

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
		1st	April	2024	31st	March	2025
From					To		

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name 293rd Birmingham (St Faith and St Laurence) Scout Group

Other names charity is known by N/A

Registered charity number 503303

Charity's principal address The Scout Hut

Hampton Court Road, Harborne

Birmingham

Postcode

B17 9AE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Stuart Litchfield	Group Executive Chair		Group Executive Committee
2	Graham Howard	Treasurer		
3	Prveen Cowan	Secretary / Parent		
4	Emma Cawsey	Section Lead Volunteer		
5	Matthew Cawsey	Section Lead Volunteer		
6	Kevin Payne	Section Lead Volunteer		
7	Thomas McArdle	Group Lead Volunteer		
8	Stephen Noble	Section Volunteer / Parent		
9	Bob Amatt	Section Volunteer		
10	Andy Cartwright	Parent member		
11				
12				
13				
14				

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	The Group's governing documents are those of the The Scout Association constitution. 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.
How the charity is constituted	The Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.
Trustee selection methods	The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Additional governance issues

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works
- relationship with any related parties
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The Group is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Committee structure consists of three independent representatives (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) together with the Group Lead Volunteer, individual Section Lead Volunteers (if opted to take on the responsibility) and parent's representation and meets every three months.

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

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

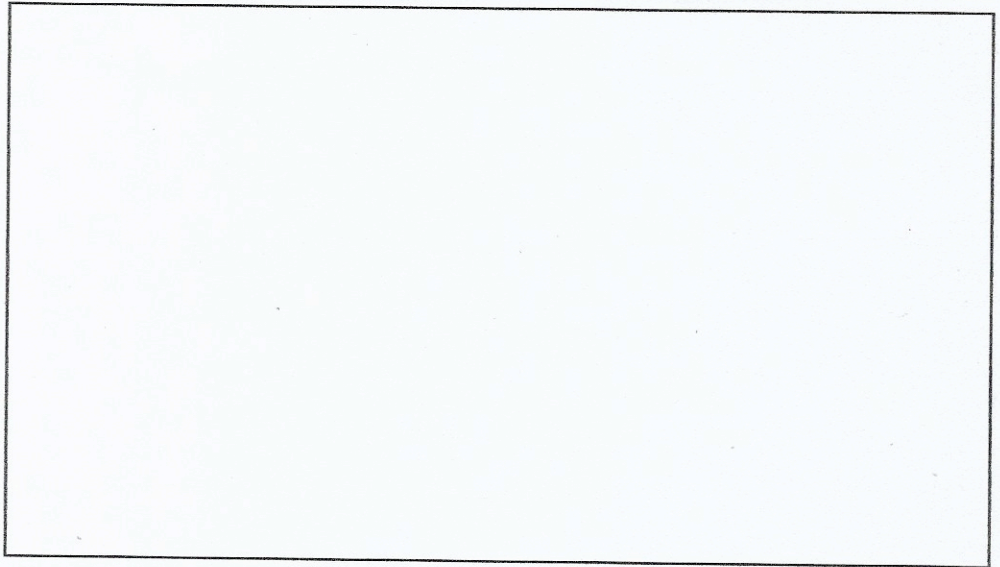
- The maintenance of Group property.
- The raising of funds and the administration of Group finance
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment.

Group public occasions.
 Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support.

- Appointing any sub committees that may be required
- Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those elected

Risk and Internal Control

The group has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include two signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered.



Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Purpose of Scouting

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

The Values of Scouting

As Scouts we are guided by these values:

- **Integrity** - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal
- **Respect** - We have self-respect and respect for others.
- **Care** - We support others and take care of the world in which we live
- **Belief** - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes.
- **Co-operation** - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.

The Scout Method

Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and:

- Enjoy what they are doing and have fun
- Take part in activities indoors and outdoors - learn by doing
- Share in spiritual reflection
- Take responsibility and make choices-
- Undertake new and challenging activities
- Make and live by their Promise.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Summary of activities

There is a strong team of volunteer section leaders, supported by network of Young Adults and Young Leaders, who delivered a balanced programme of activities to engage, support and help the members in their personal development. The section leaders have all received mandatory training in the basic areas of safeguarding, safety, GDPR and first aid. The programmes incorporated our core values of integrity, respect, care, belief and co-operation.

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

At the Board of Trustees AGM on 18 July 2024, the Board of Trustees re-appointed Stuart Litchfield as Chair. Graham Howard was appointed as Treasurer and Michael Jackson as Secretary. During the financial year, Michael Jackson stepped down as a Trustee and Secretary. Prveen (Parent Member) was appointed as Secretary. The current mix of members is considered a good balance between leader and parent representation.

Beavers section

- Full colony of 24 Beavers
- 253 badges, including seven Chief Scout Bronzes
- Five Adult leaders, plus network of four Young Adults (camps/outings out with university terms, and support from four young leaders

Programme highlights included:

First Aid training; time on the water, pioneering, mini golf, annual BBQ; Camp to Rhyddcovert, safari park trip, community service at a church, three church parades, litter picking, recycling, food bank collection; Remembrance Day, outing to Think Tank; District Football (1st & 3rd); County Bowling competition (1st)

The section has been an Increase in children with SEN. Leaders have been provided additional training videos and parent support at meetings.

