Scouts

Hornchurch District Scout Council

Annual Report and Accounts for the Year Ending 31 March 2026










#SkillsForLife

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District Chair Report

Firstly, I would like to thank all of you for all the hard work and the time you give up to help the Young People enjoy Scouting so much. Whenever I speak to some of them, they are always enthusiastic about what they have been doing.

As everyone is aware David Wright stepped down as DLV at the AGM and a big thanks for everything that he did and we wish him well.

Colin Wreyford (CLV) stepped in to be Interim DLV and I hope we have looked after him and not caused too many problems for him! Although we did get him to join the D&D Catering Team at Pedal Cars in January and hopefully, he enjoyed a Scouting weekend with no concerns!!

I was fortunate to be invited as a plus one to Westminster Abbey in February where a service was held for those adults who had been awarded the Silver Acorn & Silver Wolf. It was so nice to see so many leaders from Hornchurch were there on the day - well deserved.

This year both the Beaver Sleepover and Cub Camp were able to go ahead and thank you for everyone who helps organise these events.

Hopefully we have all now got used to the new system and are able to find our way around it!!

Finally, I would like to thank the District Trustee Board for support this year and ensuring that the District is running smoothly and we are following guidelines correctly.

Louisa Golder
District Chair

District Lead Volunteer Report

As Interim District Lead Volunteer, I'm delighted to share this year's update for Hornchurch District. And don't worry — I promise to keep this shorter than a Scout trying to explain how their tent ended up inside-out.

This year, our young people have enjoyed strong, varied programmes across every section. We've had outdoor adventures, nights away, and plenty of activities that prove Scouting is still the best place for learning skills, making friends, and occasionally discovering that someone forgot the matches.

Explorer numbers have grown, Cubs and Scouts remain steady, and the enthusiasm across our groups is unmistakable. Although our youth numbers were marginally down our adult numbers have increased.

Now, I won't pretend everything has been easy. Volunteer capacity remains our biggest challenge. Some groups are running with teams so small they make the Trustee Board look overstaffed. Recruitment and retention must stay at the top of our agenda, and we're working on clearer role descriptions, better onboarding, and more support for new volunteers — ideally before they discover what completing a Risk Assessment actually involves.

We're also adapting to ongoing changes in systems, compliance, and administration. It's not always simple, but our leaders have shown real resilience, patience, and the ability to navigate digital platforms that occasionally seem designed by someone who has never met a volunteer.

Looking ahead, our priorities are clear:

- Strengthen volunteer numbers

- Support programme quality
- Improve communication
- And give young people more voice in shaping what we do

Before I finish, I want to say a heartfelt thank you. To every leader, every board member, every supporter — thank you for giving your time, your energy, and your sanity. Scouting only works because of you, and our young people benefit every single week from your dedication.

Hornchurch District is strong, determined, and full of potential. Together, we'll continue building a future our young people can be proud of

Colin Wreyford
Interim District Lead Volunteer

Agenda for the 93rd Annual General Meeting
to be held on Monday 7th September 2026 at 1st Upminster Scout Group, Gwilcoo, Brookdale Avenue, Upminster, Essex, RM14 2LT

1. Welcome by the District Chair

2. Apologies for Absence

3. Appointment of President & Vice Presidents

4. Governance Topics
   a. Approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15th September 2025
   b. Model constitution
   c. Note Financial Year
   d. District Trustee Board
   e. Quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

5. Review of the previous year
   a. District Lead Volunteer presents their annual review
   b. Approve Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including Annual Statement of Accounts Treasurer to give explanation of the accounts

6. Making appointments
   a. District Lead Volunteer to appoint District Chair
   b. Appoint District Treasurer
   c. Confirm Appointed Members to serve on the District Trustee Board
   d. Appoint the Independent Examiner
   e. Co-option of Members to serve on the District Trustee Board
   f. Election of a Scouter to serve on the County Scout Council

7. Presentations

8. Closing remarks

The formal business of the meeting will be followed by a presentation from some members who attended the Netherlands International trip over the summer.

Minutes of the 92nd Annual General Meeting
Held on Monday 15th September 2025 at 1st Upminster Scout Group, Gwilcoo, Brookdale Avenue, Upminster, Essex, RM14 2LT

1. Welcome by the District Chair – Louisa Golder

Louisa welcomed everyone to the 92nd Annual General Meeting and thanked them for coming. She also thanked 1st Upminster for allowing to us to use their hall.

