Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date) **17th September 2025** to (end date) **22nd September 2026**

Section A Reference and Administration Details

Charity name	**Alderley & Knutsford District Scout Council**
Other names the charity is known by	Alderley & Knutsford District Scouts
Registered charity number (if any)	520151
HQ registration number	12210726
Charity's principal address	97 London Road Holmes Chapel Cheshire Postcode CW4 7BG

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity and the Charity Register if reporting for a Registered Charity with a charity regulator)

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Martin Relton	Chair	
2	Bruce Tulley	Treasurer	
3	Janet Williamson	Trustee	
4	Ian Ross	Trustee	
5	Janet Nicholson	Trustee	
6	Steve Wilkinson	Trustee	
7	Roger Turner	Trustee	
8	Tony Leadbeater	Trustee	to 7th July 2026
9	Catherine Gasparini	Trustee	from 3rd June 2026
10	Anthony Harrison	Trustee	from 5th Aug 2026
11	Jane Johnson	Trustee	from 5th Aug 2026
12	Will Burnham	Ex Officio	
13	Katie Davies	Ex Officio	
14			
15			

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

(These will be published in the annual report of the charity)

Type of advisor	Name	Address

Section B	Structure, Governance and Management
Description of the charity's trusts	
Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	The District's governing documents are those of the The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
How the charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	The District is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	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:	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 legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.
Policies and procedures adopted for: a) the induction and training of trustees; b) trustee' consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them	The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 10 Trustees (including 2 Ex Officio Trustees) and meets every 3-4 months. Members of the Trustee Board complete the Scout Trustee learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board. This District Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, buildings and equipment are in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and the organisation's policies and rules. Their support helps other volunteers run high-quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life. **Risk and Internal Control** The District Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the District is exposed, these are reviewed on an ongoing basis at Board meetings and systems have been established to mitigate against them. Assessments are undertaken before all activities. The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and comprehensive insurance policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C	Objectives and Activities
Summary of the objectives 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 in relation to these objectives	The District is comprised of 13 Scout Groups, 4 Explorer Scout Units and a Scout Network providing Scouting provision for boys and girls aged 4 to 25. The District provides management and governance oversight along with training provision for all Scouting activities within the District. Scouting programmes are supported with shared equipment including a minibus and a Scout shop for uniform and badges. In addition, the District organises District wide events such as camps and supports overseas trips.
Additional details of the objectives and activities	
You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about: • policy on grantmaking; • contribution made by volunteers; • policy on investments.	The charity has no salaried staff and is run entirely by voluntary contributions of time which amounts to approximately 6500 hours per year.
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.

Section D Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Trustee Board has continued to strengthen the governance and administration of Alderley & Knutsford District following the amalgamation of the two former Districts. Particular attention has been given to meeting the requirements of the Charity Commission and The Scout Association, improving financial administration and ensuring that good governance is maintained throughout the District.

The Board has continued to develop its Risk Register and District Dashboard, providing improved oversight of insurance, premises, equipment, fire safety, climbing wall inspections and major events. Safeguarding and volunteer training have remained priorities, with particular emphasis on first aid provision and the safe planning of international activities.

The District remains in a sound financial position, with further progress made in consolidating financial arrangements, including Explorer Unit, Bonfire and Scout Shop accounts. District funds have supported the purchase of equipment for outdoor expeditions and provided financial assistance for young people and adult volunteers participating in the 2027 World Scout Jamboree.

Although the annual census recorded a small reduction in youth membership, development initiatives have been undertaken to strengthen Scouting provision. Working with the County Development Officer, particular attention has been given to regenerating Scouting at Alderley Edge and restructuring existing Groups. A new Squirrel Dray has opened at Mobberley, extending opportunities for younger children.

During the summer, Beavers and Cubs from across the District attended the District Beaver and Cub Anniversary Camp at Tatton Park, while several Groups participated in the international Chamboree event at Tabley. These events provided valuable opportunities for outdoor adventure, developing skills and building friendships.

The District has continued to maintain and develop shared resources, including the Scout Shop, minibus and event marquees. Plans have progressed for a permanent Scout Shop and storage facility at Chelford, and Knutsford Town Council has awarded a grant towards replacing an ageing marquee.

These achievements reflect the dedication of the District's volunteers, whose commitment continues to provide young people with opportunities for personal development, adventure and skills for life.

Section E	Financial Review
Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	**Reserves Policy** The District Trustee Board's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the District should income and fundraising activities fall short. The District Trustee Board considers that the District held reserves at year end well above the level required for ongoing operating expenses.
Quantify and explain any designations	
Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)	
Further financial review details	
You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about: • the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);	**Investment Policy** The District's Income and Expenditure is relatively low and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments. The District has therefore adopted a low risk strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies or The Scout Association's Short Term Investment Service.
• how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives;	The District Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the District obtains maximum value and income from its banking arrangements. Occasionally this may involve using an account that requires a period of notice before funds may be withdrawn, before doing so the District Trustee Board considers the cash flow requirements.

