Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	01	2025	To	31	12	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	**3RD ASHTON-UPON-MERSEY SCOUT GROUP**
Other names charity is known by	3rd Ashton Scout Group (old name)
Registered charity number (if any)	**520155**
Charity's principal address	**Brayton Avenue**
	Sale
	Cheshire
	Postcode **M33 5HF**

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	Simon Murray	Chair		Group Lead Volunteer
2	Alasdair Ferro	Secretary		Scout Group at the AGM
3	Andrea Morgan	Treasurer		Scout Group at the AGM
4	Harry Peet	Group Lead Volunteer		Scout Association POR
5	Sarah Goodstadt	Section Lead Volunteer		Scout Association POR
6	Robert Blairs	Section Lead Volunteer		Scout Association POR
7	Amanda Westhead	Section Lead Volunteer		Scout Association POR
8	Sally Yarwood	Section Lead Volunteer		Scout Association POR
9	Stuart Thompson	Section Lead Volunteer		Group Trustee board.
10	Adam Roberts	Parent Committee Member		Group Trustee board.
11	Fay Brocklebank	Parent Committee Chair		Group Trustee board.

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	The Group's governing documents are those of the Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	The Group is a trust established under the Scout Association rules which are common to all Scouts.
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	The Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association. Trustees are appointed or reappointed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

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.

All our members, trustees, leaders, helpers and assistants give their time on a voluntary basis and received no remuneration or other benefits.

The Group is managed by the Group Trustee Board, 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 Group Trustee Board consists of 11 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary, together with the Group Lead Volunteer, individual section leaders, and a maximum of 6 elected members representing supporters and parents. The committee meets every 2 months. The agreed Quorum for meetings is ⅓ of the Board + 1, and via email - ¾ of the Board + 1. Rounded to the nearest whole numbers, equates to 5 and 9 respectively.

The Group Trustee Board exists to support the Group Scout Leader 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 who are 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 appropriate financial controls and comprehensive insurance 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 objectives of the group are as a unit of the Scout Association. The aim of the Scout Association is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. The method of achieving the aim of the association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.
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)	In planning our activities for the year, we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees' meetings. 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. The focus of our activities is based on the Scout Associations planned programme and award schemes, reinforced with related fun activities and camping / outdoor experiences. This benefits young people by developing their self-confidence and social skills alongside practical and life skills. In line with the Scout Association guidelines, we welcome all young people regardless of personal background, faith, gender, personal circumstances or disability. This philosophy of openness to all, enriches our young people aged 6 to 18 and our volunteers, through the sharing of skills, aptitudes and life experiences.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about: • policy on grantmaking; • policy programme related investment; • contribution made by volunteers.	All of the income from subscriptions, donations and fund raising is spent for the benefit of all of our young members (Beavers, Cubs and Scouts). This includes maintaining the Scout Hut, necessary to provide a safe venue for regular meetings of all sections of the Group. Parents and leaders have helped directly with building maintenance to keep costs down and, where specialist skills have been needed, have raised the funds to carry out essential work improving facilities and cost efficiency. Ongoing improvements are planned and financed in the same way. The funds provided by claiming Gift Aid help enormously, this has allowed the group to finance and or subsidise activities for the young members. Where some families have struggled financially the group waives or discounts subscription and camp fees depending on the need. The group relies entirely on volunteers. All Leaders, skills instructors, helpers, assistants, parents and trustees, willingly give many hours of their time for free. Only through their tireless enthusiasm is the group able to achieve so much. The partnership with the Explorer unit continues to work well. The Scout group allows the Explorer unit to use its facilities and equipment for their meetings, activities and camps. In the same way the Group allows Girlguiding, Sale Scout and Guide Band to use the premises and equipment owned by the Group. Additionally, the group allows the hut to be used for Young Leader and Adult training courses.

Section D Achievements and performance

Group and Section Reports for 2025

Group report

The highlight at the beginning of the year was seeing both scout troops welcome new leaders to run the sections. Finally taking the load off one leader that had been running three sections. Already experienced leaders, they ensured both troops continued to provide a wide range of activities and experiences from day one. Their enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to give their time have made a real difference.

Cubs, always busy. Continued to thrive, with good numbers and lots of enthusiasm from the young people. This is a fantastic position to be in and reflects the hard work of our leaders and the willingness of some parents to support them. Unfortunately, both packs have lost leaders since then, making life busier for those that remain.

