148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Group Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From : 01/04/25

To: 31/03/26

Section A – Administration Details

Charity Name	148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Group						
Registered Charity Number	3	0	2	1	7	7	
Charity Address	76 Maes Knoll Drive Whitchurch Bristol						
Postcode	B	S	1	4	0	F	F

Scout Association Registration Number	1	0	0	1	3	6	6	5

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	Position	Date Acted (if not for whole year)
Alex Bryant	Group Lead Volunteer	6th September 2025
Andreea Coculeasa	Treasurer	12th September 2025
Chris Osborne	Chair	n/a

Details of other advisors:

Bank Details	Lloyds Bank						
Address	1/3 London Road East Grinstead West Sussex						
Post Code	R	H	1	9	1	A	H

Advisor Type	Independent Examiner						
Advisor Name	Janet Ballinger						
Address	59 Beeches Road Cheltenham						
Post Code	G	L	5	3	8	N	J
Dates Examined	04/06/26						

Section B – Structure, Governance and Management

The Group'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.

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

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

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, 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.

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual section leaders (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent's representation and meets every 3 months.

Members of the Executive Committee complete 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Lead Volunteer in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:

- The maintenance of Group property;
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance;
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
- Group public occasions;
- Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
- Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

The Group Executive Committee 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:

Damage to the building, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

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.

Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The group 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 subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

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 6 – 18. If there was a reduction in membership 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.

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 policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C – Objective and Activities

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.

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

See the attached reports (Appendix 1) from the various Scout Section Leaders together with the Chairman and Treasurers report for an overview of the work carried out in the preceding 12-month period.

Section E – Financial Review

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 Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 6 months running costs, circa £8k.

The Group held reserves of approximately £10k against this at year end. This in line with the level required for operating expenses.

The Group'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 Group 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 or The Scout Association's Short Term Investment Service.

The Group Executive regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group 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 Group Executive considers the cash flow requirements.

See the attached summary of accounts for further information (Appendix 2).

Section F – Plans for the Coming Year

See the attached reports (Appendix 1) from the various Scout Section Leaders together with the GSL's report for an overview of the plans we have proposed together with planned activities and events for the forthcoming year.

Section G – Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the Charities Trustees:

……..

Name	**Alex Byant**
Position	**Group Lead Volunteer**
Date	

……..

Name	**Chris Osborne**
Position	**Chair**
Date	

Appendix 1

Annual Report

GLVs Report 2025 to 2026

This report covers the period from 1 September 2025 to 1 July 2026.

It has been another successful year for the Group, delivering a high quality Scouting programme to more than 80 young people. Thank you to everyone who has taken part and helped make the year such a success.

You'll hear more from each of the sections later, but first I would like to recognise and thank all of our volunteers who have given their time, enthusiasm and commitment throughout the year. Without them, the opportunities we provide simply wouldn't be possible.

- Beavers: Brian (Team Leader), James, Will and Rachel (stepped down)
- Wednesday Cubs: Tanya (Team Leader), Stan, Hannah, Lexie and Karen
- Tuesday Scouts: Katie (Team Leader), Helen and Andreea
- St George's Scouts (Thursday): Tim, Matt, Will and Adam
- Supporting all sections as required: Alan and Lee
- Group Committee: Chris (Chair), Andreea (Treasurer) and Sara

We are also fortunate to have three Young Leaders and four Duke of Edinburgh volunteers. Several of them are also Explorer Scouts aged 14 to 18, and they make a valuable contribution by supporting weekly meetings and even leading some of their own sessions.

Thank you to every one of you.

I would also like to make special mention of our parent volunteers who step in whenever we need extra support, whether covering absences or helping during busy or specialist activities. Your help makes a real difference. If you have a hobby, skill or interest that you would be willing to share, there's probably a Scout badge linked to it, and we'd love to hear from you.

This leads me to an important point. We are always looking for new volunteers. Many of our current leaders first became involved because their own children joined the Group and have continued volunteering ever since. To ensure we can keep offering the fantastic programme we currently provide, we need more people to get involved.

At the moment, we are particularly looking for volunteers to support our Beaver and Cub sections. There are opportunities to become a Section Team Member, a regular helper or even an occasional volunteer if you can only spare a little time. Every contribution helps.

There are also a number of behind the scenes roles where volunteers can make a huge difference. Please take a look at the list of opportunities provided and, if any are of interest, speak to Chris or myself.

