ST ALBANS DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

Report & Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2026

PRESIDENT	Vacant
TRUSTEES	
CHAIR	Mrs K Knight
TRUSTEES: Ex-Officio Members	
SECRETARY	Vacant
TREASURER	Mr V Molloy
DISTRICT LEAD VOLUNTEER	Dr A Payne (resigned 27/4/25) Mrs A Hamilton-Bray (appointed 27/4/25)
DISTRICT 14-24 TEAM LEAD	Mr G Bray (resigned 25/06/25) Mrs J A Barnes (appointed 25/6/25)
DISTRICT YOUTH LEAD	Mr C Jackson
TRUSTEES:- Appointed Members	Mr L Ambrose (resigned 6/5/25); Mr S Lindsay MBE; Ms A Moylett (resigned 2/12/25); Mr S Vowles (appointed 30/3/26); Mrs N Wells.
TRUSTEES:- Co-opted Members	Mrs L Hunt
BANKERS	CAF Bank Barclays – St Albans (Explorers) Lloyds – St Albans (Scout Shop & Phoenix) NatWest – St Albans (Gang Show)

District Registration Number with The Scout Association - 12215

Charity Registration Number - 302578

Contact Name & Address

Mr V Molloy
30 Rowlatt Drive
St Albans
Herts, AL3 4NB

St Albans District Scout Council

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2026

Summary of main activities of the Charity during the year and Chair's financial summary

I am pleased to present the financial summary for St Albans District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Looking back over the past year, I am proud of everything we have achieved as a District. Once again, we have delivered an incredible range of opportunities for our young people, from local District events through to the Phoenix Expedition and, of course, another fantastic Gang Show. None of this happens without the commitment, enthusiasm and dedication of our volunteers, who continue to give so much of their time to make Scouting such a positive experience for young people across St Albans.

Financially, this has been a year in which we have invested heavily in delivering those experiences. While the accounts show a planned reduction in our reserves, largely reflecting the delivery of the Phoenix Expedition, the District remains in a strong financial position and well placed to support Scouting across the District for the future.

As Chair, I would particularly like to thank Vincent Molloy, our Treasurer, for the enormous amount of work he has undertaken for the last 10 years. Managing the finances of a District of our size is no small task, and Vincent's professionalism, attention to detail and sound financial stewardship has ensured that the Trustee Board can make informed decisions. His work has often gone unseen, but it has been absolutely fundamental to everything we have achieved.

I would also like to pay special tribute to Steve Lindsay MBE, whose outstanding commitment, wisdom and unwavering support have been an integral part of our District since **2002**.

For more than two decades, Steve has given his time, knowledge and experience with remarkable generosity. His advice, guidance and practical support have been invaluable, and he has always been willing to step forward whenever his help has been needed.

Steve's dedication, professionalism and genuine commitment to Scouting have made a lasting difference to countless volunteers and young people alike. His experience, encouragement and steady leadership are deeply valued and greatly appreciated by both the Trustee Board and the wider District.

On behalf of us all, I would like to express our sincere thanks to Steve for his exceptional service, his enduring friendship, and the immense contribution he has made over the past 24 years. His legacy within our District is one of commitment, integrity and selfless service, and we are profoundly grateful for everything he continues to do.

My thanks also go to **Alex Hamilton Bray**, who has now completed her first full year as our District Administrator. Alex has quickly become an integral part of the District team, supporting our volunteers and helping to ensure the smooth day-to-day running of the District.

Summary of main activities of the Charity during the year and Chair's financial summary(cont)

Finally, I would like to thank every volunteer, trustee, leader and supporter across St Albans District. Whether you lead a section each week, organise events, maintain our buildings, support our finances, or help behind the scenes, every contribution matters. The success of our District is built on your dedication and willingness to give your time for the benefit of others.

The figures contained within these accounts demonstrate that the District remains financially secure and continues to be managed responsibly. More importantly, they represent the investment we are making in creating memorable experiences, developing skills for life and ensuring that Scouting continues to thrive across St Albans. On behalf of the Trustee Board, thank you all for everything you do.

Governing Document

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.

