

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

0	1	0	4	2	3
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 to end date

3	1	0	3	2	4
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Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Slemish District Scout Council																																																											
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Other names the charity is known by

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Registered charity number (if any)

1	0	3	7	3	7			
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HQ registration number

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Charity's principal address

49 BALLYBOLLEN ROAD																																																											
BALLYMENA																																																											
Co. ANTRIM																																																											
Postcode															B	T	4	2	2	R	F																																						

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1		District Chair	
2	Steven Millar	District Commissioner	
3	Alex Chestnutt	District Treasurer	
4	Bill McCullough	Nominated	
5	Leslie Carswell	Nominated	
6	Sandra Lorimer	Elected	
7	Eugene Neeson	Elected	
8	Sam Wilson	Elected	
9	Declan Larkin	Nominated (under 25)	
10	David McConkey	Elected	
11	Adam Steele	Elected	
12	Adam Bond	Elected	
13	Michel Balmer	ADC Explorers	

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

Type of advisor	Name	Address

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

<p>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.</p>
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(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

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 (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

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 Board consists of 2 independent representatives, Chair and Treasurer, along with nominated, elected, ex-officio, and co-opted (if co-opted to take on the responsibility) and others with required skills / knowledge, and meets every four months.

Members of the Trustee Board complete the '*Trustee Training*' module within the first 5 months of joining the Board.

This District Trustee Board exists to support the Groups in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:
The maintenance of District property;
The raising of funds and the administration of District finance;
The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
District public occasions;
Assisting in the recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
Appointing District Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Section B Structure, governance and management (continued)

Risk and Internal Control

The District Trustee Board has identified the major risks to which they believe the District 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 the building, property and equipment. The District

would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations such as the church, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The District has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss.

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The District through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Additional accident insurance is provided at District level for Occasional Helpers not covered by the Scout Association policy.

Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions and fundraising. The District does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.

Reduction or loss of leaders. The District is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the District. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section Group or the District as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group in the District.

Reduction or loss of members. Groups provide activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario the complete closure of the Group.

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 2 signatories for all cheques and a comprehensive insurance policies 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 in relation to these objects

There are 12 Groups within Slemish District with a total membership of 865 including 666 members are under 18. This represents a 7% increase on last year following the severe dip caused by Covid 19 in 2021. Part of that increase was due to the establishment of the Squirrel Section into Scouting for 4-6 year olds and strong growth in the Cub section. Each of the 12 Groups within the District were very active, and many young people were able to gain the top awards across the Sections

Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- contribution made by volunteers;
- policy on investments.

The District supported Groups in the development of leaders to facilitate programmes for the development of their members by funding all training costs.

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

Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)

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

The District Trustee Board regularly monitors the levels of bank balances, interest rates received and returns from investments to ensure the District obtains maximum value and income from its investment arrangements.

Section F	Other Optional Information
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Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

Section G	Declaration
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The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)								
Full name(s)	Steven Millar	Leslie Carswell						
Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	District Commissioner	Deputy District Commissioner						
Date	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">1</td> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">2</td> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> </table>		0	4	1	1	2	4
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