

SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT

England & Wales · Charity number 1020042

Details

Other names DARTMOUTH DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL (WEST MERCIA)

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2015-10-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Sandwell Scouts
The Orchard School
Causeway Green Road
Oldbury
West Midlands
B68 8LD

Phone 07491326122

Email enquiries@sandwellscouts.org.uk

Website www.sandwellscouts.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 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

Activities: To encourage the physical, mental and spiritual development of young people, so that they may take a constructive place in society. Open to all people from 6 years to 25 years old and are members of the world wide scouting organisation.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Sandwell

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£43,237	£49,756	-	-
2023-12-31	£50,520	£61,793	-	-
2022-12-31	£29,392	£113,434	-	-
2021-12-31	£65,944	£72,049	-	-
2021-03-31	£78,394	£27,470	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alistair Head		2020-09-30
Jacob Kenneth Osborne		2024-05-15
Kieran Andrews		2021-09-29
Lynn Tyler		2021-09-29
Nicola Johnson		2021-07-28
Pushpesh Sunnia		2025-03-21
Stephen Michael Davies		2021-09-29

SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1020042

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date) to end date

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names the charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

HQ registration number

Charity's principal address

On the Grounds of The Orchard School					
Causeway Green Road					
Oldbury					
Postcode	B	6	8	8	L D

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	Nicola Johnson		
2	Andrew Stanford	Chair	
3	Kieran Andrews	Treasurer	
4	William Fellows		
5	Alistair Head		
6	Stephen Davies		
7	Jacob Osborne		
8	Lynn Tyler		
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
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)

How the charity is constituted
(e.g. trust, association, company)

Trustee selection methods
(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:
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 5 Trustees and meets every 3 months.

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts 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.

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 buildings, property and equipment. 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. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from the annual District levy. 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 the levy to increase the income to the District 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 or a group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for young people aged 4 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- The District 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 policies to ensure that insurable risks are covered.

Section C	Objectives and activities
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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

The District works to support Groups and Explorer Units to provide active and safe Scouting and provides activity opportunities to enhance the programme offered by Groups. The District is responsible for implementing a safe recruitment process, in line with Policy, Organisation and Rules.

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.

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
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This year has been a settled and growing year – groups continuing to work hard, consolidating our Trustee Board and growing our District Team. It was also the year we “Transformed” to the new Scout Membership system and began to journey on the new ways of Scouting linked to training, the volunteer experience and all the new terminology and teams. We had talked about it for so long, and now it has happened...and we survived x Our census figures rose again steadily (about 8% growth in young people and 3% growth in adults), which is always good and air of growing and exploring ways of offering even more Scouting

opportunities seemed a focus for so many in our District again this year. A significant amount of this group came from opening our new District Explorer Scout Unit – Hydra.

Unfortunately, this was unbalanced out by the closure of 1 st Brandhall Scout Group. A combination of many reasons, but mainly a lack of adults meant after many years of activity and great Scouting, the group was closed. Thank you to the leaders who transferred to other groups and sections, so we didn't lose your commitment and enthusiasm.

January brought the usual recording of census numbers, setting budgets and planning the year ahead. It also began a special year for 46 th Sandwell Scout Group who celebrated 100 years of Scouting, with big celebrations planned for June.

June saw our AGM for the year, which was poorly attended, considering the membership of the District – this triggered a decision for our plans to change in the future. Our current chair didn't appear on the night of the AGM and we were left wondering how we would fill the gap, but a very generous offer from another group chair offered to become our District Chair – a massive thank you
Andy Stanford x

We had a promotion day at New Square in West Bromwich New Square, where we engaged with the public to promote Scouting and encourage new membership – a somewhat cold day, but again a positive opportunity to show we still exist and prove we are relevant and needed youth organisation.