Cub section

- 34 cubs. Pending 6 new joiners (inc 5 Beavers) to bring full complement (40).
- Four regular Leaders plus one young Leader
- Awarded 251 badges, including five Chief Scout Silver

Programme highlights included:

County Camp (Blackwell), water activities at Bartley Green reservoir; District football (2nd & 3rd); community litter picking; indoor climbing.

Scout Section

- 31 Scouts (max)
- Eight Leaders
- 133 badges awarded including one Chief Scout Gold

Programme highlights include:

Autumn Camp; Forward Camp; Whitsun Camp (Eaton Vale, Norwich); 2 weekend expedition hikes.

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Accounts

The principal sources of funding are section subscriptions and rental income. Total Group funds stand at c£50k.

The Group Board of Trustees has undertaken a series of financial reviews. This has included forecasting Group funds for the next 5 years; review of reserve and surplus funds are held to optimize returns; inflation-linked rent increase for the commercial use of the premises.

Following reviews, the Board of Trustees agreed to increased subscriptions, with effect for the 2025/26 financial year, to £3.50. This was in recognition of:

- The rising cost of providing activities
- The length of time since last increase
- Comparison with other groups
- Avoiding the need for steeper increase in the future

Cash reserves & fixed term investments

Reserves are routinely reviewed to ensure Group requirements are met, including any planned capital expenditure and managing where funds are held, to achieve competitive interest rates and liquidity/access requirements.

- The Reserve account stands at c£14k.
- £10k invested in two 2-year fixed rate bonds, maturing in successive years, to enhance returns whilst managing the accessibility to funds.

Other funding sources

- Gift Aid - initiated 2023-24. Total refunds c£2k. The Board of Trustees decided these funds will be allocated to the sections, in the 2025-26 financial year, to support individual section activities.
- 100 Club - c55 members. Profit of c£1k.
- Grant funding to be considered in 2025-26.

Excess cash surplus such as interest payments received to be made available for consideration of extra activities, new equipment, and enhancing premises.

Section E Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Stuart Litchfield.</i>	<i>Thomas Mapple</i>
Full name(s)	STUART LITCHFIELD.	THOMAS MAPPLE
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc.)	CHAIR	TRUSTEE + GROUP LEAD VOLUNTEER

Date 12/11/25



St Faith's & St Laurence Group Bank Account			
1st April 2024 - 31st March 2025			
Opening Balance	Incoming	Outgoing	Closing Balance
£14,208.90	£36,803.57	£42,513.29	£8,499.18

Bank + Petty Cash Closing Balance 8,499.18

Petty Cash 0.00

Date Charity No.503303	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Year end			
Income															Petty Cash Breakdown	0.00
MM rent	£1,000.00		500	£500.00		£510.00	£510.00	£510.00	£510.00	£510.00		£525.00		5,075.00	Section Activities	£0.00
Explorers rent								£120.00						120.00	Refreshments	£0.00
MM electricity	£1,694.83			£318.98						£657.75				3,171.56	Stationery	£0.00
MM water	£115.64			£312.57						£251.38				679.59	Badges	£0.00
100 Club	£190.00	173	£166.00	£166.00	169	£163.00	£163.00	£163.00	£166.00	£169.00	£175.00	£160.00		-2,023.00	Equipment	£0.00
Gift Aid	£2,101.47													-304.25	Uniform & Training	£0.00
Interest	£304.25													-3,003.70	Gifts	£0.00
Section membership fees														£2,986.20	Misc.	£0.00
Investments	£13,000.00				£7,325.00				£17.50					20,325.00	Total £	£0.00
														0.00		
Total £	£18,408.19	£173.00	£666.00	£1,797.55	£7,494.00	£673.00	£673.00	£793.00	£693.50	£1,588.13	£175.00	£3,671.20	36,803.57			
Expenditure																
Hut maintenance	£24.00				£1,487.75	£394.30	£125.00	£89.38	£250.00	£32.57	£288.01	£13.59	2,704.60			
Electricity	290.22		£343.00	£212.24	£119.80	£36.87	£135.09	£225.41	£414.24	£346.80	£591.18	£432.76	3,147.81			
Water	£51.42	52.19	£72.01	£84.97	£56.04	£14.48	£52.19	£49.64	£58.58	£40.05	£59.22	£47.63	618.42			
Council tax	£12.30	10	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00			102.30			
Insurance				£1,114.81	£190.87								1,305.68			
Equipment					£75.00	£79.99							852.99			
100 Club prize money	£90.00	90	90	£150.00		£90.00	£90.00	£90.00	£60.00	£90.00		£180.00	1,020.00			
Miscellaneous	£92.08	77		£50.00		£18.55		£37.79	£132.57	£17.50	£109.50	£180.00	714.99			
Investments	£20,000.00					£7,325.00							27,325.00			
Scout Membership section fees												£4,921.70	4,921.70			
													0.00			
Total £	£20,560.02	£229.19	£515.01	£1,602.02	£1,939.46	£7,969.19	£412.28	£502.22	£925.39	£1,034.92	£1,047.91	£5,775.68	42,513.29			
Income - Expenditure £	-2,153.83	-56.19	150.99	195.53	5,554.54	-7,296.19	260.72	290.78	-231.89	553.21	-872.91	-2,104.48	-5,709.72			

G Howard Group Treasurer.

Thomas Mearns Group Lead Volunteer.