Suffolk County Scout Council

Registered Charity No. 305682

Annual Report

Trustees' Annual Report, Annual Review, & Statement of Accounts

2025 / 2026

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Scouts Suffolk








HAVERHILL
SCOUTS & GUIDES
HQ









MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Hallowtree Activity Centre, Alnesbourne Priory, Nacton, Ipswich, IP10 0JP

Thursday 25th September 2025 at 7.45pm

PRESENT:

County Chair, County Lead Volunteer, County Treasurer, County Trustees and Members of the County Scout Council (as per the Suffolk Constitution).

Introduction by the Chair

a. **Welcome:** the meeting opened with Howard Blackett, County Chair, welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending especially Mark Brennan (Deputy Lieutenant of Suffolk), Ian Newbery (East of England Regional Lead Volunteer) and former chair, Peter Jones as well as Jonny Emin, treasurer attending on-line. Apologies noted from Catherine Holmes, County Commissioner for Suffolk Girlguiding and Keith Barber, Deputy Chair.

b. The meeting was confirmed as quorate with 40 Council members in attendance and with 6 guests.

c. **Apologies** for absence (42) were received from – Dave Abbott, Keith Barber, Fergus Barber, Peter Buckle, Steve Challis, Cathy Challis, Adele Chaplin, Richard Chaston, Alan Chilestone, Celia Comber, Jonathan Douse, Robin Farrar, Alfie Foster-Green, Leigh Foster-Green, Simon Free, Keith Gadsden, Ady Garnham, Rob Gloess, Jo Harley, Joss Holland, Phil Holland, Catherine Holmes, Charlotte Humphrey, Matthew Jordan, Matt Mills, Keven Mulley, Selina Noton, Mike Peck, Julie Penney, Michael Phillips, Gill Phillips, Nicholas Powell, Vince Quattrucci, Sam Rowland, Carole Seeley, Wally Shave, Lucy Waller, Mickey Wardlaw, Aubrey Webb, Stuart Whitmore, Catherine Winter, Stuart Wright.

Governance

a. **The Minutes of the previous County Annual General Meeting** held on 19th September 2024 **were APPROVED.**

b. The Council was asked to **APPROVE the recommendations of the Trustee Board** to adopt the model constitution for a Scout County.

The County Trustee Board proposed adoption of the model constitution for a Scout County from Chapter 5c of Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR). We will do this on an annual basis. A copy of the constitution was available for review and inspection prior to this meeting (online at POR website and an extract on the website).

This was **APPROVED** by the members.

c. **Financial Reporting Year dates**
Members were asked to note that the Council's Financial Year begins on 1st April in each year and ends on 31st March the following year.

Members **ACKNOWLEDGED** the dates.

d. Agree the maximum total number of members of the County Trustee Board

Following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states that Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12 trustees in total. This includes ex-officio, appointed and co-opted trustees. The County Scout Council must agree the total number of people on the Trustee Board. In line with recommendations, the Trustee Board recommended that there are no more than 12 trustees in total on the Board.

This was **APPROVED** by the members.

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

The Trustee Board recommended the quorum should be set at **25 people for future meetings** of the County Scout Council. The quorum for this 2025 AGM was agreed at last year's meeting at 20% of the CSC membership.

This was **APPROVED** by the members.

Review of 2024/2025

Receive and consider the **Annual Report & Accounts 2024/25:**

Gary Burden, County Lead Volunteer, presented the Annual Report and highlighted a number of points relating to his report:

- Taking the CLV role on from Howard - thanks for the good state the county was in when I took it on.
- Really focused on what's been achieved in the 12 months and our exceptional leadership that has happened throughout that time.
- Thanks to all for all the hard work that our teams have done and that being a volunteer in Scouts is really rewarding.
- It's a challenging role; the number and sorts of things that I've been asked to do, the people that I've been out to see, being out most weekends, most evenings, and most days there's a phone call for something or other.
- I'd like to thank everybody for the work that they've put in and the friendship they've offered me and the support that I've received.
- Report highlights activities from our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. We're looking to grow those areas and we have grown it this year in terms of the support we have from our adults and it's our adults that will lead to youth growth.
- Welcome to our newly appointed county youth lead, Charlie Everitt and also Ben Seaman who's taking on the '14-25' year-old lead role and we will start to grow this team even more.
- I look to this council to really help empower that growth through supporting their working efforts.

No questions were asked about the report.

Receive and consider the **Annual Statement of Accounts 2024/25**

Jon Emin, County Treasurer, joined on-line and provided the following commentary regarding the accounts:

The financial year to 31st March 2025 was a busier one than the previous year.

Income for the county rose significantly to £173,000 (2024 - £113,000) due in the main to more events taking place but also to increased membership levels contributing towards the annual county subscription fee.

Our total expenditure, which includes all costs of running our events and activities and central expenses came in at £147,000, a similar level to last year.

In terms of central county costs notable items included: -

- Insurances – £6,000
- Loan repayments - £5,000
- Salary/HMRC - £10,000
- Contributions to CMAT and Training teams - £5,000

We are delighted to advise that we have now fully repaid the original loan of £50,000 the county took out to assist with the purchase of Bradfield.

After expenditure the county recorded a surplus for the year of £27,000.

It must be noted however that this surplus does not take into account the sums county have put aside during the year into restricted or designated funds.

During the year the following transfers were made:-

- £5,000 to the World Scout Jamboree Fund
- £10,000 to Young Persons Inclusion Fund
- £5,000 to Fixed Asset/Stores Replacement Fund
- £7,000 to Cub Scout Events Fund

Our total bank balances at the year-end reduced from £418,000 to £313,000. This sum included £79,000 of annual subscriptions due to be paid to HQ. Additionally of this total, £105,000 were designated funds and £33,000 were restricted funds.

A thank you to all who provided their financial information in a timely manner and to Ian Brookman, our examiner, for pulling the consolidated numbers together.

No questions were asked about the report.

Making Appointments

a. The County Lead Volunteer stated the board's recommendation that **Howard Blackett** be appointed as **County Chair** (3 years) - Recommendation was ***APPROVED***.

b. Chair recommended the appointment of **Ceejay Abbott** as the **County Treasurer** (3 years) - ***APPROVED***.

c. The following people remain appointed to sit on the County Trustee Board (3 years left).

Jonny Emin Colin Winter Keith Barber Gareth Cox

d. Chair noted that the that the County Lead Volunteer (Gary Burden) and the County Youth Lead (Charlie Everitt) are ex-officio members of the Trustee Board.

e. Chair thanked the Trustees, and the Trustee Board Administrator, for their work during the year and in particular, Selina Noton who has stood down.

f. Chair noted that **co-opted members** (if any) of the County Trustee Board are appointed by the County Trustee Board at one of their meetings and not at the AGM.
Paul Newby (Chair Wolsey District) enquired about the role of the Secretary which had disappeared. Chair noted the role of the Trustee Board Administrator may be co-opted as a trustee in due course to cover the tasks required.

County President & Vice President(s)

g. Chair reminded the County Scout Council that the County President is the Lord Lieutenant for Suffolk.

h. Chair advised that Keven Mulley, former County Commissioner and County Treasurer is proposed as a Vice President and sought Council approval. This was ***APPROVED***

i. Jon Emin proposed the appointment of **Ian Brookman as Independent Examiner**. This was ***APPROVED.***

Election of County Scout Council representatives on the Council of The Scout Association

j. **Keith Barber** nominated to serve as a **Member of the Council of the Scout Association** (1 year left)**.** This was ***APPROVED***

k. **Charlie Everitt** nominated to serve as a **18-24 Member of the Council of the Scout Association (**3 years). This was ***APPROVED***

It was confirmed that both of Suffolk's National Council Representatives are 'invited to attend' County Trustee Board meetings.

Close of Meeting by the Chair of the Trustee Board.

The Regional Commissioner, Ian Newbery was invited to address the meeting.