Kieran has continued to keep a tight reign on the District finances and budget, but also developing our banking, expenses and financial strategies to make them streamline but effective – a thankless job, but much needed and very much appreciated – thank you Kieran

So our 2024 highlights in no particular order include:

- *A joint Beaver and Cub District Sleepover and Day at Twycross Zoo
- *District Science Badge Day in March for Squirrels – St Pauls Church, Golds Hill
- *Beaver Experiment Badge Day – April - thank you to St John's Scout Group for hosting. 6 groups were represented and learn lots and made lots of mess, all in the name of learning and exploring.
- *District Sports Day – all sections at the Millenium Centre in Wednesbury
- *Ryan, Zoe and Jacob have continued to offer YL training at the District Office every other month.

We really can see the impact this has on our Y'LS because when out visiting, they really are being the best they can be making a big difference to the sections and groups they support. Thank you to you all for the hard work this entails.

- *NA permits and sessions to prepare for camps have been on the increase this year. A massive thank you to Andy Barlow for his hard work, dedication and nurture of these adults. 3 permits have been successfully awarded this year, with 2 or 3 more hopefully in 2025.
- *Remembrance Parades were attended in Oldbury, Wednesbury, Smethwick, Tipton, Hill Top and West Bromwich, as well as some groups supporting more intimate ones at their local churches or community centres. It is so good to see the Scout uniform loud and proud at these events, proving that we are still well thought off and needed.
- *District Inflatation Morning – Bouncing with Santa and 150 friends – all section event in December, in West Bromwich. As well as 2 hours of

madcap bouncing, we even managed a natter with Santa too!

*We attended Sandwell Pride and Armed Forces Events in Dartmouth Park in June as well – a busy weekend of parading, flag bearing, face painting and glitter – and another 2 great opportunities for Sandwell Scouts to be seen and heard in a positive way.

*The DAAC team and Training Team officially came to an end this year too, due to the changes to Scouting through Transformation. Thank you for all this unseen work, time and commitment given to these roles over many years. We hope you will continue in new roles in Sandwell, so we will all continue to benefit from your knowledge and experience.

*I have attended 5 Group AGM's this year (Oakham, 1st Sandwell, 46th Sandwell, Abbey Hill and 617 Sandwell Air Scouts. Thank you for the invitations and thank you for everything you do to show due diligence in relation to the Trustee and charity commission expectations at your group level.

There are probably many more things I have missed out because to be honest so much happens at District, Group and Section level, it really is impossible to keep up with everything. Please accept my apologies if I have missed anything out, especially if it was important, amazing and fantastic!

The District has also benefitted again from funding, albeit much less, linked to its buildings that the District Trustees must ensure is used wisely to support the long-term development of Scouting in Sandwell. We hope to continue in the same vein, ensuring our buildings are maintained appropriately, although we are now looking at potentially selling our Westbourne Road building, due to the run down nature of the building and the fact that, despite or 3 or 4 attempts, we have not been able to successfully re-open a group here. We may be reaching out to key people with knowledge and experience in these matters to help us.

Whilst the past year has been a settled and hardworking year, with groups really focusing on their own achievements and programme, we believe Scouts across Sandwell have a lot to be proud of and as we look back, we can see how the efforts of these twelvemonths have enabled us to grow strongly and provide that super quality Scouting we have always done. A calendar of District events – some whole District and many for specific sections has been put together and shared with groups.

We have tried really hard to listen to you all and take on board as much as we can – your ideas, suggestions and feedback from previous events etc so hopefully the District Team and myself can provide you with a District to be proud of and that you want to Scout in and be part of.

The future- January 2025 onwards... hopefully holds...

*Our Top Awards and Thanks Evening for young people and adults – a new combined event with the AGM in a more social type venues

*The continuation of District Drop in evenings

*More Sports Events, Section Badge days, sleepovers and camps

*An all section District Camp

*More growth, recruitment and promotion – hopefully another Squirrel Drey and a whole new Scout Group could be opened too!

*Out Transformation Journey will continue and become embedded – Scout Association changes – will start to be more obvious and will see and hear much more as we all journey on the good ship transformation together

I do what I do as DC because I have amazing people around me who have kept me grounded, enthused, motivated and have shown so much support and kindness it is unbelievable. A special thanks to my Dave and my mom for all their love and support and slaps when they think I needed a reality check! A big thank you to all of you present and all the members who are not here tonight – your support and faith in me really does make my role much easier and to be honest, without what you do, I would not have my role...