Constitution

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

Trustee Selection

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

District Management

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

The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 10 Trustees (including 4 Ex-Officio and 1 Co-Opted member) and meets at least every 4 months.

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scout Trustee training within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

The 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 has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, including 2 signatures for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure insurable risks are covered.

Summary of the Charity's objectives as set out in the 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.

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.

Reserves Policy
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 determined during the period that given likely future needs the District should hold a minimum sum of circa £110,000.

The core District held reserves of approximately £236,000 against this at the year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses. The District Trustee Board is aware that remedial work is required on the DHQ building which has the potential to result in material cost and in such circumstances would utilise a significant proportion of the excess reserves.

Investment Policy

The District does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The District has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in current or short term deposit accounts at mainstream financial institutions.

Approved by the Trustees on the 2 September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:-



Kirstin Knight
Chair

Vincent Molloy
Treasurer

St Albans District Scout Council

Report & Accounts for the year ended 31st March 20256

Receipts for the year ended 31 March 2026

Receipts	2025/26		2024/25
	£		£
Donations and Subscriptions			
Membership Subscription	145,337	Note 1	139,601
Donations and Grants	3,715		3790
Sub total	**149,052**		**143,391**
Grants			
Covid Grants	-		-
Training Subsidies	-		-
Sub total	**-**		**-**
Youth Programmes and Activities			
Core District Activities	30,930	Note 2	14,461
Gang Show	36,754	Note 3	33,714
Explorer Scouts	20,890		21,253
Phoenix Expedition	33,026	Note 4	76,213
Scout Shop Sales	26,778		29,728
Squirrels	0		0
Miscellaneous	166		196
Sub total	**148,544**		**175,565**
Investment and Other Income			
Gift Aid	-	Note 5	-
HQ Lettings & Rents	22,226	Note 6	25,657
Bank Interest	3,792	Note 7	2,119
Sub total	**26,018**		**27,776**
Total receipts for the year	**323,614**		**346,732**

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St Albans District Scout Council

Report & Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2026

Payments for the year ended 31 March 2026

Payments	**2024/25**		**2024/25**
	£		£
Subscriptions			
Membership Subscriptions to County	120,486		120.841
Sub total	**120,486**		**120,841**
Charitable Payments			
Youth Programme and Activities			
Core District Activities	25,528	Note 8	17,481
Gang Show	39,193	Note 9	30,480
Explorer Scouts	34,444		30,265
Phoenix	71,682	Note 10	23,742
Scout Shop Purchases	28,745		24,722
St George's Day	2,652		2,823
Sections (Network)	44		120
Sections (Squirrels)	1488	Note 11	1474
Training	907	Note 12	794
Utilities	2,909	Note 13	5,367
Insurance	4,309	Note 14	10,546
Maintenance, Renewals and Repairs	5,894	Note 15	8,684
Materials and IT/ Equipment	1,420	Note 16	793
GoCardless Fees	1441	Note 17	1,551
Bank Charges	90		124
Grants	-		-
Sub total	**220,746**		**158,966**
Funding Expenses			
OSM	2511		2,476
Administration Expense	2,835	Note 18	1,751
Administration Services	9,173	Note 19	8,892
CVS Membership	60		-
Miscellaneous	1,128		1,046
	15,707		**14,165**
Total payments for the year	**356,939**		**252,611**

St Albans District Scout Council

Receipts & Payments Account Summary
For the year ended 31 March 2026

	2025/26		2024/25
	£		£
Total receipts for the year	323,614		346,732
Total payments for the year	356,939		293,972
Net receipts for the year	-33,325		52,760
Cash, bank & similar funds b/fwd	271,661		218,901
Cash, bank & similar funds c/fwd	238,336	Note 20	271,661

St Albans District Scout Council

Statement of Assets & Liabilities as at 31 March 2026

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	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
Monetary Assets		
Bank Current Accounts	81,393	58,705
Bank Deposit Accounts	156,829	212,842
Cash in hand	114	114
	238,336	271,661
Other Monetary Assets		
Debt due to District (Scout Shop sales)	11,216	13,170
	-	-
Non-Monetary Assets		
Scout Shop Stock	12,500	12,500
District Headquarters (Insured valuation)	574,093	574,093
Liabilities		
(due within one year)		
Phoenix	28,084	49,919
Explorers Activities	-	2,091
Lochgoilhead	13,370	-

St Albans District Scout Council

Report & Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2026

Notes to the Accounts

Note 1 - **Membership Subscriptions**. Annual membership subscriptions are collected by District from all groups plus Explorers. The subscriptions collected are levied on a per head basis for members under 18 and comprise National, County and District fees. The National and County elements of the fees are passed on via County.