He was very pleased to meet people and noted that it had been a very tough year with the fallout from the Great Orme enquiry. England was now at 99.5% compliant with the required

training and it had been a phenomenal job undertaken by all to get to that level. He noted that it was restoring the faith in parents about the safety of the young people when they come and take part in activities with us. The new electronic systems are bedding down but there is still some way to go. Census numbers in Suffolk were a little disappointing but reflected the national trend. The new strategy will focus on Beavers and Cubs and hopefully boost numbers for next year. He explained that new Squirrels section could be a good starting point for new adults joining in as they move through the sections with their children although some adults may choose to help with another age group. We know we need more volunteers and this may be a useful starting point. He thanked Gary for taking on the CLV role and hoped to see good growth and the planned projects coming to fruition shortly. He thanked everyone for all that they do and continue to do.

Mark Brennan, **Deputy Lieutenant of Suffolk** was representing Lady Claire, Countess of Euston, Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk and our President as unfortunately, she was unable attend. She sent her best wishes to all and thanks for the amazing work that is done for the young people of this of this county. It really, really is amazing stuff.

He was impressed by the level of commitment that everyone puts in. He noted that it was especially nice to see one or two younger people in this year's audience. There are a lot of organisations out there that just seem to be going one way and it's quite sad, but it's really quite nice to see some younger people here.

He remarked that it was his second time at our AGM and that he was really quite curious now because there's a lot of things that he doesn't really know about the about the scouts within the county. He expressed a wish to 'pop-in' and see some of the groups doing some activities. It would be great to see Scouting happen.

He closed by thanking the members for what they do and inviting him to the meeting.

Gary Burden, County Lead Volunteer, added some closing remarks highlighting some future events.

Some options have been explored with the National Energy Alliance, who asked for interest in a sponsored walk. Suffolk has now got involved as some network members from Bury St Edmunds took the lead and have a draft design of a badge. They've got in touch with the NEA who asked if we would like to do some more with other scout groups across the across the country who could be interested in also doing that. We now have about 9 counties looking to us for support for that. The Explorers and Network are putting together a series of fact sheets that leaders will be able to take out to their sections and deliver activities as part of their programmes. It would consist of going for a walk, having a hot chocolate and raising some money for another organisation. If every member in Suffolk Scouts raises £10, we'll be looking to raise about £30,000 for them.

We attended the Suffolk Show and he has developed a good working relationship with Mark van der Lande through their interest in young people and getting youth organisations out doing 'stuff'. This year saw some of our young people get presented with their top awards

from the Lord Lieutenant and next year is going to be more of a parade. Orwell will deal with the Scout stand and we will have our top award holders that have been presented their top awards in the year will be invited to come and attend and celebrate their success and that will hopefully lift what we're doing as an organisation.

Next year is also the Squirrel section 5th birthday party. Some young people joining in will have only just been born when squirrels came into concept, so that's a good idea.

The Beaver's 40th year coincides also along with the Ipswich Gang show. There are two expeditions to Italy in planning for the Explorer Belt. A full programme with the County Water Activities team for Wet Weekend, Mere day and sailing activities. The CMAT team have already booked two weekends and a full training weekend for adults.

Leaders are coming forward asking to organise a cooking competition, a hiking competition, a shooting competition.

We look forward to all those in the next 12 months. Thank you!

The Chair thanked the CLV for his remarks, the members for attending and noted the next AGM was planned for 17th September 2026.

The formal meeting closed at 8.14 pm

Awards: The County Lead Volunteer presented the following awards with citation where available *(presentations in **bold**).*

Long Service Awards

- **5 Years**
  Jonny Emin
  Ella Clark
- **15 Years**
  Rob Gloess
- **40 Years**
  Peter Jarvis
  Jenny Roe
  Brian Roe
- **50 Years**
  Max Raffe

SUFFOLK COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT, ANNUAL REVIEW

and STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2025/26

PRESIDENT	Mark Pendlington, HM Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk
VICE PRESIDENTS	Keven Mulley
TRUSTEES	
Ex-officio Trustees	Gary Burden, County Lead Volunteer Charlie Everitt, County Youth Lead
Appointed Trustees *(until AGM 2028)*	Howard Blackett, County Chair Ceejay Abbott, County Treasurer Jon Emin Colin Winter Keith Barber Gareth Cox
Co-opted Trustees *(until AGM 2026)*	Peter Jarvis Carl Gloess
Bankers	Barclays Bank
Independent Examiner	I.C. Brookman F.C.A. Pakenham Accounting & Consultancy Chartered Accountants Bury St Edmunds, IP31 2LS
Charity Registration No	305682
Contact Address	Suffolk County Scout Office Hallowtree Scout Activity Centre, Alnesbourne Priory, Nacton, Ipswich IP10 0JP Tel: 01473 711678 Email: county.admin@suffolkscouts.org.uk

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

The 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.

CONSTITUTION

The County is a trust established under its rules, which are common to all Scouts. The County Scout Council has adopted the 'Model Constitution' based on the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association. It is available on the HQ POR - Chapter 5 link in its latest version.

TRUSTEE SELECTION

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

The County Trustee Board, the members of which are "the Charity Trustees" of the Scout County, an educational charity. As charity trustees, they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping of proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The County Trustee Board exists to support the County Teams and the Districts and Groups within the County.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The County Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the County 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:

- Reputation
- Finance
- buildings
- property
- equipment

The County has sufficient Personal, Buildings and Contents Insurance in place to mitigate against loss.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of the County Scout Council are to support Districts and Leaders within the Scout County.

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of balanced training based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

The Council is indebted to the Development Grants Board of the Scout Association and

individuals for their continued financial support.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

An increasingly varied programme of Scouting activities has been implemented at Group, District and County levels.

The Annual Review 2025– 2026 on pages 10 to 27 forms part of this report.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The County's current reserves policy is now £50k plus 1 year's general fund of County expenditure and is set at £99,490. It is anticipated this figure will rise next year as general fund expenditure is planned to increase.

MATERIAL ASSETS

Capital assets are as detailed in the Accounts. Material assets include:

Bradfield Park Camp Site

The County has joint ownership of the Camp Site with Bury St. Edmunds and Sudbury Districts in accordance with the Bradfield Park constitution.

Hardwick Park Camp Site

Although the legal ownership is with Bury St. Edmunds District, in the event of any future sale, the proceeds are to be divided equally between the County Scout Council and Bury St. Edmunds District.

Other Assets

Training and camping equipment is stored at Hallowtree Activity Centre and Bradfield Park. Watersport and climbing equipment is stored in areas managed by the activity team leads.

STAFF

The County has a part-time Administrator. All other members are unpaid volunteers.

BENEFIT STATEMENT MADE BY THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.





Howard Blackett, County Chair

Ceejay Abbott, County Treasurer

09 September 2026

ANNUAL REVIEW 2025-2026

Programme (All Section Activities)

The last year has seen a variety of scouting events across the County. Cubs, Scouts and Explorers have been active with Water Activities, CMAT activities and the Cub day at Thriftwood. Considerable effort has been made by a range of volunteers to support the planning of the 2026 Suffolk Punch event. At the current time there are vacancies for lead volunteers to support county activities for Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scout sections. Successful recruitment of volunteers to support these sections would positively benefit the future provision of programme events.

Colin Winter
Programme Lead



A significant birthday event for Squirrel, Beaver & Cub sections

A thousand young people and adult volunteers from Wolsey, Orwell and Deben Districts came together at Jimmy's Farm, just outside Ipswich, for a vibrant celebration marking the birthdays of Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs. The event brought the full energy of Scouting to life, filling the farm with colour, excitement and a strong sense of community spirit.

From the moment groups arrived, the whole site buzzed with anticipation. Young people headed straight off to explore the farm animals and throw themselves into a range of hands-on activities. The den-building area quickly became a firm favourite — wonderfully noisy, full of laughter, and a brilliant showcase of teamwork. Watching a team of fifteen Cubs proudly marching past with a huge log on their way to build their den was quite a sight. Scouts in their natural environment, thriving and loving every moment.