But remember, Sandwell Scouts is and will always be a TEAM and... "Together, Everyone Achieves More"

Thank you for all you have done and in advance...thank you for everything you will continue to do and as our Scout promise says... I promise I will do my best for you, your young people, their families and the wider community. You are an inspiration to me and so many young people and families. x

Section E Financial Review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Reserves Policy
 The District'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 Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £20,000. The District held reserves of approximately £70,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.

Quantify and explain any designations

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;

Investment Policy
 The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. 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. 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)

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)

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

Date



Charity Name Sandwell Scout District	No (if any) 1020042
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period Start Date 01/01/2024	To	Period end date 31/12/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds (Hydra ESU)	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	Restricted (Hardship Fund)	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Membership Fees	25,469				25,469	24,185
Short Term Investment Fund Interest					-	247
Refund of Short Term Investment Fund					-	20,533
Cash Deposited	438				438	303
Other Income	435		1,804		2,239	226
Activities & Events	9,900	44			9,943	4,991
Uniform / Badges / Log Books	104	30			134	36
Grants		3,500				
Subscription Fees		1,515				
District Levy	-					
Sub total	36,345	5,089	1,804	-	43,237	50,520
Total receipts	36,345	5,089	1,804	-	43,237	50,520
A3 Payments						
Membership Fees	22,563				22,563	21,830
Utilities	2,549		4,767		7,317	3,948
Rates					-	400
Activities & Events	9,829	1,440			11,268	7,255
Closure of Short Term Investment Fund					-	20,533
Volunteer Expenses	275	347			622	38
Miscellaneous Expenditure	661		29		690	206
Uniform / Badges / Log Books	426	468	478		1,373	
Maintenance	640		5,273		5,913	7,352
Bank Charges	12				12	
Sub total	36,954	2,255	10,547	-	49,756	61,793
Total payments	36,954	2,255	10,547	-	49,756	61,793
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 610	2,834	- 8,743	-	- 6,519	- 11,273
A5 Transfers between funds					-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	81,131		17,031	4,000	102,162	113,434
Cash funds this year end	80,521	2,834	8,288	4,000	95,643	102,162

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Lloyds Bank Account	80,438.00	11,840	
	Barclays Bank Account	145	3,220	
	Total cash funds	80,583	15,060	-
B2 Other monetary assets	Details		-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regis Scout HQ	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	kandrews	KIERAN ANDREWS	15/03/2025	
	DWestwood	DAVID WESTWOOD	18/3/2025	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Charity Name SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT		
On accounts for the year ended	31/12/2024	Charity no (if any)	1020042
Set out on pages	3, 4 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024.

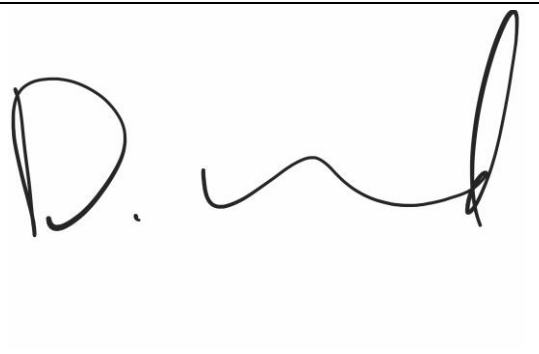
Responsibilities and basis of report

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 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:		Date: 18/03/2025
	Name: DAVID ROBERT WESTWOOD	

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

NONE

Address:

16 Drayton Road
Smethwick, West Midlands
B66 4AJ

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.

Section A Receipts and payments

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	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regis Scout HQ	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
	kandrews	KIERAN ANDREWS		15/03/2025

SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1020042

Accounts

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the period

From (start date)

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 to end date

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

Charity name	SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT
Other names the charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1 0 2 0 0 4 2
HQ registration number	1 0 0 0 1 6 6 2
Charity's principal address	SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT THE ORCHARD SCHOOL, CAUSEWAY GREEN ROAD OLDBURY Postcode B 6 8 0 A N

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	CHRIS WALLACE	CHAIR	
2	LUCY CARTER	SECRETARY	
3	GEMMA DIXON	TREASURER	JAN 23 - MAR 23
4	KIERAN ANDREWS		
5	WILLIAM FELLOWS		
6	RYAN HADLEY		
7	NICOLA JOHNSON		
8	ALISTAIR HEAD		
9	LYNN TYLER		
10	STEPHEN DAVIES		
11			
12			
13			
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 (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 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.