£129,617 received from Groups, £30,510 levied by Explorers and £1,325 levied by Squirrels (drey closed during the period).

Note 2 – Core District Activities. A period of full activities including I'm a scout, Master Chef, Cubs Cinema, Derek Turner and Scout Camp.

NB: As many activities straddle accounting periods some of the income and expenditure for individual activities will be reflected in previous or future years accounts.

Note 3 – Gang Show. A 50/50 joint venture with Guides, the District accounts include 50% of Gang Show receipts.

Note 4 – Phoenix Expedition. Payments from participants signed up to attend the 2025 Expedition.

Note 5 – Gift Aid Due to administrative reasons a claim relating to Explorer subs was not made during the period. A new Explorers treasurer has been appointed and a claim for 2025-26 and outstanding previous years will be submitted during H1 2026-27.

Note 6 – HQ Lettings & Rents Income from third party lettings fell during the period due mainly to one regular user terminating its usage of the building.

Note 7 – Bank Interest Breakdown as follows:

	2025-26	2024-25
Core District	£3,006	£1,079
Gang Show	£559	£690
Phoenix	£227	£350

Increase in Core District interest due mainly to movement of funds to an account paying a more attractive rate of interest and also CAF Bank paying interest on current account balances.

Note 8 - Core District Activities See comments under Note 2.

Note 9 – Gang Show See comments for Note 3..

Note 10 – Phoenix Deposits and other payments relating to the 2025 expedition.

Note 11 – Squirrels. Payments covering meeting expenses and hire charges payable to 17th St Albans Scouts for use of their hall for weekly meetings. The drey closed during the financial period.

Note 12 – Training During the financial period the District moved the provision of First Responder courses in house which incurred a one-off cost of £547 for purchase of kit etc. Additionally, costs of £356 were incurred for courses that were previously provided externally.

Note 13 – Utilities. Costs were significantly lower than in the previous period mainly due to adjustment of electricity costs by EON Next due to an earlier incorrect calculation during the previous period. Additionally, the District continued to benefit from a recalculation by the water company for water costs relating to DHQ going back a number of years which resulted in a credit balance on the account. The credit balance has since been exhausted.

Note 14 – Insurance Costs are now back to a more normal level. The previous period reflected the cost of additional insurance relating to the 2025 Phoenix expedition.

Note 15 - Maintenance, Renewals and Repairs Regular maintenance of DHQ was undertaken including ongoing repairs, cleaning and grass cutting.

Note 16 - Materials and IT/Equipment The spend covered the cost of maintaining the website (£240) and replacement radios, tents etc (£1,180).

Note 17 - GoCardless had Fees The fees incurred in the collection of Squirrels and Explorer membership subscriptions and payments for Explorer activities via OSM / GoCardless.

Note 18 - Administration Expense Includes payment to BT related to a line for use with the Scout Shop payment card machine.

Note 19 - Administration Services The cost related to retaining the services of a contracted administrator for the District.

Note 20 – Cash, bank & similar funds. Total District funds of £238,336 (2024-25 £271,661) comprised:

	2025-26	2024-25
Core District	£111,558	£103,380
Gang Show (50%)	£51,720	£54,504
Explorers	£18,879	£22,341
Phoenix Expedition	£34,720	£66,953
Scout Shop	£21,345	£24,483
Scout Shop Cash	£114	£114

The decrease in funds held related mainly to payments by Phoenix relating to the 2025 expedition.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

St Albans District Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the St Albans District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2026

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the St Albans District Scout Council 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 St Albans District Scout Council 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 St Albans District Scout Council 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.



Robert Baker, FCA
79 Woodland Drive,
St Albans,
Herts, AL4 0EN
4 September 2026