Louisa introduced herself and the top table:
David Wright, District Lead Volunteer
Colin Wreyford, County Lead Volunteer
Paul Fix, District Vice President

Louisa also welcomed the following guests:
Dean Jefferys, District Lead Volunteer for Romford

2. Apologies for Absence

Louisa had received some apologies and asked if any other apologies could be reported on the sheet at the back of the hall.

Apologies were received from:
Lisa Jones, Nicki Cast, Allyson Cheung, Len Newman, Lesley Newman, Alan Winston, Terry Kingham, Richard Williams, Jonathan Sisman, David Dutch, James Youngs, Neil Dashfield, Mike Towler, Shane O'Brien Passfield, Posy Mellon, Charlie Lovegrove and Peter Ager

3. Appointment of President and Vice Presidents

Louisa announced to the Council members that the Trustees are proposing the appointment of the following as President and Vice-Presidents for the following year:

District President – Linda Thorogood
District Vice-Presidents - Alan Pyle, Carol Wickington, Bob Wickington, Joan McGovern, and newly proposed are Peter Seddon, Julie Leeper, Paul Fix and John Reed

Louisa thanked all current appointees for their active support this year. We are very lucky to have the President and team of Vice-Presidents who so actively support the District. Louisa asked all present to show their hands to approve. This was approved.

4. Governance Topics

Louisa announced that we would use this part of the meeting to make sure the charity's governance foundations are in good order. The Scouts made some changes last year to the local Trustee Boards to bring us more in line with Charity Commission best practice and a number of the following items come from these changes.

a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 16th September 2024

Louisa announced that the District Trustee Board had already reviewed the minutes of the previous AGM which was held on 16th September 2024. These minutes as taken as read and ask the District Scout Council to agree they're a true record of that meeting.

Louisa asked council members to show their hands to approve. These were agreed.

Louisa shared that at last year's AGM council members had agreed a number of Governance arrangements and that no changes were proposed to any of these. Louisa read them all together and then asked for a single vote for all of them, to help streamline the meeting.

b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)

Louisa announced that in line with the recommendation from UK Scouts the District Council approved at last year's AGM that we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules. It was therefore proposed to continue to adopt this model constitution.

c. Note the District's financial year

Louisa asked council members to note that our charity's financial year is 1st April to 31st March.

d. Agree number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board

Louisa shared that following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12. Trustees in total. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees.

The District Scout Council must agree the number of people to be appointed to the Trustee Board. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends that 5 people are appointed. Louisa proposed the District Scout Council approved that recommendation, which has already been seconded.

Louisa told the meeting that Trustees were appointed last year for a 3-year term to the Trustee Board, this will be their second year and there is no need for them to be reappointed apart from one Trustee who instead of being a co-opted Trustee will become an Appointed Trustee. This will be formally covered later in the meeting.

e. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the District Scout Council (excluding this AGM)

At the AGM last year, the District Scout Council agreed a quorum of 20 people. It was proposed this remains the same.

Louisa asked the council to show their hands to approve items 4b, 4c, 4d, and 4e. These were all agreed.

5. Review of the previous year

a. District Lead Volunteer presents their annual review

Louisa asked David to present his annual review.

David shared that it has been another year or progress and achievement, shown through the strengthen of our local volunteers and the resilience of our young people. The District had again put on a full and active programme including St George's Day, Beaver Sleepover, DofE Expeditions, Badge Days, The Kilmuir Trophy, Archery Competitions, etc. He thanked everyone who had contributed to making these events and activities happen.

David told the council that we had embraced new team structures and the new membership system, which had not been without its challenges. David thanked everyone for their help, support and encouragement with making this transition seamless. Our volunteers are the engine of Scouting. Beyond25 places them at the heart of our

transformation with task and team-based roles, inclusive recruitment, better learning and support and becoming a digital first movement.

David said that he had been particularly inspired by seeing so many awards presented to young people and adults and that dedication and commitment had been truly remarkable. David then thanked all the volunteers who sit on our various teams saying you are the people who make Hornchurch Scouts such a fantastic district to be a part of.

David said that it had been an honour to serve as District Lead Volunteer for Hornchurch. He steps down knowing the District is in safe hands - powered by talented teams, shared values, and a bold commitment to growth and inclusion. This role had allowed him to work alongside inspiring volunteers, support brilliant young people, and shape the future of Scouting in our community. It's a unique opportunity - not just to lead, but to listen, collaborate, and drive positive change.