Policies and procedures adopted for:

The Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 8 Trustees (including 2 Ex Officio Trustees, and 2 co-opted Trustees) and meets every # months.

a) the induction and training of trustees; b) trustee consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them

Members of the Trustee Board complete Being a Scouts 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.

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- 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

The District works to support Groups and Explorer Units to provide active and safe Scouting and provides activity opportunities to enhance the programme offered by Groups. The District is responsible for implementing a safe recruitment process, in line with Policy, Organisation and Rules.

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.

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.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This year has been a whirlwind of experiences creating an immense range of emotions for myself particularly and has been a real learning curve for me and the District Team. Scouting this year has returned to as much as normal as it possibly can since Covid, but has felt the most normal it has been for a long time All groups are now returned to doing what they do best – providing amazing opportunities and experiences to around 500 young people. Our census figures had risen slowly (about 6% growth in young people and 4% growth in adults), which is always good and air of growing and exploring ways of offering even more Scouting opportunities seemed a focus for so many in our District

January started with a small but important awards evening at Smethwick Labour Club. A combined 185 years of service to Scouting was celebrated by some very committed adults from our District. As well as long service awards, wood badges were also presented as well as some national awards for outstanding service to Scouting.

We continued to offer out our monthly drop in's at District Office – some months were supported better than others depending on the needs of the members and who just fancied a cuppa, a cake and a chinwag. However, they did give opportunities for the District Team to meet and plan future events.

Chris Wallace, who has continued to be a star and real grounding District Chair has worked with Gemma (District Treasurer) to continue keeping us safe, financially stable and as legal as we need to be to comply with HQ and Charity Commission requirements. These 2 along with the exec have been a real steadying force, sounding board and a great source of knowledge for when things have been a little tricky. Thank you for your tireless hard work and commitment, it really is appreciated.

So the 2022 highlights in no particular order include:

- *Sandwell opened its second Squirrel Drey in July 2022 at 617 Air Scouts in Wednesbury and the Squirrel Drey at 46th Sandwell celebrated its first birthday in October of this year.
- *We held our District AGM for the year 2021/22 face to face – where we again celebrated the hard work of our District and Groups as well as sharing some of our future plans for 2023 onwards.
- *Beaver International Badge Day – 9th April 2022 at St Peters Church Hall Great Bridge. Around 85 Beavers and around 25 adults turned up for a truly international day of friendship, fun, games, craft and food. They even gained a badge too!
- *District Scout Camp at Patshull Campsite, Wolverhampton – end of July, attended by 5 groups – around 120 participants. A massive thank you to Chris Wallace and his Ariel Scout Team for being our amazing caterers. Also thank you to all the leaders who supported the event and just got involved and helping out where and when necessary.
- *Ryan and a growing team of willing adults have continued to offer YL training at the District Office every other month. We really can see the impact this has on our YI's because when out visiting, they really are being the best they can be making a big difference to the sections and groups they support. Thank you to Ryan and the team that grows, changes and evolves every session.
- *Appointed a new District Nights Away advisor – Andy Barlow, who has hit the ground running and has signed off 1 new permit and 4 renewals – again a massive thank you for all you have done, as even more young people now get to

experience the best bit of scouting – being away from home
* Civic Remembrance Parades were attended in Oldbury, Wednesbury, Smethwick, Tipton and West Bromwich, as well as some groups supporting more intimate ones at their local churches or community centres. It is so good to see the Scout uniform loud and proud at these events, proving that we are still well thought of and needed.

*Queens Jubilee Party Day at the District Office in June – a day of madcap madness, drums, food, traditional games, crafts and challenges to celebrate this historic occasion.

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Ryan and his team provided training, skills and practical Scouting activities for 21 YL's in Sandwell. A big thank you to Team1st Sandwell for hosting this event and sharing their knowledge and expertise with the young leaders and other adults present.

