution based on the Model Constitution provided by the Scout Association in its Policy, Organisation, and Rules.</p>
<p>How the charity is constituted</p>	<p>The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.</p>
<p>Trustee selection methods</p>	<p>The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.</p>
<p>Additional governance issues</p>	<p>The Group is managed by the Group 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.</p> <p>The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 4 Trustees (including 1 Ex Officio Trustees) and meets every 2 months.</p> <p>Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.</p> <p>This Group 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.</p>
<p><b>Risk and Internal Control</b></p>	<p>The Group Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group 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:</p> <p>Damage to the building, property, and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property, and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the churches, community centres and other Scout Groups. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.</p> <p>Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters, and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Associations national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.</p> <p>Reduced income from building rent. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and building rent. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Board could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.</p>

Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group 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 Group.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. 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. In the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.

The group 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 policy 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 Scout Group provides fun and adventurous programmes and activities through the work of its volunteer section teams for its youth members. This is achieved through provision of the weekly programme and additional activities, camps and expeditions at weekends. The programme is based around each sections challenge awards which utilise the Scout Method to deliver its purpose following its values. This can be evidenced through our youth members achieving their top awards – Chief Scouts Bronze Award (Beavers), Chief Scouts Silver Award (Cubs), Chief Scouts Gold Award (Scouts), and Chief Scouts Platinum, Diamond, DofE Awards as the Kings Scout Award (Explorers)

Additional details of the objectives and activities

The Trustee Board will consider any requests from youth members for grant towards membership costs due to financial difficulties or for representation of the group at international scouting experience (World Jamboree or World Scout Moot). The Group recognises and is continually grateful for the contributions made by its volunteer teams and the trustee board for their work to ensure Scouting can be delivered to its youth members and the continued viability of the group.

Public benefit statement

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

**Section D**

**Achievements and performance**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We welcomed 24 new members (13 Beaver Scouts, 5 Cubs, and 6 Scouts) during the year.

1 Beaver Scout achieved the Bronze Chief Scouts Awards

3 Explorer Scouts earned the Bronze DofE Award and 1 Explorer the Silver DofE Award.

7 Beavers earned their Bronze District Cairn Award, 3 Scouts and 1 Explorer Scout earned the Gold District Cairn Award.

The Beaver Section won the inaugural District Annual Ten Pin Bowling competition

The Troop won the annual District .177 Air Rifle Shooting competition.

The Beavers took part in the County Beaver Fun day and a District Camp at Dukeshouse.

The Cub section has been taken over by a new leadership team who have been running a varied and interesting programme in their first term.

The Troop took part in an adventurous and interesting District Camp to Adelboden in Switzerland taking part in rafting, hiking, tobogganing, and cultural tours.

**Section E Financial Review**

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

**Reserves Policy**

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Trustee Board considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £10,000.

The Group held reserves of approximately £18,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses. However this is because the reserves include monies set aside for minibus replacement.

**Section F Other Optional Information**

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

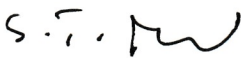
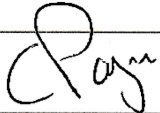
The Group plans to continue investment into the Lookwide Centre to continue to keep it in good condition, well presented, energy efficient, and desirable for use by hirers. Short term plans include improvements to lighting, decorating and continuing work to improve the environs around the Lookwide Centre for our members and wildlife.

**Section G Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signatures

	
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Full Names

Stuart Ford	Chris Payne
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Position

Group Lead Volunteer	Chair
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Date

16 April 2025
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