But the celebration was about more than birthdays. It was a chance to recognise the growth, confidence and curiosity that Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs develop through Scouting. For many of the youngest members, it was their first large scale event, and their excitement was infectious.

Events like this highlight the strength of Scouting across Suffolk: districts working together, leaders giving their time, and young people discovering new experiences in a safe, welcoming environment. Jimmy's Farm provided the perfect backdrop — a place where adventure, nature and learning come together.

As the day drew to a close, the weather turned, prompting an impromptu campfire sing-along while everyone gathered for the cake cutting. The tired but happy faces told the story. It was a celebration of milestones, memories and the shared joy of being part of something bigger.

For the Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs of Wolsey, Orwell and Deben, this birthday party will be remembered for a long time!

Issy Alway
Wolsey Programme Team

International

WSJ Poland 2027



I am delighted to report on the progress of the Suffolk Sunrise Unit as we prepare for the 26th World Scout Jamboree in Poland in 2027.

Our leadership team consists of:

Unit Leader: Juliet Grimes (1st Eye Scout Group)

Deputy Unit Leader: Karen Pettitt (Mildenhall Scout Group)

Craig Finch (5th Woodbridge Sea Scouts)

Cat Dew (1st Eye Scout Group)

Following a highly competitive selection day at the end of October 2025, we selected 36 young people from across Suffolk to form Unit 61. We received over 120 applications, making the selection process incredibly challenging due to the exceptionally high standard of applicants.

Throughout the selection weekend, participants took part in a range of activities designed to assess teamwork, resilience, communication and problem-solving skills. These included interviews, tent pitching, obstacle races, paracord bracelet making and campfire challenges. The enthusiasm, ability and Scout spirit shown by all applicants made for an inspiring day.

At the end of November, the unit came together for our Launch Day. The young people immediately began building friendships and working as a team through a series of Taskmaster-style challenges. They also started designing ideas for our unit badge, giving everyone an opportunity to contribute to the identity of the unit.

Our first training camp took place in February at Bradfield Park. The focus of the weekend was adventure, teamwork and developing patrols. Everyone completed the Squirrel Scout Adventure Badge activities, enjoyed cooking in patrols—including preparing a traditional Polish-style Hunter's Casserole—and spent the evening around the campfire with a lively singalong karaoke session. During the weekend, the unit also worked together to agree and adopt our Unit Code of Conduct, setting clear expectations and values for the journey ahead.

In April, we held our second training camp at Mildenhall Scout Headquarters. During this weekend, every participant successfully completed the Young Leaders' Scheme Module A, giving them valuable skills to support younger sections within Scouting. The unit also enjoyed half a day on the water, taking part in kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding activities, building confidence and teamwork in a new environment.

A highlight of the weekend was the presentation of our UK Contingent scarves, marking an

important milestone as we continue our preparations for Poland. Once again, patrol cooking formed a key part of the programme, with each patrol planning a menu, shopping at a local supermarket within a budget, and preparing their own meals. The young people also had the opportunity to make and enjoy traditional Polish pierogi, providing another connection to our host country.

Looking ahead, the unit will be attending Suffolk Punch, where we will be supporting the hosting of Beaver and Cub activity days as well as taking part in a range of fundraising opportunities to help support our journey to the World Scout Jamboree.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all the volunteers who have supported the unit so far. From those who gave their time during the selection weekend, to leaders, assessors, activity instructors, camp volunteers, parents and supporters, your encouragement, commitment and enthusiasm have helped make the first stages of this adventure such a success. We are excited to continue our preparations over the coming months and look forward to everything that lies ahead on our journey to Poland in 2027.

Juliet Grimes
WSJ Unit Leader

Duke of Edinburgh Scheme & Top Awards

Wow! What an enthralling year it has been for Suffolk Scouts in the Top Awards & DofE Team. There has been a range of incredible expeditions of hikes and cycling at Bronze, Silver & Gold DofE levels. These were inclusive of 10 groups achieving a total of 32 Bronze Awards; 6 groups achieving a total of 14 Silver Awards; and 3 groups achieving an awesome total of 10 Gold Awards. This is an amazing total of 56 awards that our young people completed.

There were 4 young people who achieved their King's Scout Award and attended the 'Day of Celebration and Achievement' at Windsor Castle in May 2026. Six young people who achieved their Gold DofE Award attended the Gold Award celebration event at Buckingham Palace in May 2026. This is an amazing representation for Suffolk Scouts!

Our young people continue to surprise us as they continue to show commitment and dedication to achieving their awards with a number deciding to continue from Bronze through Silver to Gold. There has been a wide range of activities to cover volunteering, skills and volunteering some that were included were Hip Hop; papercraft; clay shooting; and communication covering hearing impairment.

The Top Awards Team is growing in strength as well and has seen an eclectic group of volunteers coming together under the guidance of Ralph Hansby, Team Leader. Their main aim is to support the young people to achieve their awards. We would like to take this opportunity to show our appreciation to all the mentors, leaders, supervisors and assessors who continue to work diligently. Their main purpose is to support the young people to achieve their goals.

Please can we take this opportunity to remind all that it is tragic to have to tell any scout that their Scout awards will not cover their DofE and their hard work will have to be repeated. Please take every chance to encourage them to register on the Suffolk Scouts DofE website

at https://dofe.suffokscouts.org.uk.

We would like to remind all that when our young people are participating in DofE, they can complete this in conjunction with the relevant Top Awards. There are logbooks for the Top Awards and with cross-referencing, there is only a small amount of extra work left to complete to achieve their Platinum, Diamond and King Scouts awards.

If any young person or willing volunteer requires any further information about DofE or Top Awards, please visit the county website or contact us at ralph.hansby@suffolkscouts.org.uk or mary.tucker@suffolkscouts.org.uk

Ralph Hansby & Mary Tucker
D of E Coordinators

Growth & Volunteering Development

Growth

As last year, the number of Young People has reduced over the year. For the 2025 Census we had 5921 YP and this year that has reduced by 5% to 5640

A breakdown by Section shows that

- Squirrels up 22%
- Beavers down 3%
- Cubs down 7%
- Scouts down 8%
- Explorers unchanged

For Network the method of recording has changed and over 18s are automatically recorded as Network (and as Adults)

A breakdown by District showed that three Districts grew their numbers for Young People with Lowestoft up 5%, Stowmarket up 6% and Sudbury up 2%.

Comparison with previous years for adults and the overall figures is difficult due to both the changes to how Network members were recorded and some figures seem to have reverted to counting Roles rather than Individuals who may well have more than one role!

The “official figures” show that we had

Section Teams – up 16%
Young Leaders—up 2%
Total Section Teams—up 13%
Management etc -up 72%

Leading to overall Adults up 38% which equates to an extra 768 people! - if you know where they are, please let me know!