*Chris Jones (1st Sandwell) and Nic J (DC) were named as 2 of 400 National Platinum Champions from over 5000 nominations nationwide. Well done and thank you to all who were nominated

*Eat and Meet with Santa – Christmas Parties at Rowley HQ with around 100 Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs and around 35 Scouts and Explorers in the evening. Food, friendship, games and a lot of Christmas singing – a massive thank you to “Santa Carl” who stayed all day to be the best santa you could ever need.

*The DAAC team have continued to provide invaluable support in welcoming new adults in to Scouting, discussing their potential roles and training commitments and being the first few friendly faces that encourage them on their scouting journey. Thank you for all this unseen work, time and commitment given to these roles.

*The District Training Team have also really been working hard supporting members, holding validation evenings and generally showing support and commitment to all leaders who have training needs. A combined Sandwell and Halesowen team really works well and offers us the flexibility to offer the trainings and expertise we have. Thank you for your time and support.

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*I have attended 5 Group AGM's this year (Oakham, 1st Sandwell, 46th Sandwell, Abbey Hill and 617 Sandwell Air Scouts. Thank you for the invitations and thank you for everything you do to show due diligence in relation to the Trustee and charity commission expectations at your group level.

*Phil Bird (Blue Ribbon) and Lewis Tucker (1st Sandwell) were both nominated and successfully awarded with the National Chief's Scouts Commendation Award for their service and commitment to Scouting in Sandwell. Well done, congratulations and definitely deserved.

There are probably many more things I have missed out because to be honest so much happens at District, Group and Section level, it really is impossible to keep up with everything. Please accept my apologies if I have missed anything out, especially if it was important, amazing and

fantastic!

This year also saw, as did the rest of the nation and the Commonwealth the death of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth second who passed away on 8th September this year. As a long serving patron of our organisation, her passing was a real blow to Scouting on the whole. Many sections and groups marked this sombre occasion with real professionalism and respect and showed their allegiance to her 70 yrs service in a way that made me feel very honoured and proud to be DC at the time.

The District has also benefitted again from funding, albeit much less, linked to its buildings that the District Trustees must ensure is used wisely to support the long-term development of Scouting in Sandwell. We hope to continue in the same vain, ensuring our buildings

Whilst the past year wasn't anywhere as challenging as the previous year, we believe Scouts across Sandwell have a lot to be proud of and as we look back, we can see how the efforts of these twelvemonths have enabled us to grow strongly and provide that super quality Scouting we have always done. A calendar of District events – some whole District and many for specific sections has been put together and shared with groups. We have tried really hard to listen to you all and take on board as much as we can – your ideas, suggestions and feedback from previous events etc so hopefully the District Team and myself can provide you with a District to be proud of and that you want to Scout in and be part of.

The future- January 2023 onwards... hopefully holds...

*Our Top Awards and Thanks Evening for young people and adults

*The continuation of District Drop in evenings

*More Sports Events, Section Badge days, sleepovers and camps

*More growth, recruitment and promotion – hopefully another Squirrel Drey and a new Explorer Scout provision

*Out Transformation Journey – Scout Association changes – will start to be more obvious and will see and hear much more as we all journey on the good ship transformation together

The first few months have been a whirl wind but the amazing people around me have kept me grounded, enthused, motivated and have shown so much support and kindness it is unbelievable. A special thanks to my Dave and my mom for all their love and support and slaps when they think I needed a reality check! A big thank you to all of you present and all the members who are not here tonight – your support and faith in me really does make my role much easier and to be honest, without what you do, I would not have my role...