One exciting ambition for the Group is to open a Squirrel Drey for children aged 4 to 6. Before we can do this, we need volunteers to help run it. No previous Scouting experience is needed, and full training and support will be provided. If this is something you might be interested in, please come and have a chat with me.

GLVs Report 2025 to 2026

Looking further ahead, we'd also like to explore the possibility of starting our own Explorer Scout Unit here at Stockwood for young people aged 14½ to 18. There are currently only two Explorer Units in Bristol South, and we'd like to ensure that our Scouts have the opportunity to continue their Scouting journey locally. This year alone, five of our Scouts have moved on to Explorers, and we hope that, in the future, we can provide that next step within our own Group.

Finally, there will also be some changes to the structure of our sections from September.

Last year, the number of Scouts in the Group had grown to the point where one troop was no longer enough, so we introduced a second Scout Troop on Tuesday evenings. I'd like to thank everyone who helped make this possible, as it allowed every Cub from both packs to move into Scouts without waiting for a place.

Over the past year our numbers have naturally changed and, as a result, we no longer have enough Scouts to sustain two separate troops. From September, we will therefore return to a single Scout Troop meeting on Tuesday evenings.

We appreciate that this change won't be convenient for everyone, but Tuesday is the evening that works best for the majority of our volunteer team.

I'd like to apologise to any Scouts, parents or volunteers who are unable to attend on a Tuesday. We hope the vast majority of our Scouts will continue their Scouting journey with us, and we look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Yours in Scouting
Alex Bryant
Group Lead Volunteer
Email: group@1ststockwoodscouts.org.uk
Website: 1ststockwoodscouts.org.uk
Facebook: 1ststockwoodscouts
Member Information Group,

Current Vacancies

Squirrel Adult Volunteers
Beaver Adult Volunteers
Cub Adult Volunteers
Scout Adult Volunteers
HQ Caretaker (could suit a retired Grandparent); and / or
HQ Bookings coordinator
Fundraisers
Trustees
Treasurer
Gardeners
HQ Maintenance

Please speak with Chris Osborne or Alex Bryant for any of these exciting volunteering opportunities**!!!**

Beavers AGM Report 2026
July 2025 – July 2026

It's been another busy year, with the Beavers doing lots of different activities. Some things that we have done this year include litter picking in Cottle Road play park, den building in the woods at the nature reserve, a trip to Pets@Home to learn about how to care for animals, archery, experiments and our popular Mother's Day café.

We took the Beavers off site a few times this year to go litter picking, bowling , tobogganing and to Woodhouse Park to attend The Big Fiesta. Next week, for our last session of the school year, we will be doing Adventure Golf at Stockwood Vale.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to run any camps this year as none of the Beaver leaders have the required permits. We are working on this and will hopefully be able to offer camps in the future (hopefully in 2027).

Beavers attended the Remembrance Parade in November, smartly turning up in uniform and we marched to the Legion, proudly flying our colony's flags. We were incredibly proud of their behaviour and the respect they showed.

Over the last year, we have awarded 182 badges. Due to the lack of camping, we've only been able to give out 1 Bronze Chief Scout award. This year we have tried to include some badges we haven't done regularly before. We had a few sessions showing our musical skills, learning all about different music genres and who our favourite bands are (overwhelming consensus of K-pop Demon Hunters 😊).

The Beaver Colony has remained steady in numbers with both new enrolments and leavers 'swimming up to Cubs'.

We'd like to thank Rachel Amos for the time she spent with us as a leader this year. Will Ford, who was a young leader with us last year, turned 18 this year, and has stepped up to become a full leader of the colony. Thank you as well to Blyss who continues to help out as a young leader.

We rely on parent help to do some activities and are grateful to those that come to support us. Without them, we could not run the varied programme that we do. We are an active colony with several Beavers with specific needs, so we are continually open to more parents and adults who feel they would also like to help us.

If you have an interesting job or hobby you think the Beavers might be interested on learning about, please let us know and we'd love for you to come and show the Beavers.

We are all looking forward to another great year ahead in September.

Brian, James, and Will

Cubs Report for AGM

June 26

September saw the two cub packs joining together & since then numbers have stayed strong, with us pretty much at capacity. We have a great team of leaders & also the help of parents when we need it. A big thankyou to Karen, Hannah, Lexie & Stan for everything they do for cubs.

We love camping in all weathers. Cleeve Hill in April was close to freezing, the Big Fiesta in June was pretty windy, finished off with a very hot & sunny Evolution.