The Beaver Colony however, continued to face a different challenge. Membership numbers remained very high, with a significant waiting list of young people wanting to join. While this is a wonderful indication of the demand for Scouting in our community, it presented challenges in ensuring we can offer places to as many young people as possible. To address this, plans were put in place towards the end of the year to open a second Beaver Colony in September 2026. As we look ahead, there is plenty to be positive about, we have a great foundation for many more successful years.

Section reports

Beavers (6-8yrs) had a full colony of 24/30 beavers consistently through the year. Badge work was a big part of the programme. We completed our space badge which included rockets, planets and very useful phone apps which really helped when looking for constellations. This tied in well with the air activities badge with chats about holidays and where we would love to go, what we need to take and finished off with a paper airplane competition. Completed our personal safety badge which included road safety and led on to a treasure hunt around the local roads whilst putting what we had learnt in to practice. Lots of skills and teamwork challenges throughout the year. Learnt some silly songs. Planted flowers and bulbs in the village, tried pavement art, and played all sorts of new games and sports for our sports badge. Attended both St George's Day parade and Remembrance Sunday, as well as our favourite group family camp. A busy year with loads of fun, fun, fun!

Cubs - Sir Peter Scott Pack (8-10 yrs) As always, working on many activity badges, including; Pioneering, Chef, DIY, Fire Safety, First Aid, Naturalist, Global Issues, Environmental Conservation, Communicator, Photographer, Personal Safety, Local Knowledge and Collector. We've also put a lot of work into the 7 challenge badges which has led to 7 of our Cubs achieving their Silver Award. Camping at Queen Charlotte Wood, Gradbach & Dunham, finishing with our Christmas sleepover at the hut. Also had several fun outings; a fishing day, the pantomime, Gang Show, Kayaking, Climbing & Cub Mudder. The pack continued to be well attended throughout the year and all of these fun activities and camps would not be possible without the effort of our excellent leaders and the support from the group. A massive thank you to all of our adult members for making all this possible. Also, thanks to the young leaders and parent helpers who have supported us at meetings, activities and camps.

Cubs - Lord Mountbatten Pack (8-10 yrs) The year began with making a New Years promise tree. Lots of cut out hands as leaves with promises and dreams written on them. Programme and activities included, Chinese New Year traditional celebrations with snake bookmarks, Chinese writing and Chinese food. Personal hygiene including the importance of brushing teeth. A night out to watch the Gang Show. Secret agent training with invisible ink messages, fingerprint analysis and a laser maze to navigate through. Pancake day we invented fruit pancake kebabs, mmm. A very noisy evening hosted by the scout and guide band for the musician's badge. Learning to safely light fires and cook on them. Made a donut flower for Mother's Day. Learning knots, ropes and poles prior to entering the pioneering competition. A fabulous sleepover weekend with lots of fun at Gulliver's World.

Trip to the climbing centre at the Trafford Centre. Planted flowers in the village. Trip to Sale fire station where we learnt about fire safety and how to use an extremely heavy hose. Hiking followed by outdoor cooking, Attended Group Family Camp weekend, the Task Master challenges theme was great fun. An evening at Dino golf. Completed the communication badge using BSL, emails, text, messaging and post cards which were a novelty for our young members. The two cub packs held a joint camp weekend at Gradbach, Derbyshire. Wyvern Explorer scouts (14-18 yrs) helped run a survival night camp for our cubs at Dunham Park scout campsite. We participated in St Georges day parade, Remembrance Sunday, Cub Mudder and Halloween party. Lots of badges earned throughout the year. All of this was only possible due to the excellent teamwork of the leaders and young leaders, plus the support from group who subsidise our fun activities and trips out.

Scouts - Tim Peake Troop (10-14 yrs) started the year with a leadership change. Focused on getting to know everyone with a mixture of meetings both at the hut and off site. Completed a wide variety of badge work. Activities included Cooking, Photography and Fire safety. Learning to plan a route then hiking it. Building survival shelters and creating pioneering projects. A trip to Rock Up Climbing was enjoyed by everyone. Numbers have been steady at around 25 Scouts with most of the older members continuing their scouting journey when moving up to Explorers.

Scouts - Ellen MacArthur Troop (10-14 yrs) Leadership of the troop changed in January and settled into a busy programme of learning many new skills. First aid, how to handle knives, axes and saws safely, fire lighting, outdoor cooking, climbing, World faiths, navigation and map reading in preparation for the BST Challenge hike. Activities included Jamboree on the Air, DIY, building canoes to race using only cardboard, taking part in the annual Chariot race camp and a trip to the movies at Christmas. Section numbers were 16 – 20 throughout the year.