But remember, Sandwell Scouts is and will always be a TEAM and...“Together, Everyone Achieves More”

Thank you for all you have done and in advance...thank you for everything you will continue to do and as our Scout promise says... I promise I will do my best for you, your young people, their families and the wider community. You are an inspiration to me and so many young people and families. x

Section E	Financial Review
<p>Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves</p>	<p>Reserves Policy</p> <p>The District'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 Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £20,000. The District held reserves of approximately £90,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.</p>
<p>Quantify and explain any designations</p>	
<p>Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)</p>	
<p>Further financial review details (optional information)</p>	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives; 	<p>Investment Policy</p> <p>The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. 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. 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.</p>

Section F Other Optional Information

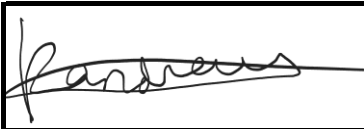

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

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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)	KIERAN ANDREWS	NICOLA JOHNSON
Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	TRUSTEE	DISTRICT COMMISSIONER
Date	2 7 1 0 2 4	



Charity Name Sandwell Scout District	No (if any) 1020042
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period Start Date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis) to the nearest £	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees	24,185			24,185	19,367
Short Term Investment Fund Interest	247			247	69
Refund of Short Term Investment Fund	20,533			20,533	
Cash Deposited	303			303	
COVID Grants				-	8,001
Other Income	226			226	150
Activities & Events	4,991			4,991	1,757
Uniform / Badges / Log Books	36			36	49
Sub total	50,520	-	-	50,520	29,392
Total receipts	50,520	-	-	50,520	29,392
A3 Payments					
Membership Fees	21,830			21,830	19,006
Utilities	2,165	1,783		3,948	2,115
Rates	400			400	776
Activities & Events	7,255			7,255	1,430
Closure of Short Term Investment Fund	20,533			20,533	784
Cash Deposited from last year	231			231	
Volunteer Expenses	38			38	122
Miscellaneous Expenditure	206			206	-
Uniform / Badges / Log Books				-	70
Maintenance	7,323	29		7,352	149
Sub total	59,980	1,813	-	61,793	24,453
Total payments	59,980	1,813	-	61,793	24,453
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 9,460	- 1,813	-	- 11,272	4,939
A6 Cash funds last year end	90,591	18,844	4,000	113,434	108,495
Cash funds this year end	81,131	17,031	4,000	102,162	113,434

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Barclays Bank Account	81,131.00	21,031	
	Total cash funds	81,131	21,031	-
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
			-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regis Scout HQ	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	kandrews	KIERAN ANDREWS	05/13/2024	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Charity Name SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT		
On accounts for the year ended	31/12/2023	Charity no (if any)	1020042
Set out on pages	3, 4 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

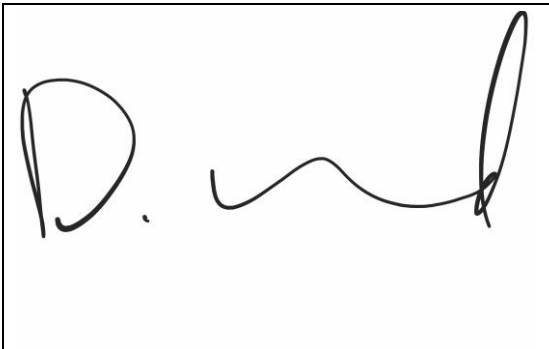
Responsibilities and basis of report

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 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:		Date:	20/10/2024
	Name: DAVID ROBERT WESTWOOD		

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	NONE
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Address:	16 Drayton Road
	Smethwick, West Midlands
	B66 4AJ

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.

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period Start Date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
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Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regist Scout HQ	Restricted Fund (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
k.andrews	KIERAN ANDREWS	05/13/2024

SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1020042

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2022

Section A - Reference and administration details

Charity Name

Sandwell Scout District

Registered charity number (if any)

1020042

HQ registration number

10001662

Charity's principal address

14 Powke Lane, Rowley Regis, B65 0AA

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 the whole year
Alistair Head		
Chris Wallace	Chair	
Kieran Andrews		
Gemma Dixon	Treasurer	
Jacqueline Holt		
John Crawford		
Lucy Carter	Secretary	
Lynn Tyler		
Nicola Johnson		
Ryan Hadley		
Stephen Davies		
Will Fellows		

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/Area/County 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)

The District is managed by the District Executive Committee, 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.

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the District Commissioner, District Explorer Scout Commissioner and representation from the District Scout Council. The Committee meets at least four times a year.