Since the last AGM the cubs been to Sparks in Broadmead, to learn about ethical food production. We had a visit from Kirsty Woodward , who is a C.S.I & together they solved the crime scene clues. Recently the cubs were joined by cubs from 4 other district packs for a morning of chess & draughts.

This year the cubs have completed their chef's, communicator, International & scientist badges, while working on a few of their challenge badges.

Cubs can be loud & chaotic, we're working on our listening skills, responsibility & teamwork. Our sixers & seconders are growing in confidence & supporting those who need help.

In the coming year we're looking forward to Adventure Day, Pinewood Derby, the 1st Monopoly run junior & of course camping. Fingers crossed next summer will also the return of our summer camp too.

Whatever the adventures the year has to offer, we know the cubs will give it a go & have the best time doing it!

Tues Scouts AGM Report – Jul 26

We started the new 2nd scout troop in September last year as we had a problem as a group. We had an increasing number of children coming up from Cubs to Scouts and also more Scouts wanting to stay and finish to the end of Scouts, causing a bit of a bottle neck, so it was a very positive problem to have. We started with 15 Scouts, most of which were in year 6 due to the large numbers moving up from Cubs. Alex, Andreea, Helen and Katie all moved to run Tuesday Scouts.

We have had a great year watching the Scouts challenge themselves. We have completed over 120 badges, including circus skills

We wanted the Scout troops to join sometimes to mix the ages up a but so have done First Aid training with medical students together, 2 camps and a cooking competition between the troops. The leaders may have been a bit more competitive than the children but a few weeks preparing and the Scouts made 2 really lovely 2 course meals. We won the vote for the best dessert overall.

Beyond the meeting hall, the Scouts have had the opportunity to go to a circus skills workshop in Keynsham, camp in Chelwood in October with Thursday Scouts. We also did Strategy camp in Cirencester for the first time which was an amazing camp for the kids We merged the 2 Scout troops together for this which worked really well, taking 15 Scouts with us for this camp. 2500 young people competed all day on Saturday, by orienteering themselves around a huge course and taking part in loads of activities provided. Tuesday Scout leaders ran the supermarket trolley curling (!!!) which was enjoyed by all who found us, our Scouts didn't! Out of over 330 teams, our Scouts came 49th place, 73rd and 119th, very respectable and gave us loads of ideas for next time. This camp will be a firm booking in our calendar from now on.

We had booked on to Scoutmoor Summer camp but unfortunately heard the news that this camp had to be cancelled by the organisers. So as not to let down our Scouts, we have pooled together and made a plan B, to do our Summer camp at a site in Bath, and run our own activities, watch this space.

We have taken the decision that it is now the right time to merge the 2 Scout troops back together again. The second troop was only there to temporarily ease the numbers coming through and ensure we didn't lose any young people who wanted to stay on in Scouts but not have space in Thursday Scouts. We have managed this and feel with looking at the numbers moving forward, we can manage this in one troop. Due to best days availability for leaders, we will meet as one troop on Tuesdays nights, which will offer the younger Scouts in Tuesdays, a chance to mix with the older Scouts from Thursdays. We're looking forward to welcoming Thursday Scouts but cant help but feel they may be joining as can't bare to face us in another cooking competition!!

Scout Report: September 2025 – July 2026

This year has been a busy and exciting one for our Scouts, packed with a fantastic variety of events at the hut alongside several memorable camps.

We hit the ground running in September, with the Scouts taking the lead to plan their own programme for the term. They chose a brilliant mix of activities, including a 'Pub Night' (with mocktails!), a Disability Awareness, Skills and Wellbeing night, pioneering, archery, pumpkin carving, Bonfire Night, a silent disco, and cooking—with a camp thrown in for good measure!

Before the Christmas break, we ventured offsite for several activities. The Scouts enjoyed trampolining, took part in JOTA/JOTI (Jamboree on the Air / Jamboree on the Internet), and competed in the Avon Shooting Competition. The competition was a major highlight, bringing together groups from across the county to test their skills in crossbow, archery, and air rifle disciplines, with our Scouts representing the group brilliantly. We also proudly took part in the annual Remembrance Day parade at the Whitchurch Legion.

In keeping with tradition, we ran our Christmas Tree Delivery fundraiser. Members of the public ordered trees, and our Scouts delivered them straight to their doors. This was not only a highly successful fundraiser but also a fantastic way to raise our profile and connect with the local community.