David informed the council that if members are passionate about Scouting, believe in its impact, and enjoy working with others to build a better future for young people, then he would encourage them to consider taking on part of this role - or stepping into it fully in the future. The role of District Lead Volunteer isn't about doing everything; it's about enabling others, sharing responsibility, and supporting our movement to thrive.
David thanked every volunteer, young person, parent, and partner who contributes to Scouting in Hornchurch. He said that together, we're not just preparing young people with skills for life - we're building a better, stronger future for our District.

Louisa thanked David for his review and introduced Colin Wreyford, County Lead Volunteer,

Colin thanked David for his four years as District Lead Volunteer. He had kept the District going and been a stabilising force. He wished him luck with his future Scouting roles. Going forward Colin had approached a few people about the DLV role but up to this point no one had agreed to take it on. He was working with Scott Wilderspin and Dean Jefferys to help to find a substantive replacement.

Colin acknowledged that it had been a difficult time and that the new membership system had had its challenges, but there will be more updates coming which will help the system to be intuitive. Compliance continues to be a key focus, and Colin will be working with GLVs and others to ensure that we remain strong in this area. He thanked all leaders and trustees for what they do and asked for their help and support as we take the District forward.

b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the District Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts

Louisa noted the District Trustee Board has approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and has received the report on the accounts from the Independent Examiner. She informed that council that unfortunately Lisa was not able to join us tonight but she has given an explanation of the key points of the Statement of Accounts and that this can be found on page 17 of the Annual report/accounts.

Louisa, if there is any questions we can attempt to answer them now, however you may need to email Lisa if we can't answer them now. There were no questions from council members. Louisa thanked Lisa for all of her hard work and support.

Louisa informed that council that no vote is required, the District Scout Council only 'receives and considers' the report. It is the Trustees' report to the members of the Scout Council.

6. Making Appointments

Louisa handed the chairmanship of the meeting to Colin Wreyford, County Lead Volunteer.

a. District Lead Volunteer to appoint District Chair

Colin confirmed that the Chair was appointed at the last AGM for a three-year term there is no need for a vote tonight. He thanked Louisa for her continued sterling work.

Colin handed back to Louisa.
Louisa handed over to Paul Fix, District Vice-President for the next few items.

Paul informed the council that Linda Thorogood our District President was not able to join us tonight, so for one night only he would be the Acting District President. Paul said that he was honoured to have been appointed as a Vice President in the District, having been a member of the District for 36 years and still being as passionate about it as he has always been. Paul was delighted to be part of the team alongside the new appointed Vice-Presidents and the 'crowd of VPs' on the front table over there, although he wondered if he been appointed to bring the average age down. Paul shared that the purpose of the Presidential team is to support, champion, and to attend events and to get off the stage to help enable new talent and future leaders. He asked event leads to invite members of the presidential team to District events as felt relevant.

Prior to the meeting Paul and Linda had agreed that their main message tonight would be International. International Trips and International Programme are at the heart of what makes scouts unique. Paul asked those present to stand up if they had ever been on an international camp with Scouts. Paul shared that Linda and himself had suspected that it would be around a quarter of those attending the meeting and so it was great to see that this had been proven correct.

Paul asked those standing if those international camps were in people's top handful of Scout memories and this felt to be true. Paul set the challenge to the council to ensure how we build more international trips (or promote them) and champion international in local programmes.

b. Appoint District Treasurer

Paul informed that council that as the Treasurer was appointed at the last AGM for a three-year term there was no need for a vote. Paul thanked Lisa for her great work and his hope that she was enjoying a relaxing holiday!

c. Appoint Members to serve on the District Trustee Board

Paul announced that the recommendation to the District Scout Council is that Debbie Carter is appointed to the District Trustee Board, she was previously a co-opted member. In addition, Paul confirmed the recommendation to the District Scout Council that Kevin Cooper, Rachel Taylor, Chris Littlewood and Aaron Williams should be appointed as members of the District Trustee Board. Paul handed back to Louisa.

Louisa thanked the Trustees for their work during the year, in particular, Tim Leak who is standing down. The Trustee Board would also like to thank Glynis Youngs who has very kindly done the minutes for the Trustee Board for the last few years.

d. Appoint the Independent Examiner

Louisa confirmed that Jon Rumsey had been proposed and is qualified for the role and asked for a show of hands to approve Jon's nomination. This was approved.

e. Co-opted Members of the District Trustee Board

Louisa informed the council that the following Co-opted members will be appointed by the District Trustee Board at the October meeting - Holly Stephens and Anne Ling.

f. Election of representatives of the District Scout Council to represent the District on the County Scout Council

Louisa confirmed that Scott Wilderspin has been proposed and seconded. She asked for a show of hands to approve. This was approved.