Census January 2026 - Summary - Suffolk									
Name	Squirrels	Beavers	Cubs	Scouts	Explorers	YP 4-18	Network Members	Total Adults *	Total
Suffolk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	158	158
Bury St Edmunds	71	228	291	346	70	1006	15	347	1353
Deben	39	220	268	276	125	928	2	385	1313
Lowestoft	29	110	162	140	49	490	18	259	749
Orwell	18	146	186	245	57	652	13	364	1016
Stowmarket	53	174	193	191	97	708	-	333	1041
Sudbury	37	212	263	227	100	839	12	385	1224
Waveney Valley	4	78	99	90	27	298	1	142	440
Wolsey	36	179	223	205	76	719	-	397	1116
Totals	**287**	**1347**	**1685**	**1720**	**601**	**5640**	**61**	**2770**	**8410**
Change from 2025	+52	-42	-129	-154	+1	-272	+52	+768	+496
% change from 2025	+22%	-3%	-7%	-8%	+0%	-5%	+578%	+38%	+6%
Change from 2024	+108	-76	-264	-194	+9	-417	+55	+694	+277
% change from 2024	+60%	-5%	-14%	-10%	+2%	-7%	+917%	+33%	+3%
Change from 2021 (5 years)	+287	+391	+266	+417	+155	+1516	-100	+560	+2076
% change from 2021	-	+41%	+19%	+32%	+35%	+37%	-62%	+25%	+33%

*** Total Adults is the number of adult volunteers plus the Scout Network members**

Name	Dreys	Colonies	Packs	Troops	Explorer Units	Networks
Suffolk	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bury St Edmunds	5	13	14	13	4	1
Deben	2	15	15	14	7	1
Lowestoft	2	7	7	7	1	1
Orwell	2	13	14	13	5	1
Stowmarket	4	9	9	8	8	1
Sudbury	2	13	13	14	7	1
Waveney Valley	1	6	6	6	3	1
Wolsey	3	13	13	13	5	1
Totals	**21**	**89**	**91**	**88**	**40**	**8**
Change from 2025	+4	+2	-6	-3	+0	+1
% change from 2025	+24%	+2%	-6%	-3%	+0%	+14%
Change from 2024	+8	+0	-7	-4	+1	+3
% change from 2024	+62%	+0%	-7%	-4%	+3%	+60%
Change from 2021 (5 years)	+21	+89	-8	-3	-2	+1
% change from 2021	-	-	-8%	-3%	-5%	+14%

Waiting lists are better news with an overall reduction from 1180 in 2025 to 1089 (-8%) this year

Waiting Lists Summary					
	2026	2025	2024	2023	2020
Squirrels	422	420	336	316	0
%	0%	25%			
Beavers	270	325	372	390	336
%	-17%	-13%			
Cubs	273	269	194	191	119
%	1%	39%			
Scouts	124	166	149	95	90
%	-25%	11%			
Overall Total	1089	1180	1051	992	545
%	-8%	12%			

Volunteering Development

At County and District levels, the Volunteering Development Teams make sure all volunteers have a positive and enjoyable volunteering experience. They make it easy for people to join in and learn new skills.

Over the year local Volunteering Development Teams have been

- Attracting and welcoming new volunteers to District and Group teams and ensuring volunteers are well supported
- Helping volunteers with learning:
- Recognising and appreciate volunteers for their brilliant work, formally and informally.

The new Membership System allows Groups to advertise and attract new volunteers and helps to smooth the joining process. If you need some help on recruiting a good place to start is https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/growing-scouts/ or contact me at keith.gleen@suffolkscouts.org.uk.

However, **please remember** that once a new volunteer is on the membership system they only have **30 days** to log on to the system, complete their personal details, "sign" the Declaration and provide (where required) the names of two referees. They will also need to have applied for a DBS and completed any mandatory training within the same period.

With the majority of learning now available online on the Learning System, Jenny Roe and her team at County level have concentrated on those face-to-face learning modules that remain. This includes First Response and now all adults in a section team require a valid First Response. Those who were Section Assistants and became Section Team Members on the Membership System, have until November 2026 to complete First Response

The Membership System allows anyone to nominate someone for an Award. The process is straightforward to use. The decision to approve the following awards is done locally via 'My Membership':

- The Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service
- The Award for Merit
- The Bar to the Award for Merit
- The Silver Acorn

If you need advice on Awards see https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/learning-development-and-awards/awards-and-recognition/good-service-awards/ or contact one of our County Award Nominations Supporters, Peter Jarvis (peter.jarvis@suffolkscouts.org.uk).

Keith Gleen
County Leadership Team - Volunteering Development Lead

Communications and IT

Over the previous year, the County IT Team have completed integrations with the new HQ membership database, which now links in with the broader IT systems. An updated version of the County Directory has been released, which integrates into the new HQ membership system. New members of Suffolk Scouts can now request their own email/M365 account, which is checked and validated against the HQ system.

Looking forward, the team will integrate custom reporting tools into the new Directory, supporting administrators in the County with the tasks. We continue to provide support across County systems and websites, ensuring tools remain up-to-date and available to all members.

Rob Gloess
County IT Manager

Learning *(formerly Training)*

I would like to thank all my team for their hard work during all the changes to scout Leader Learning which still isnt complete in that we don't yet have the online learning available for 'branching out'. This has caused us a number of problems due to people not understanding this.

The new membership system has also caused some confusion with people not understanding that they need to register to complete the requirements for the woodbadge if they wish to complete it. We have been very pleased with the number of leaders who still wish to complete their woodbadge and the county team have been very pleased to assist with validation when districts have been struggling with this.

We have run a number of modules that are still required but take up has been quite poor, the most popular being module 38.

First response training continues to take up a lot of our time with courses being run on a district basis as we have found this is the best way to catch people. There is always the option for people from other districts to fill any spare places when they are available. We

have run day-time courses, evening courses both face to face and with a trainer online. We have also had a number of people do the 'blended module' with Essex and this year, one of the trainers is running our own first blended course.

We have a number of extra trainers both as a result of a course we ran and also people coming forward with the necessary qualifications and a number of paramedics who are involved in scouting locally have come forward.

We were very sad at the death of Aubrey Webb earlier this year as he had been doing first-aid training since it became part of scout training; he will be sadly missed.

From an activity permit point of view we have been trying to increase the number of assessors across various activities that we have happening in the county. This is a relatively slow project due to the training needed for some of them. Progress is however being made with financial support from county and districts and also finding leaders who already had the relevant qualifications needed.

Jenny Roe
Volunteering Development Team - County Training Lead / MAPS

THE ACTIVITY TEAMS

County Mountain Activities Team (CMAT)

Over the past 12 months, CMAT has delivered a diverse and impactful programme of adventurous activities, training and development opportunities for both youth members and adult volunteers. Several hundred young people have undertaken an activity and 100 plus leaders involved support events or being trained and acquiring skills permits.

Note that our core team arranging and delivering events away for an event activity is less than 10 people –some extra HELP is required please!

Key Highlights:

Leader Development: CMAT ran several training weekends including the Leader Training & Hill Walking (Feb 6-8, 2026) Thornthwaite in Nidderdale. Leader Assessment Weekend (Mar 13-15, 2026), at Bethesda in North Wales supporting volunteers in gaining hillwalking permits and expedition leadership skills. Especially memorable as the last time we ran an assessment weekend there it was during the 'beast from the east' in 2019. The conditions though challenging were slightly more benign.

Youth Expeditions: Events such as Hill Walking & Rock Climbing (10-12 October 2025) Gradbach Scout Campsite in the Peak District and Combined Hill Walking and Climbing Weekend (April 17 – 19 2026) Hebden Hey Scout Centre Calderdale near Hebden Bridge provided young people with hands-on experience in mountain environments, promoting resilience and teamwork

First Aid Training: A dedicated 16–hour first aid training weekend in November 2025 was organised for volunteers involved in adventurous activities, focusing on emergency response

in remote and wild country settings. This training ensures leaders are equipped to manage incidents confidently and safely. This is arranged by CMAT funded by CMAT, County and individual contributions

CMAT have continued to support climbing tower activity and D of E groups when requested (but note we are a small team). The relationship and support from county are noted and very welcome and help with future planning is something CMAT are keen to build on.

Future activity

- Climbing walking weekend Staffordshire at Gradbach campsite in October
- Wilderness and Wild Country First Aid 16-hour two-day course booked for last weekend in November as CMAT continues to be a vital part of Suffolk Scouts, fostering outdoor skills, leadership, and safety across all age groups.
- Leader training Weekend February 2027 venue to be confirmed .
- Permit Assessment weekend the lakes March 2027
- Summer Expedition The Lakes at Derwentwater August 2027

Andy Black
CMAT Co-ordinator

Water Activities Team

County water activities continued to provide valuable, varied opportunities for young people across the year, with strong joint Scout and Guide events, regular training activity, and distinctive offshore sailing experiences.