Members of the Executive Committee complete training which includes a trustee introduction, safety, safeguarding and GDPR within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

This District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner 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.

Risk and Internal Control

The District Executive Committee 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 buildings, property and equipment. 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. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from the annual District levy. 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 the levy to increase the income to the District 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 or a group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for young people aged 6 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- 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 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

The District works to support Groups and Explorer Units to provide active and safe Scouting and provides activity opportunities to enhance the programme offered by Groups. The District is responsible for implementing a safe recruitment process, in line with Policy, Organisation and Rules.

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

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Scouting this year has returned to as much as normal as it possibly can since Covid, but has felt the most normal it has been for a long time. All groups are now returned to doing what they do best – providing amazing opportunities and experiences to around 500 young people.

Our census figures had risen slowly (about 6% growth in young people and 4% growth in adults), which is always good and air of growing and exploring ways of offering even more Scouting opportunities seemed a focus for so many in our District.

January started with a small but important awards evening at Smethwick Labour Club. A combined 185 years of service to Scouting was celebrated by some very committed adults from our District. As well as long service awards, wood badges were also presented as well as some national awards for outstanding service to Scouting.

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Chris Wallace, who has continued to be a star and real grounding District Chair has worked with Gemma (District Treasurer) to continue keeping us safe, financially stable and as legal as we need to be to comply with HQ and Charity Commission requirements. These 2 along with the exec have been a real steadying force, sounding board and a great source of knowledge for when things have been a little tricky. Thank you for your tireless hard work and commitment, it really is appreciated.

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*I have attended 5 Group AGM's this year (Oakham, 1st Sandwell, 46th Sandwell, Abbey Hill and 617 Sandwell Air Scouts. Thank you for the invitations and thank you for everything you do to show due diligence in relation to the Trustee and charity commission expectations at your group level.

*Phil Bird (Blue Ribbon) and Lewis Tucker (1st Sandwell) were both nominated and successfully awarded with the National Chief's Scouts Commendation Award for their service and commitment to Scouting in Sandwell. Well done, congratulations and definitely deserved.

There are probably many more things I have missed out because to be honest so much happens at District, Group and Section level, it really is impossible to keep up with everything. Please accept my apologies if I have missed anything out, especially if it was important, amazing and fantastic!

This year also saw, as did the rest of the nation and the Commonwealth the death of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth second who passed away on 8th September this year. As a long serving patron of our organisation, her passing was a real blow to Scouting on the whole. Many sections and groups marked this sombre occasion with real professionalism and respect and showed their allegiance to her 70 yrs service in a way that made me feel very honoured and proud to be DC at the time.

The District has also benefitted again from funding, albeit much less, linked to its buildings that the District Trustees must ensure is used wisely to support the long-term development of Scouting in Sandwell. We hope to continue in the same vein, ensuring our buildings

Whilst the past year wasn't anywhere as challenging as the previous year, we believe Scouts across Sandwell have a lot to be proud of and as we look back, we can see how the efforts of these twelvemonths have enabled us to grow strongly and provide that super quality Scouting we have always done. A calendar of District events – some whole District and many for specific sections has been put together and shared with groups. We have tried really hard to listen to you all and take on board as much as we can – your ideas, suggestions and feedback from previous events etc so hopefully the District Team and myself can provide you with a District to be proud of and that you want to Scout in an be part of.

The future- January 2023 onwards... hopefully holds...

*Our Top Awards and Thanks Evening for young people and adults

*The continuation of District Drop in evenings

*More Sports Events, Section Badge days, sleepovers and camps

*More growth, recruitment and promotion - hopefully another Squirrel Drey and a new Explorer Scout provision

*Out Transformation Journey - Scout Association changes - will start to be more obvious and will see and hear much more as we all journey on the good ship transformation together

The first few months have been a whirl wind but the amazing people around me have kept me grounded, enthused, motivated and have shown so much support and kindness it is unbelievable. A special thanks to my Dave and my mom for all their love and support and slaps when they think I needed a reality check! A big thank you to all of you present and all the members who are not here tonight - your support and faith in me really does make my role much easier and to be honest, without what you do, I would not have my role...