7. Presentations

Louisa asked Dean Jefferys, Lead of the Awards & Recognition Team to make the presentations:

Long Service & Good Service Awards

Chief Scout's 15 years Long Service Award	Matt Levine, 1st Cranham
Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service	Sam Robinson, 1st South Hornchurch
Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service	Shivani Harrison, 8th Hornchurch

In addition, Dean asked the meeting to join him in congratulating Paul Fix who had been awarded The Silver Acorn earlier in the year. The council endorsed these congratulations.

Annual District Awards
Louisa asked Kevin Cooper, District Lead for Programme to read the citations for the annual District Awards.

Jackson Memorial Trophy
Kevin announced that this award is presented in memory of Horace Jackson, our District Commissioner between 1939 and 1962 and is awarded to a group in the District which we feel has excelled in all aspects of Scouting. The trophy was presented to **2nd Rainham**.

Ron Sorrell Shield
Ron Sorrell was DC in Hornchurch from 1982-1988 and in his memory, we have the Ron Sorrell award which goes to a leader in Hornchurch who has been in Scouting under 5 years and who has shown to have excelled as a leader. The trophy was presented to **Dan Stanley, Cub Scout Team Leader - 7th Hornchurch**.

Janet Winslow Trophy
Kevin reminded the council that Janet Winslow was former ADC Beaver Scouts who sadly passed away in 2019. Janet was someone who was always willing to help where and whenever she was needed across multiple sections. Thanks to her legacy many Sections are still running and her dedication was outstanding. She was a true legend who is greatly missed by the District. The District purchased a trophy in her memory to be presented each year to an adult member (or adult) who has helped at more than one section to keep them running – just like Janet did. This award is awarded to a leader who has helped at more than one section. The trophy was awarded to **Trevor Chapman, Group Leadership Team Member - 3rd Upminster**.

Young Leader of the Year
Kevin said that each year the District asks Groups to nominate Young Leaders who they feel have been an asset to the section that they help in. Young Leaders are the future of Scouting, and it is nice to show them how much they are appreciated. We asked someone independent to review the submissions and to choose the overall winner. This is awarded to a Young Leader who has been an asset to their section.

Kevin announced that the nominees for this year were:

Ashwin Kuhan	8th Hornchurch
Reece Hollins	2nd Elm Park
Rebekah Rayner	7th Hornchurch
Luke Lambert	8th Hornchurch
Isabelle Valentine	8th Hornchurch

Kevin announced that the overall trophy was to be presented to **Rebekah Rayner – 7th Hornchurch**.

Scott Wilderspin, former District Commissioner then spoke about Adventure Island fundraising. Scott took us back to when he was our DC and that we had suffered from a number of break ins at the District HQ. Debbie Carter came up with the idea of selling Adventure Island wristbands as a fundraiser. This initiative has been life changing. The thousands of pounds raised had led to the installation of new windows and shutters at the DHQ, had established and funded our Disadvantaged Fund, provided free DofE places and free Chief Scout's Award badges, enabled free first aid training for adults, free recruit a friend badges and resources for sections and had funded both our District Administrator role and our more recent Recruitment Officer role – all of which were now funded from the District budget.

Selling these wristbands had involved hours of work and dedication and had led to purchasers visiting our two sellers at all times of the day and night. As this scheme had now come to an end, we had stopped participating so now was a timely point to recognise Debbie Carter and Louisa Golder for their immense efforts to make this all happen. Scott presented them both with thank you gifts to recognise their hard work on behalf of the District.

8. Closing remarks

The formal business of the meeting was closed at 8.30pm and was followed by a presentation from Sam Rogers and Tom Rayner who had attended The World Scout Moot in Portugal.

They shared with the meeting how the Moot is structured into Paths and the Main Camp. They had taken part in a variety of activities with Scouts from all around the world including hiking, bushcraft, canoeing, swimming and trying local foods (including lots of tuna!). They had enjoyed sharing the magic of Scouting with new friends from around the world, had learnt new songs from each continent, danced without their phones and made friends for life. It had been an inspirational and life changing experience.