The weather was much kinder to us for Wet Weekend 25 at Ramsholt on the Deben. Numbers were lower than usual, so we modified the programme by offering sailing and yachting on one day and paddle-sports on the second. This worked well for the 66 Scouts and Guides who attended, and a great time was had by all. Guide numbers were down this year, but this is something the Guides are addressing: six times as many came to Wet Weekend 26, and an account of that weekend will appear in next year's report. This joint weekend is a great event, especially for anyone who has never been in a yacht before.

The Thorpeness Meare day was quite the opposite, with a full house of 140 Scouts and Guides having a fabulous time getting wet and having fun. We used rowing boats and canoes to explore the Meare, then organised water games in the afternoon.

These two activities are very significant in the annual calendar because they are joint Scout and Guide activities, and I believe that shared programme benefits both organisations. My thanks go to the teams who organise them and bring the expertise and equipment that make the events possible. These activities are special, and we need them to flourish.

Great water activities continue to take place regularly at both Lackford Lake and Oulton Broad. The teams who operate them not only offer young people the chance to get on the water, but also provide training programmes that help them gain water-based qualifications. Our thanks go to all involved.

We must not forget Adventures Offshore, which operates two 56-foot Oyster yachts out of Ipswich. These are large, go-anywhere vessels that give young people a unique opportunity to experience offshore sailing. Recently, on the Stour, I witnessed a crew from one of these yachts being instructed in man-overboard techniques.

Looking ahead, the priority is to maintain the strength of these activities, encourage more young people from both organisations to take part, and continue supporting the volunteers whose skills, time and equipment make the programme possible.

David Clements.
County Water Activities Team Lead.

Bradfield Park Scout Campsite

I always seem to start my yearly report on the campsite in the same way by saying that it's been a very good year; well this year has been no exception. We have had a really good year where a number of weekends have seen the campsite full to capacity with over 400 youngsters and leaders having a fabulous time. We have split one of the larger sites in two to accommodate more campers.

The activities have been very well used, especially the climbing tower. It has been very pleasing to see that the groups in the two districts have been using the campsite during the week for wide games and campfires plus the activities.

Work is ongoing keeping the campsite in good order. The Community Volunteer Service serves us well, especially as it is mostly Phil Holland who looks after the campsite. We now have lighting in the sheds which is a godsend. We have received a grant of £10,000 towards the cost of a new tractor this was very much appreciated however we are seeking more grants so we can purchase said tractor.

We were grateful to Alan Cummins for his donation of air rifles and archery equipment. It has been a tremendous help

Vincent Quattrucci was proposed and voted as vice chair in accordance with the revised constitution.

Bradfield needs younger volunteers and I know this is hard to believe, but our stalwarts are fast approaching 80 years of age. We are still looking for campsite wardens, mainly to work at weekends to oversee the campers on site. These volunteer roles come with free camping for you and providing all adults have a DBS, your family as well.

We are also keen to welcome any volunteers who have a few hours to spare on a Thursday to join the working party. Please help if you can.

Bradfield would not be the wonderful campsite it is without Phil Holland, Chris Richardson and the rest of the committee who work tirelessly to support the campsite. I thank them all

Jenny Mullan
Bradfield Park Chair

County Trustee Board

The current County Board of Trustees has had a busy and productive year. I am pleased to report that the Board meets regularly and deals with relevant matters in a timely and efficient manner.

To expedite what needs to be done three sub-committees have been formed as follows:

- **Policy** – charged with updating relevant policies and presenting them to the Board for approval
- **Grants and Awards'** Panel – charged with considering applications for grants/awards and making the necessary recommendations to the Board for approval
- **Store working party** – charged with negotiating with the Hallowtree management committee on behalf of the Board

The Board welcomes HQ's recent initiative in providing support/guidance to trustees at all levels of scouting.

Board meetings

The Board meets routinely on a quarterly basis (March/June/September/December) with additional meetings, for example to prepare for the AGM, scheduled if/when required. All routine meetings are in person/via Teams link held at Hallowtree; additional meetings are online.

Quarterly Board meetings have continued to follow a routine/established agenda which as follows:

i. Welcomes, apologies & declarations/conflicts of interest
ii. Minutes of the previous meeting & matters arising
iii. County Lead Volunteer report (including safeguarding and safety matters)
iv. Finance (Expenditure against budget; bank statements)
v. Risk assessment register
vi. Other matters of relevance e.g. County Events

This pattern of meetings and agenda items enables the County Board of Trustees to execute its duties of good governance by focussing on oversight and strategy rather than operational issues, which are the responsibility of the CLV, Gary Burden and his team, and to meet its obligations as laid out in Chapter 5 of the Scouts' POR (Local governance and finance of Groups, Districts, Counties).

Policies and supporting guidelines

The County Board of Trustees has reviewed/established a number of policies together with supporting guidelines. The following, which are accessible via the Suffolk Scouts' website, are now in place:

Policies		
Policy name	***Date approved***	***Review date***
Data Protection	June 2026	June 2027
Events	Feb 2025	March 2027
Financial (incorporating reserves policy)	March 2026	March 2027
Inclusion Fund (incl. WSJ, international and domestic events)	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Privacy	June 2026	June 2027
Trustee recruitment policy	March 2026	March 2027
Additional forms/guidelines		
Events policy supporting information		
Planning, organising, delivering county events	Feb 2025	March 2027
Inclusion fund policy supporting information		
Suffolk Scouts inclusion fund quick guidance	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Suffolk Scouts Inclusion Fund Adult Financial Support Application Form	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Suffolk Scouts Inclusion Fund Young Persons' Financial Support Application Form	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Terms of reference for the Suffolk Scouts Inclusion Fund Award Panel	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Fund raising instructions	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Suffolk Scouts - Donor Declaration (Adult)	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Suffolk Scouts - Donor Declaration (Young Person)	Sept 2025	Sept 2026

Finally

Members of the Board participated in a review process in January/February 2026. The purpose of this review was to give members of the Board the opportunity to reflect upon the efficacy of the Board itself and their own contribution to the Board. This will continue to be done on an annual basis.

I would like to acknowledge the support of all members of the County Board of Trustees for their commitment to Suffolk Scouts and the excellent/ongoing administrative support we all receive on a routine basis from our County Administrator, Carl Gloess.

Howard Blackett
County Chair

COUNTY LEAD VOLUNTEER'S REPORT

This report covers April 2025 to March 2026 and reflects another strong year for Suffolk Scouts. Across the county, our adult volunteers, trustees, young leaders and supporters have been the driving force behind Scouting, helping thousands of young people gain confidence, friendship, adventure and skills for life.

As County Lead Volunteer, I have seen first-hand the value of Scouting in Suffolk: the achievements of our young people, the commitment of around 2,500 adult volunteers, and the wider social impact created by people who give their time freely to support families, communities and public services. Serving as CLV continues to be both a privilege and a responsibility. A highlight for me is the part I play in strengthening relationships that keep Suffolk Scouts publicly visible and well supported, including working with the Suffolk Show, National Grid, Sizewell C, Rolls-Royce, SUEZ, Abellio Greater Anglia, the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, the Siddiqa Mosque and Community Centre, our District and County Councils.

Personal highlights this year have included visiting sections, groups, District events and county activities; meeting young people achieving top awards and taking on new challenges; and seeing volunteers give their time, energy and care to deliver safe, inclusive and ambitious programmes.

We have also continued to collaborate with other uniformed youth organisations, leading joint activities such as Wet Weekend, opening National Governing Body courses such as archery to external volunteers, and enabling schools and organisations to use Hallowtree and Bradfield Park for Duke of Edinburgh's Award and wider programme delivery.

Membership, Growth and Awards

Our total membership remains just over 8300 people. The number of small sections (less than 11 members) reduced by 5. The quality of Scouting provision demonstrably improved with 1079 top awards being achieved, an increase of 51 on previous year.

In the reporting period we saw the opening of 7 New Squirrel sections, one new Beaver section, one new Scout section and one new Explorer Unit (some after the January census data cut so do not appear in these figures).