Section F	Other Optional Information
Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)	The trustees have initiated a move to divest the land at Alderley Edge in order to reduce risk exposure. This is at the early stages and is expected to be a lengthy process over a number of years and is ongoing. The District has allocated a budget to locate the Scout Shop in a new cabin on land behind Chelford Scout HQ and is awaiting planning approval. One of the event marquees is now beyond repair and a replacement has been ordered for the continued support of District and community events.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	Martin Relton
Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	Chair
Date	20th October 2026

Alderley and Knutsford District Scouts

Income and Expenditure

	31/03/2026 £	31/03/2026 £	31/03/2025 £	31/03/2025 £
Subscriptions				
Received from Groups and Units	60,812.50		62,042.60	
Less: Paid to County and HQ	(53,083.00)		(54,325.00)	
Total Subscriptions Retained	7,729.50		7,717.60	
Income				
Bank Interest	382.06		0.00	
Swimmer Badge Testing	550.00		425.00	
World Scout Jamboree	0.00		0.00	
Minibus (Including Hire, May Day 50%, and Car Boot Sale)	8,591.79		8,253.06	
Bonfire	14,795.06		15,774.61	
Camp	20,215.00		0.00	
Climbing	0.00		76.00	
District Dinner	0.00		624.20	
Other Income	674.12	52,937.53	1,843.52	34,713.99
Expenditure				
Swimmer Badge Testing	199.00		360.97	
World Scout Jamboree	2,266.94		0.00	
Minibus	3,872.71		3,158.64	
Bonfire	14,757.57		15,774.61	
Training	545.83		0.00	
Camp	18,323.27		257.67	
Climbing	87.30		203.25	
Website	210.00		180.00	
District Dinner	0.00		672.30	
Insurance	114.00		114.00	
Other Expenditure	1,905.02	42,281.64	2,303.37	23,024.81
Net Income over Expenditure		10,655.89		11,689.18

Notes to the accounts

1. Capitation - All Income and payments were made before 31 March 2026
2. Bank Interest - we have set up the deposit account this year and are now receiving quarterly Interest payments
3. Bonfire Income - we had a slight delay in getting the agreed final reconciliation.
The was a late deposit paid in April 2026 for Fireworks, and the Income transfer to Knutsford was paid in May 2026.
4. We are still working on getting some of the updated Explorer Accounts. Progress has been made though.
5. District Camp is showing a small profit. Expenditure includes a payment of £8,249 to Cheshire County Scouts
6. Total Funds of £95,419.34 includes Minibus account £22,932.91

Alderley and Knutsford District Scouts

STATEMENT OF FUNDS

12 MONTHS TO 31ST MARCH 2026

£ STERLING

	31/03/2026	31/03/2025
OPENING BALANCE	84,763.45	73,074.27
EXCESS OF INCOME (LOSS)	10,655.89	11,689.18
CLOSING BALANCE	95,419.34	84,763.45
REPRESENTED BY		
ALDERLEY AND KNUTSFORD BARCLAYS CURRENT	28,269.58	81,336.13
ALDERLEY AND KNUTSFORD BARCLAYS DEPOSIT	75,382.06	0.00
	103,651.64	81,336.13
CREDITORS (Bonfire net income to be paid to Knuts. Scout Groups, and Pyrotechnics Inv)	(8,232.30)	(7,822.61)
DEBTORS (Bonfire Income)	0.00	11,249.93
CLOSING BALANCE	95,419.34	84,763.45
Variance	0.00	0.00

Other Accounts			
Knutsford Explorer (KITE)		As at 31/12/25	As at 31/12/24
Opening Bank Balances	Deposit	8,527.87	8,613.55
	Current	113.39	192.18
		8,641.26	8,805.73
Receipts		6,873.06	7,621.95
Payments		(6,689.85)	(7,786.42)
Total		8,824.47	8,641.26
Closing Bank Balances	Deposit	8,712.71	8,527.87
	Current	111.76	113.39
		8,824.47	8,641.26
Holmes Chapel Explorer (VIKING)		As at 31/03/26	As at 31/03/25
Opening Bank Balances	Current	7,447.93	8,646.50
	Cash in Hand	5.21	4.11
		7,453.14	8,650.61
Receipts		12,128.50	10,781.69
Payments		(13,012.10)	(11,979.16)
Total		6,569.54	7,453.14
Closing Bank Balances	Current	6,534.33	7,447.93
	Cash in Hand	35.21	5.21
		6,569.54	7,453.14
Scout Shop		As at 31/03/26	As at 31/03/25
Opening Bank Balances	Current	4,168.44	4,151.09
Receipts		7,049.72	11,951.52
Capitation refunded		0.00	(2,561.50)
Payments		(7,676.11)	(9,372.67)
Total		3,542.05	4,168.44
Closing Bank Balances	Current	3,542.05	4,168.44
Creditor (Capitation received in error)		0.00	0.00
Revised Balance		3,542.05	4,168.44

Bruce Tulley
Treasurer
14 September 2026

B.W. Tulley

Rebecca Strong
Auditor / Scrutineer
14 September 2026

R.A.Strong

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Alderley & Knutsford District Scout Council

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Alderley & Knutsford 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 Alderley & Knutsford 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 Alderley & Knutsford District Scout Council as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed: R.A.Strong

Name: Rebecca A. Strong

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any):

Address: Sandbach, Cheshire

Date: 14th September 2026