Paul Fix offered a vote of thanks for the entertaining and engaging presentation and explained that it proved his point about the impact of international Scouting. He encouraged council members to stay around to talk further to Sam and Tom about their experiences.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of Hornchurch District Scout Council for the year ended 31st March 2026. The Trustees have chosen to continue preparing Receipts & Payments accounts along with a Statement of Asset and Liabilities to ensure we continue to comply with the rules and guidance of the Charity Commission and The Scouts.

Charity Details

Charity Name	Hornchurch District Scout Council
Other Names	Hornchurch District Scouts
Registered Charity Number	303699
Scout Association Registration Number	13705
Charity Principal Operating Address	The Paddock, Wood Lane, Elm Park, RM12 5NH
Charity Registered Address	5 Cormorant Walk, Hornchurch, RM12 5HD
Principal Bankers	Barclays Bank plc, 36/38 South Street, Romford, RM1 1RH
Independent Examiner	Jon Rumsey JPR Accountancy & Tax Ltd Systems House, RHS Office 4 1st Floor 5 Horndon Industrial Estate West Horndon CM13 3XL

District President and Vice Presidents

President:	Mrs Linda Thorogood
Vice Presidents:	Mrs Carol Wickington Mr Robert Wickington Mrs Joan McGovern Mr Alan Pyle Mr Paul Fix (from 15.09.2025) Mr Peter Seddon (from 15.09.2025) Mrs Julie Keay (from 15.09.2025) Mr John Reed (from 15.09.2025)

Trustee Board

District Lead Volunteer	David Wright[2] (to 15.09.2025)
Acting District Lead Volunteer	Colin Wreyford (from 15.09.2025)
District Chair	Louisa Golder[2,3]
District Treasurer	Lisa Jones[2]
District Youth Lead	Sam Rogers[1]
Appointed	Debbie Carter (from 15.09.2025) Kevin Cooper Rachel Taylor Chris Littlewood Aaron Williams[1] Tim Leak (to 15.09.2025)
Co-opted by the District Trustee Board	Debbie Carter[4] (to 15.09.2025) Holly Stephens[1] Anne Ling

[1]18-25yr members
[2] Employment sub-committee member
[3]GHISP sub-committee member
[4]Thriftwood Representative

Governance

Governing Document

Hornchurch District Scout Council'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.

Charity Constitution

The District is a trust established under its 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.

Policies and Procedures

The District is managed by the District Trustee Board, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout District which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with the 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 and Treasurer together with the District Lead Volunteer and District Youth Lead, and members appointed by the District Scout Council and members co-opted by the Board (in accordance with the District constitution). The County Lead Volunteer and County Chair have a right of attendance at meetings of the District Trustee Board.

Members of the Board complete Being a Trustee in Scouts 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 Trustees routinely monitor the District key risks and put in place measures to manage them appropriately. The Trustees have identified the following as the potential key risks faced by the charity:

A safeguarding incident involving Scouting members. This is mitigated through following The Scout Association's adult appointment process which includes carrying out DBS checks for those performing regulated activity; a national vetting process; and a clear system for reporting concerns. Volunteers are required to complete mandatory safeguarding training within the timeframes set out in the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association. Training completion and renewal is monitored by the County Executive through monthly reporting. During the year, there was improved compliance with mandatory safeguarding training and renewal. The District Commissioner and District Chair take the lead on monitoring compliance.

Risk to the health and safety of Scouting members. This is mitigated through mandatory safety training for volunteers, which is monitored by the District Trustee Board through monthly reporting of completion and renewal data; adherence to the requirements of the adventurous activity permit scheme; and following the provisions of the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association. During the year, there was improved compliance with mandatory safety training and renewal.

In addition, routine planned and preventative maintenance is carried out at the District HQ to protect the health and safety of those using the building. This is led by the District HQ Manager and overseen by the District Trustee Board.

Internal Controls

The District has in place systems of internal financial control that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include two signatories (or online approvals for all payments).

The District has comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered. These include insurance for non-members attending Scouting activities and events. In addition to this the District holds Employers Liability Insurance.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable Objectives
The charity's objective is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

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.

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2026 – continued

Charity Activities

Scouting is open to all young people between the ages of 4 and 25, irrespective of their background, ethnic origin, nationality, race, gender, marital or sexual status, mental or physical ability, financial status, political or religious beliefs.

The Scout District incorporates the geographical areas of Ardleigh Green, Corbets Tey, Cranham, Elm Park, Emerson Park, Hornchurch, Rainham & Upminster, which are situated in the Greater London Borough of Havering. Hornchurch Scout District is part of Greater London North East Scout County.