	Youth Members 4-18	Network Members	Total Adults	Total
Totals	**5640**	**61**	**2770**	**8410**

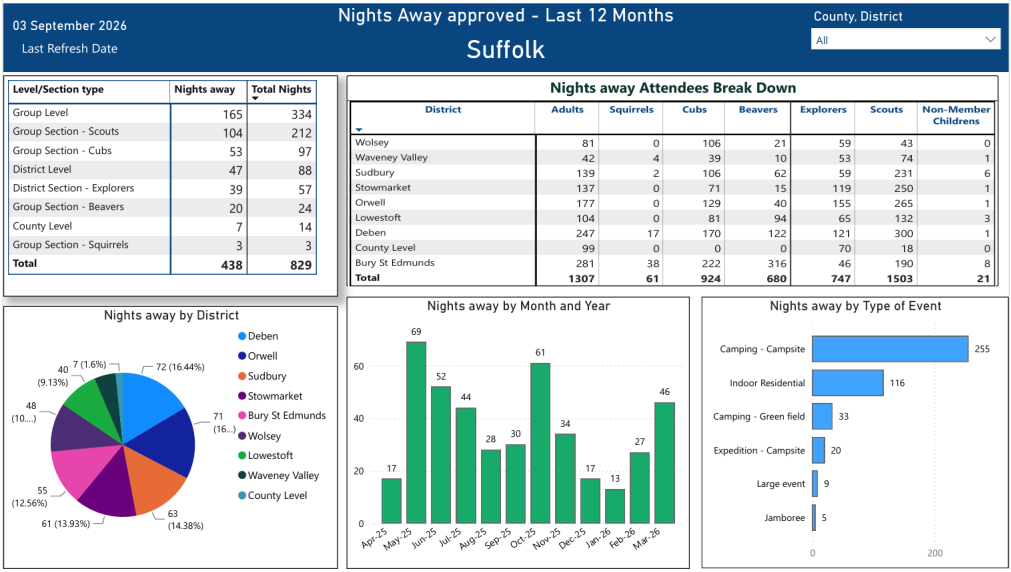
Accident and Incident Reporting

The 12 month report period saw 21 incidents that met our reporting threshold, this included 1 near miss report and no critical or major incidents. Data analysis gives that injuries tend to occur during free time, of the reportable incidents also give that 3 occurred before meetings started, 3 were exiting illnesses or conditions and 7 were slips, trips or falls on the same level. What is apparently obvious is that apart from one skiing incident none of the

reportable incidents related to permit based or adventurous activities. This indicates that the controls in place are adequate.



Our data tools give that, our members spent 5243 nights pn residential experiences in the reporting period. This does not include international experiences which are not recorded centrally



District Highlights; Each District has contributed strongly to our county priorities and to the national Skills for Life objectives. The following list captures selected highlights from across Suffolk.

Lowestoft: supports 490 young people, 18 Network members and 259 adults. Top awards increased from 95. With achievement across the sections and four King's Scout Awards.

Waveney Valley: supports 298 young people, 1 Network member and 142 adults. Top awards increased from 55 to 58, showing continued section-level achievement and sustained support for young people progressing towards their highest awards.

Deben: supports 928 young people, 2 Network members and 385 adults. Top awards rose from 167 to 220 reflecting strong progression through the sections and a sustained focus on youth achievement.

Orwell: supports 652 young people, 13 Network members and 364 adults. 133 Top awards were presented, continuing to demonstrate strong achievement across the sections, supported by committed volunteers.

Wolsey**:** supports 719 young people and 397 adults. Top awards increased from 101 to 132 reflecting renewed momentum, stronger governance and the quality of programme delivery across the District.

Sudbury: supports 839 young people, 12 Network members and 385 adults. Top awards increased from 125 to 141, a rise of 16, supported by strong DofE pathways linked to the Chief Scout's Platinum, Diamond and King's Scout Awards.

Stowmarket**:** supports 708 young people and 333 adults. Top awards of 120 the District continues to support DofE activity and progression through the highest awards, underpinned by substantial residential experiences.

Theme	TOMs Ref	Description	Input Unit	Unit Count	Proxy Multi-plier	Total Social Value
Social	NT10	Youth Development: Squirrels	Members	287	£1250	£358,750
Social	NT10	Youth Development: Beavers	Members	1347	£1250	£1,683,750
Social	NT10	Youth Development: Cubs	Members	1685	£1250	£2,106,250
Social	NT10	Youth Development: Scouts 90min pw	Members	1720	£1250	£2,150,000
Social	NT10	Youth Development: Explorers	Members	601	£1250	£751,250
Social	NT10	Youth Development: Network	Members	61	£1250	£76,250
Growth	NT12	Adult Volunteering: Weekly Term Sessions	Hours	199,840	£19.16	£3,828,934
Growth	NT12	Adult Volunteering: Residen-tial & Camps	Hours	439,648	£19.16	£8,423,656
					Total Estimated Combined Annual Social Value	£19,378,840

Bury St Edmunds: supports 1,006 young people, 15 Network members and 347 adults. Achievement remains high, including 180 top awards and five Young Leader Belts across the District.

Beyond The Badge - The Impact of Scouting in Suffolk
As an organisation, we benchmark ourselves on the extent of our provision and the achievement of awards. Scouting is so much more… The National TOMs (Themes, Outcomes and Measures) Framework, a recognised public sector approach to measuring social value, it enables us to translate Scout activity into clear evidence of strategic youth development, volunteer contribution and community-led action.
This framework shows that Suffolk Scouts is not simply a recreational organisation, but an important part of the county's social infrastructure, supporting active citizenship, we strengthen communities and contribute directly to local priority outcomes.

Conclusion

Suffolk Scouts remains focused on delivering inspiring programmes led by exceptional volunteers who nurture inclusion, diversity and belonging across all sections. I have seen countless examples of creativity, service and commitment. I am immensely proud of what has been delivered, and especially of the volunteers whose leadership, practical support and quiet reliability make Scouting possible every week. Without doubt, their collective efforts continue to deliver positive outcomes for children and young people across Suffolk.

I thank every adult volunteer, trustee, young leader and supporter whose dedication makes these successes possible; each should be very proud of the contribution they make. The new way of working, membership system and emerging national strategy will undoubtedly bring challenges, but by overcoming these together we can move towards an even stronger future for Scouting in Suffolk.

Gary Burden
County Lead Volunteer

Good Service Awards for Reporting Year Apr-25 to Mar-26

Award	Recipient	District	Award Date
Chief Scouts Commendation for Good Service	Zarah Decker	Deben	11/2025
	Geraldine Millar	Deben	11/2025
	David Abbott	Stowmarket	04/2025
	Mollie Bolger	Stowmarket	04/2025
	Jane Morphew	Stowmarket	02/2026
	Colin Noble	Stowmarket	04/2025
	Andrew Pursehouse	Stowmarket	04/2025
	Emma Tamsett	Stowmarket	04/2025
Award for Merit	Wendy Barnes	Bury St Edmunds	04/2025
	Bradley Tooke	Deben	02/2026
	Graham Betts	Lowestoft	11/2025
	Peter Whittaker	Lowestoft	04/2025
	Andy Hubert	Orwell	11/2025
	Chris Frost	Stowmarket	04/2025
	Pat Lambert	Stowmarket	04/2025
	Philip Vaughan-Wright	Stowmarket	02/2026
	Debbie Bentley	Sudbury	11/2025
	Sheila Davies	Waveney Valley	11/2025
	Philip Everson	Waveney Valley	11/2025
	Gaby Rolph	Waveney Valley	04/2025
	Julia Oldaker	Wolsey	08/2025
	Liz Stevens	Wolsey	08/2025
Silver Acorn	Leigh Foster-Green	Bury St Edmunds	04/2025
	Martyn Bryant	Stowmarket	11/2025
	Nick Powell	Sudbury	08/2025
	David Clack	Waveney Valley	04/2025
	Ric Holmes	Waveney Valley	04/2025
Bar to the Silver Acorn	Neil Bolger	Stowmarket	08/2025
			
Silver Wolf	Trevor Pattison	Sudbury	06/2025
	Peter Mower	Wolsey	04/2025

Our warmest congratulations to all the Good Service Award recipients on their awards and our thanks for their services to Scouting.