Our October camp was a superb joint effort with the Tuesday Scout troop. The older Senior Patrol Leaders used the event as an opportunity to hike to the campsite, successfully completing their expedition toward their Chief Scout's Gold Award.
Fresh back in January, the energy didn't drop. We tried our hand at fencing (the sword-fighting kind!), returned to archery, and enjoyed a night run by Beth and Libby focusing on healthy eating, sleep, and diet. There was more cooking, a vital drug awareness evening run by Will, and an action-packed climbing night at Redpoint, where we very nearly got everyone to the top of the walls! We also covered knife safety, dressed the Young Leaders up as knights in cardboard armour for a tournament, and ran a whole host of other activities.

A contingent also took part in Strategy, a massive camp that challenges teams to navigate a huge site while completing diverse activities to score points. Once again, this was a fantastic joint effort with the Tuesday Scouts.

More recently in June, four of our older Scouts completed their Expedition Challenge. They hiked along the River Wye, carrying all their own kit and camping overnight, before completing the second leg of the trek the following day. They have set the bar incredibly high for the next cohort. A massive well done to Sawyer, Beth, Lewis, and Libby.

None of this would be possible without the incredible dedication, time, and effort of our amazing leadership team. Their enthusiasm, organisation, and unwavering support make these experiences reality, and we are truly grateful for everything they do to give our young people these opportunities.

Appendix 2(a)

Statement of Accounts

148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Group

Balance Sheet 2025/2026

Brought Forward Figures	**Main ledger**		**46,616.94**	
Beaver		455.07		
Cubs		563.06		
Scouts		1,147.44		
			2,165.57	
				47,988.94
Income	**Main ledger**			
			36,353.93	
				36,353.93
Expenditure	**Main ledger**			
			43,881.43	
				43,881.43
Carried Forward	**Main ledger**			
				47,988.94

Income & Expenditure

Income		**Expenditure**	
Subs	13,762.00	Infrastructure	7,457.86
Camps/Sections	11,578.13	Utilities	1,861.50
Gift Aid	3,661.86	Insurance	1,281.83
Fundraising	4,127.03	Cleaning	1,939.07
Interest	442.02	Equipment	2,120.31
Donations/Grants	1,000.00	Camps/Sections	21,692.01
Other	224.03	Scout Association	3,815.00
Clothing	643.86	Training	317.00
Hall Rental	915.00	Fundraising expenses	2,061.78
		Clothing	1,293.94
		Other	41.13
Totals	**36,353.93**		**43,881.43**

Treasurer's Report – AGM 2025/2026

148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Group

I am pleased to present the financial report for the year ending 2025/2026.

The Group began the financial year 25/26 with total funds of **£55,516.44**, comprising Group funds of **£51,494.38** together with sectional balances of **Beavers (£634.42), Cubs (£1,234.39) and Scouts (£2,153.25)**.

During the year, the Group received **income of £36,353.93**, with the principal sources being membership subscriptions, camps and activities, fundraising, Gift Aid, interest, donations and grants.

Total expenditure amounted to **£43,881.43**. The largest areas of expenditure were camps and activities, infrastructure and building costs, Scout Association membership fees, equipment, fundraising expenses and the ongoing operational costs of running the Group.

Expenditure exceeded income by **£7,527.50** during the year. This planned use of reserves has enabled the Group to continue investing in facilities, equipment and an exciting programme for our young people. The Group remains in a sound financial position with **£47,988.94** carried forward into the new financial year (**Group** Funds of **£45,823.37** together with sectional balances of **Beavers (£455.07), Cubs (£563.06)** and **Scouts (1,147.44)).**

The Trustees will continue to monitor expenditure carefully while maintaining adequate reserves to support future activities, maintain our headquarters and replace equipment as required.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported the Group financially throughout the year, including our volunteers, parents, supporters and those who have organised and participated in fundraising events. Their continued support is greatly appreciated.

The Group's accounts have been independently audited and approved, and the Trustees are satisfied that they present a true and fair view of the Group's financial position for the year ended 2025/2026.

Finally, I would like to thank the Trustee Board for their support throughout the year and our independent examiner for their time and expertise in reviewing the accounts.

Submitted by

Andreea Coculeasa

Treasurer
148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Group

Appendix 2(b)

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

England & Wales

Template 1: Unqualified report for a non-company charity preparing receipts and payments accounts with a gross income of £250,000 or less in the relevant financial year

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of 148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the 148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Group for the year ended 31st March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) 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 148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) 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 148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) 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: Janet Ballinger

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

Address: 59 Beeches Road, Cheltenham, GL53 8NJ

Date: 4th June 2026