The District's role is to support the Groups within its area of operation. It does this through supporting the development of Scouting, the provision of training and other services, and the running of events and activities for young people.

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

Charity Achievements

The Explorer Scout units in the District (Centurion, Trojans, Vikings and the Young Leaders Unit) continued to run their own programmes and held a number of joint unit activities.

Gambia & Hornchurch International Scout Project (GHISP) continued to support the work on their expeditions in Basse. They worked hard with their fundraising, and we look forward to hearing all about their experiences! The accounts are shown as an attachment to this report.

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

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:



Louisa Golder
District Chair
Date: 06/09/2026



Lisa Jones
District Treasurer
Date: 06/09/2026

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Financial Review

Overall receipts for the year exceeded payments, including the loss on the sale of Adventure Island Bands and GHISP, by £11,299.67 (2025 Excess Payments £34,183.14).

Net income from District events was £20,934.39 This includes £19,323.14 of payments for the Netherlands trip taking place in the summer of 2026 (2025 excess £3,412.08, including £2,915.00 for the Netherlands trip).

Adventure Island continues to be accounted for in a separate bank account. Loss for the year was £380.88 (2025 was a profit of £3,211.66). The stock value of Adventure Island tickets was £0.00 at the end of the reporting period. The accounts are shown as an attachment to this report.

Financial Policies

Reserves and Investments

The trustees maintain cash reserves in order to support the future of Scouting in the Hornchurch District. Six months operating costs, approximately £4,400 are held in reserves. In addition to this the District holds £42,130.20 designated for the eventual replacement of the District Headquarters building (prefabricated) and District stores. Other designated reserves are set out in note 2 to the accounts. After these designations, free cash amounts to £19,762.09 (2025 £18,105.82).

Free Cash	**2025/26**	**2024/25**
Cash at bank	146,547.34	130,303.63
Building & Equipment Reserves	(42,130.20)	(41,672.43)
Operational Reserves	(4,400.00)	(4,300.00)
Adventure Island Funds	(51,079.19)	(56,977.40)
GHISP Funds	(640.87)	(721.96)
Water Activities	(3,778.26)	(3,956.62)
Netherlands Funds (2026 Trip)	(23,102.33)	(2,915.00)
New Container @ DHQ	(1,654.40)	(1,654.40)
	19,762.09	**18,105.82**

Reserves are currently invested in income-earning deposits at banks, although interest earned is currently minimal.

Independent examiner

Jon Rumsey has this year carried out the independent examination of the 2025/26 Accounts and the District Trustee Board is grateful to her for continuing the appointment.

Trustee's responsibilities

The trustees acknowledge their responsibility for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with guidance issued by the Charity Commission and The Scout Association, and for safeguarding the assets of the charity.
The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Independent Examiner's report

to the trustees of Hornchurch District Scout Council

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Hornchurch 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 Hornchurch 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 Hornchurch 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.

Signed



Jon Rumsey

Date: 07/09/2026

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

	2025/26	2025/26	2024/25	2024/25
	£	£	£	£
Receipts	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted
Membership fee from members	**63,918.00**		65,408.00	
Less membership fee paid on (National/Regional/County)	**(56,296.00)**		(58,297.20)	
Net membership fee retained	**7,622.00**		7,110.80	
Donations and Other Income (note 5)	**-**		1,691.70	
Interest	**680.59**		749.80	
District Activities - Net Income/(Cost)	**1,611.25**	**19,323.14**	3,412.08	
Explorer Scouts - Net Income/(Cost)	**(702.42)**		105.51	
Scout Network Net Income/(Cost)	**(504.99)**		(195.13)	
Adult Training	**-**		6.00	
Adventure Island Profit	**-**		3,211.66	
GHISP Funds - Net Income/(Cost)	**(81.09)**		(38,271.03)	
Water Activities Team - Net Income/(Cost)	**-**	**(195.36)**	-	(17.00)
Total Receipts	**8,625.34**	**19,127.78**	(22,178.61)	(17.00)
Payments				
Membership Fee Rebates to Groups	**-**		629.00	
Conferences/Social Events	**263.79**		551.67	
Duke of Edinburgh - Net (Income)/Cost	**579.35**		(167.80)	
Young Leaders	**14.69**		101.00	
Development and Growth - Net (Income)/Cost	**-**		-	
St George's Day	**587.00**		730.00	
Equipment and Sundry Expenses	**1,078.85**		420.34	
Paid Administration (note 6)	**843.32**		3,478.63	
Paid Development Officer (note 6)	**4,582.12**		-	
District HQ Costs	**5,193.35**		4,417.12	
District Trustee Board Expenses	**319.71**		447.43	
District Team Expenses	**49.34**		70.10	
Adult Training	**358.05**		429.00	
AGM Costs	**203.00**		381.04	
Grants and Donations (note 5)	**2,000.00**		500.00	
Adventure Island	**380.88**		-	
Access Fund	**-**		-	
Total payments	**16,453.45**	**-**	11,987.53	-