MEMBERSHIP CENSUS REPORT SUMMARY - JANUARY 2026

	Male	Female	Self Identify	Prefer not to say	Total	*2025*
YOUTH MEMBERSHIP						
Squirrel Scouts	212	75	-	-	**287**	*235*
Beaver Scouts	999	340	-	8	**1,347**	*1,389*
Cub Scouts	1,258	417	1	9	**1,685**	*1,814*
Scouts	1,216	485	1	18	**1,720**	*1,874*
Explorer Scouts (including Young Leaders)	392	204	4	1	**601**	*600*
Network Members	38	22	1	-	**61**	*9*
TOTAL YOUTH MEMBERSHIP	**4,115**	**1,543**	**7**	**36**	**5,701**	*5,921*
ADULT ROLES *(2026 values per role type not per member)*						
Leadership	708	663	10	26	**1,407**	*1,214*
Management	73	41	-	2	**116**	*80*
Support	341	189	2	5	**537**	*263*
Governance	325	300	1	9	**635**	*436*
TOTAL ADULT ROLES	***1,447***	***1,193***	***13***	***42***	**2,695**	*1,993*
ORGANISATIONAL VIEW OF ADULT ROLES *(2026 values per role type not per member)*						
Group	1,098	1,007	11	35	**2,151**	*1,776*
District	242	139	1	4	**386**	*169*
County	107	47	1	3	**158**	*48*
TOTAL ADULT ROLES - ORG VIEW	**1,447**	**1,193**	**13**	**42**	**2,695**	*1,993*
TOTALS						
TOTAL YOUTH MEMBERSHIP	**4,115**	**1,543**	**7**	**36**	**5,701**	*5,921*
TOTAL ADULT MEMBERSHIP (Roles in 2026)	**1,447**	**1,193**	**13**	**42**	**2,695**	*1,993*
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	**5,562**	**2,736**	**20**	**78**	**8,396**	*7,914*

WAITING LISTS						
Squirrels	290	112	-	12	**414**	*420*
Beavers	196	63	-	11	**270**	*325*
Cubs	172	76	-	5	**253**	*269*
Scouts	74	48	-	2	**124**	*166*
TOTAL YOUTH WAITING LISTS	**732**	**299**	**-**	**30**	**1,061**	*1,180*

NOTE: The change of 2026 Census measures increases adult numbers depending on the no. of roles held by an individual who is counted in each role type. Direct comparison for adult numbers to 2025 is worthless—grey fill.

SUFFOLK COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL - STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 March 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	2026 Total	2025 Total
INCOME					
Donations and similar income		2,064	10,000	12,064	1,849
Income from Charitable Activities:					
Membership Subscriptions	2	47,296	-	47,296	48,456
Income from Activities	3	68,787	-	68,787	119,786
Grants	3	-	-	-	670
Bank Interest		2,721	-	2,721	3,049
Total Incoming Resources		**120,868**	**10,000**	**130,868**	173,810
EXPENDITURE					
Scouting Activities	4	101,625	716	102,341	146,507
Total Resources Expended		**101,625**	**716**	**102,341**	146,507
Net Income before Transfers		**19,243**	**9,284**	**28,527**	27,303
Transfers		(10,000)	10,000	-	-
Net Income and net movement in funds for the year		**9,243**	**19,284**	**28,527**	27,303
Reconciliation of Funds	8 & 9				
Total Funds brought forward		342,810	15,057	357,867	330,564
Total Funds carried forward		**£352,053**	**£34,341**	**£386,394**	£357,867

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 30 to 37 form part of these accounts

SUFFOLK COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL - BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2026

	Note	2026	2025
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	6	101,553	110,023
Current Assets			
Debtors		-	2,577
Prepayments		54,787	10,921
Bank and Deposit Balances		516,773	314,224
Cash Held		-	753
		571,560	328,475
Current liabilities			
Creditors falling due within 1 year	7	286,719	80,631
Net current assets		284,841	247,844
Total assets less current liabilities		386,394	357,867
Creditors: falling due in more than 1 year	11	-	0
Net assets		**£386,394**	£357,867
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds	8	34,341	15,057
Unrestricted funds			
Designated	9	88,303	88,303
General	9	263,750	254,507
		£386,394	£357,867

Approved by the trustees on 09 September 2026 and signed on their behalf by:





Howard Blackett, County Chair Ceejay Abbott, County Treasurer

The notes on pages 30 to 37 form part of these accounts

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 March 2026

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Ireland FRS 102 issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s).

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities or income and expenses unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

The trustees have prepared the accounts on a going concern basis based on the budgets and forecasts for 2026/27

Funds structure

• Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

• Restricted income funds are funds which the donor has specified are to be used solely for particular areas of work or specific projects being undertaken by the County Scout Council.

Incoming Recognition

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is more likely than not the charity will receive the income; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to services are recognised as the income is earned from the provision of services and disclosed as income from charitable activities.

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Support costs have been allocated between governance and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Other support costs include central function and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it is incurred.

Fixed Assets

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost. Depreciation is charged from the year of acquisition on a straight line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset as follows:

Freehold property additions (excluding land)	10 years
Other fixed assets	5 years

Debtors

Debtors are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

2. MEMBERSHIP FEES	**2026**	2025
Total Membership Fees Collected	301,461	278,622
National Membership Fees	(251,260)	(227,138)
District Refunds	(2,905)	(3,029)
	£47,296	£48,456

3. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2026 Unrestricted	2026 Restricted	2026 Total	2025 Total
Income from activities				
Activities	£17,662	-	£17,662	£75,524
World Jamboree	£15	-	£15	£406
Bradfield Campsite	£51,110	-	£51,110	£43,856
	£68,787	-	£68,787	£119,786
Other Grants				
Climbing Team	-	-	-	£670
	-	-	-	£670

4. DIRECT CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Activities	£39,652	£716	£40,368	£72,046
World Jamboree	£487	-	£487	-
Training	£917	-	£917	£3,432
East of England Region	-	-	-	£1,596
Campsites - Bradfield	£36,373	-	£36,373	£27,538
- Bradfield Depreciation	£12,068	-	£12,068	£27,601
Support costs - County Team	£8,224		£8,224	£10,959
Governance costs	£3,904	-	£3,904	£3,335
	£101,625	£716	£102,341	£146,507

The County Team includes the cost of one part-time employee £7440 (2025 - £8295, one part-time employee).

The cost of the County Team and governance includes £NIL (2025 - £1549) and restricted activities £716 (2025- £716) in respect of depreciation of equipment.

4. DIRECT CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES (continued)

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown in the table below.

Current Year

Cost type	Total allocated	Governance costs	Other support costs	Basis of apportionment
	£	£	£	
Staff costs	7,440	2,232	5,208	Staff time
Office rental and admin-istration	1,575	472	1,103	Staff time
County team expenses	1,913		1,913	County team time
Independent examiners	1,200	1,200	-	Actual
	£12,128	£3,904	£8,224	

Previous Year

Cost type	Total allocated	Governance costs	Other support costs	Basis of apportionment
	£	£	£	
Staff costs	8,295	1,659	6,636	Staff time
Office rental and administration	2,380	476	1,904	Staff time
County team expenses	870	-	870	County team time
Depreciation	1,549	-	1,549	Actual
Independent examiners	1,200	1,200	-	Actual
	£14,294	£3,335	£10,959	

5. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION & RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The trustees all give freely of their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind except Carl Gloess who received salary as County Administrator of £7440 (2025 - £8,295).