Friends of Third Ashton (FoTA formerly PEC) volunteers, support the Group with fund raising and as “an extra pair of hands” when needed. There are several established fund-raising events in the calendar which include, start line marshalling for the Manchester Marathon and Half-Marathon, the spring bedding plant sale and the Halloween disco party. We also provided additional support for the group family camp to help it run smoothly and provide catering for 150-200 campers. The funds raised helps to keep monthly subscriptions low for our young members, and pay towards the cost of providing the many section run activities throughout the year.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity’s policy on reserves

The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the Scout Group should income and fundraising activities fall short, or major maintenance work on the premises is required.

The Group Trustee Board considers that the Group’s funds should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months basic running costs (utilities and insurance etc), which is approximately £7,500.

Additionally, the Group strives to set aside sufficient funds over the year to pay the annual capitation fees paid to the Scout Association in March each year without undue difficulty, which was £7441 this year.

In addition, during December each year, the Group Trustee Board set a budget for the following year. All major expenditure is highlighted and finances held in the bank account are ear marked to cover the costs in good time.

Any other major expenditure arising during the year is agreed at the Group Trustee Board meetings. There was no major expenditure in 2025.

Details of any funds materially in deficit	None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

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.

The main source of funds allocated for running costs is the monthly subscriptions paid by the Group members and regular fundraising which is mainly organised by the Friends of Third Ashton committee (FoTA).

The majority of income is used to fund the running costs of the Scout hut which is the regular weekly meeting place for all the group members, and the cost of programmes, related activities and camps. All of which serve to improve the development of our members.

Other major ongoing costs are the annual capitation paid to the Scout Association which provides support and insurance for all of the members.

The Group has additional insurance for non- members.

When necessary, the Group waives or discounts subscription fees / camp fees for members whose families may otherwise struggle to meet the cost due to hardship.

We allow other local groups to use the facility on a regular weekly basis. The stated aim of all of these groups is to promote the development of young people.

When possible, they make a donation towards additional costs, wear and tear of equipment, insurance, gas, electricity and water costs.

The Group does not have sufficient funds to make long term investments. It has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds.

All funds are held in cash using only one mainstream UK bank.

Section F Other optional information

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)	Simon Murray	Harry Peet
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Group Lead Volunteer
Date	12 / 10 / 2026	

Group Profit & Loss

2024 GROUP	INCOME	2025 GROUP	P&L
15263.60	Subscriptions	17022.00	-964.48
6515.33	Camps & Trips	6788.90	-1261.85
2515.00	Donations	1892.17	1892.17
3619.21	Gift Aid	3840.18	3840.18
4383.98	PEC - Plant Sale	4276.68	1502.63
605.00	PEC - Halloween	482.15	400.59
0.00	Neckers/Hoodies	170.00	170.00
0.00	Development Fund	0.00	0.00
0.00	Other	217.45	0.00
314.49	Deposit Interest	178.27	178.27
33216.61		**34867.80**	**5757.51**
	EXPENDITURE		**P&L Category**
-1603.87	Insurance / Rent	-1138.16	Subs
-3896.08	Utilities	-2952.14	Subs
-7345.00	Capitation	-7441.50	Subs
-2723.99	Section/Hut Activities	-1583.67	Subs
-670.00	Training Fees	-230.00	Subs
-1089.43	Badges/Neckers	-2495.34	Subs
-206.95	General Equipment	-146.73	Subs
-8686.93	Buildings & Maintenance	-1998.94	Subs
-12322.28	Camp & Trips Expenses	-8050.75	Camps
-2820.25	PEC - Plant Sale	-2774.05	Plant Sale
-35.00	PEC - Halloween	-81.56	PEC
0.00	Development Fund	0.00	Development
0.00	Other	-217.45	Other
-41399.78		**-29110.29**	
-8183.17	**Income over Expenditure**	**5757.51**	

Group Balance Sheet

£	6,482.18	2025 Opening Balance Current a/c	£	5,724.52
£	26,033.75	2025 Opening Balance Development a/c	£	18,608.24
£	5,724.52	**Closing Bank Balance**	£	14,303.76
£	**18,608.24**	**Closing Development Fund Balance**	**£**	**15,786.51**
£	**24,332.76**	**Overall Balance**	**£**	**30,090.27**

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name
3rd Ashton-on-Mersey Scout Group

On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	520155

Set out on pages 1-2
(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

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 Trust'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.

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 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.

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:	*B Sanders*	**Date:**	07/10/2026

Name: Bev Sanders

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): MAAT - Member of Association of Accounting Technicians

Address: 14 Quarndon Heights
Allestree, Derby

DE22 2XN

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	