Excess (Payments)/Receipts	**(7,828.11)**	**19,127.78**	34,166.14)	(17.00)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2026

At the year end the Trustee Board had no material liabilities.

	Notes			2025/26	2024/25
Cash at Bank	1				
Reserve Savings Account	2			46,530.20	45,972.43
Current Account				39,770.44	17,847.55
Explorer Scouts Accounts (inc. Network & DofE)				6,803.91	7,727.45
Equals Prepaid Cards - Explorers				664.43	853.07
Equals Prepaid Cards - Network				101.25	1.22
Equals Prepaid Cards - DofE				169.98	69.59
Equals Prepaid Cards - Admin				152.88	132.96
Equals Prepaid Cards - Netherlands				634.19	-
Adventure Island Account				51,079.19	56,977.40
GHISP Account				640.87	721.96
				146,547.34	**130,303.63**
Fixed Assets	3				
Buildings					
District Headquarters				19,095.00	19,095.00
Containers Stores 1				407.00	407.00
Containers Stores 2				2,363.92	2,363.92
				21,865.92	**21,865.92**
Equipment					
Office				600.00	600.00
Activity				5,000.00	5,000.00
				5,600.00	**5,600.00**
Thriftwood				**250.00**	**250.00**
Stock		**Qty**	**Cost**		
Adventure Island	4	0		-	4,450.00
Sealife		0		-	-
Golf		0		-	-
				-	**4,450.00**
Total Assets				**174,263.26**	**162,469.55**

The above statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities were approved by the Trustee Board and signed on their behalf by:





Louisa Golder
District Chair
Date: 06/09/2026

Lisa Jones
District Treasurer
Date: 06/09/2026

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities where relevant. Receipts are brought into account when cash is received, and payments are accounted for when payment is made. This basis of preparation is permitted to charities with an income of less than £250,000 and which are not companies, under section 113 of the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts comprise the funds under the control of the District Trustee Board, which are:

- the funds of the District Explorer Scout units, the District Scout Network and the Adventure Island account. These are currently directly administered by, or under the oversight of, the District Treasurer.
- the funds administered by the District Treasurer, including the general and designated building and equipment funds.
- the funds of the Gambia & Hornchurch International Scout Project (GHISP).

1. Bank Balances

The balances quoted are the amounts reconciled to the bank statements for the period covered by these accounts. These balances are reconciled against outstanding lodgments and payments not included in the statements at 31 March 2026.

2. Designated Funds

The trustees designate funds to the Operational Expenses fund in order to support the future of Scouting in the Hornchurch District. Six months operating costs, approximately £4,400 are held in the reserve account. In addition to this, the District designates funds to the Building and Equipment fund for the eventual replacement of the District Headquarters building (prefabricated) and District stores.

The funds of the Scout Active Support, the Explorer Scout Units, the Scout Network and Adventure Island Fundraising are regarded as designated funds of the Executive Council.

Designated Funds	**2025/26**	**2024/25**
Buildings and Equipment Fund	42,130.20	41,672.43
Operational Expenses Reserve Fund	4,400.00	4,300.00
Explorer Scouts Accounts	7,468.34	8,580.52
Adventure Island Funds	51,079.19	56,977.40
Equals Prepaid Cards	271.23	70.81
GHISP Funds	640.87	721.96
Netherlands Funds (2026 Trip)	23,102.33	2,915.00
	129,092.16	**115,238.12**

3. Fixed Assets

In the statement of assets and liabilities, fixed assets are included on the following basis of valuation:
Buildings: HQ at its cost in 1994/95; Container stores 1 at cost in 2004/05; Container stores 2 at cost in 2017/18.
Office and activity equipment: at the trustees' estimate of their current replacement cost. Thriftwood at its historic cost in 1957. Since the purchase, our share has increased due to the closure of Squirrels Heath District.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2026 - continued

4. Adventure Island Stock

Stock value is based on the cost price of the Adventure Island tickets. We now have no stock as we have ceased this fundraising opportunity.