No trustee during the year had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the Council this year or the previous year except as disclosed above.

£148 (2025- £443) was reimbursed to 1 trustees (2025 - 3) of the County Scout Council during the year.

6. FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Property	Equipment	Total
Cost			
As at 1 April	448,780	124,901	573,681
Additions	1,997	3,520	5,517
As at 31 March	450,777	128,421	579,198
Depreciation			
As at 1 April	344,091	119,567	463,658
Depreciation	10,354	3,633	13,987
As at 31 March	354,445	123,200	477,645
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2026	£96,332	£5,221	£101,553
As at 31 March 2025	£104,689	£5,334	£110,023

The Bradfield Campsite is a joint project by the County Scout Council with Bury St Edmunds and Sudbury Scout Districts, who would share equally in any surplus realised on a disposal of the site after payments made by the County Scout Council are deducted and paid.

The County Scout Council have invested directly and through loan repayments £133,507 in the Bradfield campsite to date.

The Hardwick Park Campsite, Bury St Edmunds is a joint project with Bury St Edmunds Scout District and any surplus realised on a disposal of the site are shared equally.

7. CREDITORS

	2026	2025
Income in Advance	283,992	79,431
Loan	-	-
Accrued Expenses	2,727	1,200
	£286,719	£80,631

8. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Current year

	Balance 1 April 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2026
Water activities	4,497	-	(716)	-	3,781
Africa	3,261	-	-	-	3,261
Bradfield Tractor Fund	-	10,000		10,000	20,000
East of England Region Fund	7,299	-	-	-	7,299
	£15,057	10,000	£(716)	10,000	£34,341

Previous year

	Balance 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2025
Bradfield Campsite	16,173	-	(16,173)	-	-
Water Activities	5,213	-	(716)	-	4,497
Africa	3,261	-	-	-	3,261
East of England Region Fund	8,629	-	(1,330)	-	7,299
	£33,276	£0	£(18,219)	£0	£15,057

The Bradfield Campsite Fund represents the proceeds of appeals to purchase and develop the campsite and the fund balance is represented by part of the net book value of the campsite.

The East of England Region Fund represents funds received and expended in connection with the Scout Association's regional activities and is represented by bank balances.

The Water Activities fund is restricted grants for these activities and is represented by the net book value of water activity equipment.

The Africa fund is represented by bank balances and is for the development and activities relating to the Mafeking Scouts

The Bradfield Tractor Fund is represented by bank balances at the year end.

9. GENERAL AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

Current Year

	Balance 1 April 2025	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2026
General	254,507	120,868	(101,625)	(10,000)	263,750
Bradfield Campsite	57,507	-	-	-	57,507
Assistance with Campsites	3,650	-	-	-	3,650
World Jamboree	777	-	-	-	777
Hardship Fund	17,000	-	-	-	17,000
Explorer Belt Expedition	1,746	-	-	-	1,746
Richard Freeman Bequest	1,096	-	-	-	1,096
Water Activities	6,527	-	-	-	6,527
	£342,810	£120,868	£(101,625)	£(10,000)	£352,053

Previous year

	Balance 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2025
General	218,985	173,810	(128,288)	(10,000)	254,507
Bradfield Campsite	57,507	-	-	-	57,507
Assistance with Campsites	3,650	-	-	-	3,650
World Jamboree	777	-	-	-	777
Hardship Fund	7,000	-	-	10,000	17,000
Explorer Belt Expedition	1,746	-	-	-	1,746
Richard Freeman Bequest	1,096	-	-	-	1,096
Water Activities	6,527	-	-	-	6,527
	£297,288	£173,810	£(128,288)	-	£342,810

9. GENERAL AND DESIGNATED FUNDS (continued)

The Water Activities Fund has been designated for the development of water activities in the county.

The Explorer Belt Expeditions Fund represents the funds held in respect of these expeditions.

The Assistance with Campsites Fund is to help with the development of group and district campsites.

The World Jamboree Fund represents a designated fund which represents the support and transactions related to the county contingent to the World Jamboree.

The Hardship Fund was established to help scout groups experiencing financial hardship .

The Assistance with Campsites, Jamboree, World Scout Jamboree Funding, Explorer Belt, Richard Freeman Bequest (designated to support water activities) and the Water Activities Funds are all represented by bank balances.

The Bradfield Campsite designated fund represents the council's original contribution towards the purchase and construction of the site and is represented by a share in the assets of the site. The balance of the net book value of the site is part of the general fund.

10. ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BY FUNDS

	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total
Fixed Assets	3,781	57,507	40,265	101,553
Debtors and Prepayments	-	-	54,787	54,787
Bank and Deposit balances	30,560	30,796	455,417	516,773
Creditors due in less than one year	-	-	(286,719)	(286,719)
	£34,341	£88,303	£263,750	£386,394

11. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At the year end, the County Scout Council had authorised expenditure of £Nil (2025- £NIL).

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS TO THE

TRUSTEES OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL (Charity No. 305682)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2026 set out on pages 28 to 37.

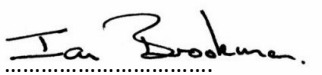
As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



I C BROOKMAN, FCA, DChA

Pakenham Accounting & Consultancy
Chartered Accountants
BURY ST EDMUNDS

8th September 2026

Suffolk Scouts — Useful Information

County Website : www.suffolkscouts.org.uk

Contact e-mail : contact@suffolkscouts.org.uk or 01473 711678

Joining In / Find Your Local Group
Information where scout groups in Suffolk are is available via the HQ website and entering your postcode. A message may be sent to a chosen group by selecting it.

Facebook :

Suffolk Scouts (public) - www.facebook.com/suffolkscouts

The following groups are 'private' and require scout membership and approval to join. Members post questions and updates about events from around the county and wider if of interest.

Suffolk Scouts Programme —www.facebook.com/groups/suffolkscouts

Suffolk Scouts Support Centre—www.facebook.com/groups/suffolkscoutssupport

Learning Booking System
Learning courses are published to the on-line booking system via the Learning page—link in the website main menu items.

Duke of Edinburgh Scheme / Top Award
The county operates a scheme for all levels of the DofE. Check the website link under Programme for sign-up details and contacts. Gold level is an element to achieve the prestigious Kings Scout award and attracts a special neckerchief which is presented to the recipient.

Microsoft 365 App, Teams and 'Scouting e-mail'
Suffolk County, along with Wolsey & Stowmarket Districts and some local Scout groups offer the Office application suite free of charge to enable groups to set up teams for interacting and saving documents such as Risk Assessments in a central place accessible to all with accounts. It is recommended that 'scouting emails' are kept separate from personal or work accounts for safety & safeguarding good practice. They can be requested via an email to support@suffolkscouts.org.uk or your M365 administrator.

Inclusion Fund
The county has an 'Inclusion Fund' that can provide limited financial support for members to attend scouting activities and events in the UK and abroad. The policy of how this operates is published on the website under About/Local Policies/Grants. Many of the Districts also operate similar schemes and should be approached in the first instance for help.

Suffolk Scouts: Upcoming Events

For all events, please keep an eye on the website and Facebook for notices

Water Sports:

26 Sep 2026 Thorpeness Meare Day

=== 2027 ===

2-4 July 2027 Wet Weekend

25 Sep 2027 Thorpeness Meare Day

County Mountain Activities Team

Registration for all events by OSM/email to ***cmatevents@suffolkscouts.org.uk***

Oct 10-12 - Hill Walking and Climbing in Gradbach

Nov 29-30 - Adventurous Activity First Aid Course, Bramford

=== 2027 ===

Feb TBA - Training Weekend (for permit assessment in March / Skills update)

Mar 13-15 Assessment Weekend

The World Scout Jamboree will be held from **30 July to 8 August 2027 in Gdansk, Poland**

Suffolk Punch - August 2030 (when the team has drawn breath after this year's event!)

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Americas
Antarctica
Europe
Africa
SUFFOLK Punch







Scouts
Suffolk

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