	Qty	Cost	2025/26	2024/25
Adventure Island	0		-	4,450.00
Sealife	0		-	-
Golf	0		-	-
			-	**4,450.00**

5. Donations and Other Income

Donations/Other Income	**2025/26**	**2024/25**
Jack Petchey	(1,000.00)	1,300.00
CAF	-	391.70
Pro Deo Et Patricia Lodge	-	-
	(1,000)	**1,691.70**

The Jack Petchey donation for this year is negative as we had to return an unspent leader award of £1,000 a per the terms of the agreement.

Donations/Grants Paid	**2025/26**	**2024/25**
International (Netherlands Support)	1,000.00	-
International (GHISP Support)	500.00	500.00
	1,500.00	**500.00**

6. Paid Employment

We currently employ a District Administrator on a permanent contract. These costs are fully funded by membership fee.

We also employed a Development Officer on a 6-month fixed contract during the financial period. This was funded by Adventure Island fundraising.

7. Trustee's Expenses

The trustees are volunteers and do not receive remuneration for their services to the Council. Trustees received reimbursement of necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties amounting to £319.71 (2025 £447.43).

Attachments

Gambia & Hornchurch International Scout Project Accounts

Balance Sheet at 31st March 2026

			2025/26	2024/25
			£	£
Capital				
	General Fund			
		Balance at beginning of year	721.96	38,992.99
		Add: Net Income	994.32	40,890.37
		Less: Net Expenditure	-1,075.41	-79,161.40
		Balance at end of year	**640.87**	**721.96**
	Represented by:			
		Cash at bank	640.87	721.96
		Debtors	0.00	0.00
		Creditors	0.00	0.00
		Write off	0.00	0.00
		Total	**640.87**	**721.96**
			-0.00	0.00

Income & Expenditure Account - Year to 31st March 2026

				2025/26	2024/25
Income					
	Net income from fundraising events				
				386.29	18,864.75
			Subtotal	**386.29**	**18,864.75**
	Other income				
		Deposits		0.00	0.00
		General		189.58	15,409.78
		Donations/Grants		354.48	5,090.00
		Gift Aid		63.97	1,525.84
			Total	**994.32**	**40,890.37**
Expenditure					
	General - including project costs			1,075.41	79,161.40
			Total	**1,075.41**	**79,161.40**
Net Income/(Expenditure) for 2025/26				**-81.09**	**-38,271.03**

Adventure Island Accounts

Payments & Receipts	Notes	2025/26	2024/25
Receipts			
Ticket Sales		5,181.40	28,175.98
Mobile Phone		32.67	-
Other		1,918.17	366.35
Total Receipts		**7,132.24**	**28,542.33**
Payments			
Purchase of tickets		-	-
District Reserves		-	2,100.00
Mobile Phone		59.63	244.32
Access Fund (tfr to Current a/c)		-	500.00
District Activity (annual £2k)		-	2,000.00
Gifts		1,052.65	-
Postage		-	-
Other		11,918.17	436.44
Total payments		**13,030.45**	**5,280.76**
Excess (Payments)/Receipts		**(5,898.21)**	**23,261.57**
Bank Opening Balance 1 April		**56,977.40**	**33,715.76**
Sales of tickets		5,181.40	28,175.95
Donations		32.67	-
Purchase of tickets		-	-
District Reserves		-	(2,100.00)
Mobile phone costs		(59.63)	(244.32)
Disadvantage Fund grants		-	(500.00)
District Activity (annual £2k)		-	(2,000.00)
Gifts		(1,052.65)	-
Postage		-	-
Other		(10,000.00)	(69.99)
Bank Closing Balance 31 March		**51,079.19**	**56,977.40**

Stock of tickets @ cost price	4		
		2025/26	**2024/25**
Adventure Island		-	4,450.00
Sealife		-	-
Golf		-	-
		-	**4,450.00**

Statement of Profit & Loss		
Sale of tickets	5,181.40	28,175.98
Less:		
Opening Stock	4,450.00	29,170.00
Costs (excludes transfers to Admin/Reserves/Grants)	1,112.28	244.32
	5,562.28	**29,414.32**
Closing Stock	-	4,450.00
Cost of Sales	5,562.28	24,964.32
Profit/(Loss) for the year	**(380.88)**	**3,211.66**