But remember, Sandwell Scouts is and will always be a TEAM and...“Together, Everyone Achieves More”

Thank you for all you have done and in advance...thank you for everything you will continue to do and as our Scout promise says... I promise I will do my best for you, your young people, their families and the wider community. You are an inspiration to me and so many young people and families

Section E - Financial Review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Quantify and explain any designations

The District'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 Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £20,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £90,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.

This is due in part to receiving unexpected income from Government grants for premises occupied by the District. The trustees will take stock of the reserves currently held and consider how best to invest these funds over the coming 12/18 months. This may be to reinvest in some of the District assets to ensure they can be used to support the objectives of the District longer term.

Further financial review details (optional information)

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. 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.

The District Executive regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group 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 Executive considers the cash flow requirements.

Section F - Other Optional Information

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

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)

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair)

Date



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period Start Date 01/01/2022	To	Period end date 31/12/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund)	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees	19,367			19,367	6,976
Short Term Investment Fund Interest	69			69	10
COVID Grants	5,334	2,667		8,001	56,899
Other Income	150			150	1,377
Events	1,757			1,757	683
Uniform / Badges / Log Books	49			49	-
Sub total	26,725	2,667	-	29,392	65,944
Total receipts	26,725	2,667	-	29,392	65,944
A3 Payments					
Membership Fees	19,006			19,006	14,329
Utilities	1,921	195		2,115	7,504
Rates	776			776	1,988
Activities & Events	1,430			1,430	781
Insurance		784		784	821
Volunteer Expenses	90	32		122	3,176
Miscellaneous Expenditure				-	814
Uniform / Badges / Log Books	70			70	125
Repayment of COVID grants				-	42,511
Maintenance	149			149	-
Sub total	23,443	1,010	-	24,453	72,049
Total payments	23,443	1,010	-	24,453	72,049
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,283	1,657	-	4,939	- 6,105
A6 Cash funds last year end	87,308	17,187	4,000	108,495	114,601
Cash funds this year end	90,591	18,844	4,000	113,434	108,495

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Barclays Bank Account	73,827	18,844	
	Scout Association Short Term Investment Fund	20,533	-	
	Cash	230	-	-
	Total cash funds	94,590	18,844	-
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
B3 Investment assets			-	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regis Scout HQ	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-
B5 Liabilities			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		CHRIS WALLACE	05/06/2023	



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period Start Date 01/01/2022	To	Period end date 31/12/2022
---------------------	---------------------------------	----	-------------------------------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund)	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
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Membership Fees	19,367			19,367	6,976
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	Scout Association Short Term Investment Fund	20,533	-	
	Cash	230	-	
	Total cash funds	94,590	18,844	-
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
B3 Investment assets			-	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	1st Rowley Regis Scout HQ	Restricted Funds (1st Rowley Regis)	-	-
B5 Liabilities			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		CHRIS WALLACE	05/06/2023	

SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1020042

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From **01/04/2021** to **31/12/2021**

Section A – Reference and administration details

Charity Name

Sandwell Scout District

Registered charity number (if any)

1020042

HQ registration number

10001662

Charity's principal address

14 Powke Lane, Rowley Regis, B65 0AA

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 the whole year
Alistair Head		
Chris Wallace	Chair	18/08/2021 –
Dawn Grice		01/04/2021 – 27/07/2021
Diane Walker		01/04/2021 – 29/09/2021
Kieran Andrews		
Gemma Dixon	Treasurer	29/09/2021 –
Jacqueline Holt		29/09/2021 –
John Crawford		
Julie Grice	Secretary	01/04/2021 – 01/09/2021
Lucy Carter	Secretary	29/09/2021 –
Lynn Tyler		29/09/2021 –
Nicola Johnson		28/07/2021 –
Phillip Wright	Chair	01/04/2021 – 02/08/2021
Ryan Hadley		
Stephen Davies		29/09/2021 –
Will Fellows		

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/Area/County 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)

The District is managed by the District Executive Committee, 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.

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the District Commissioner, District Explorer Scout Commissioner and representation from the District Scout Council. The Committee meets at least four times a year.

Members of the Executive Committee complete training which includes a trustee introduction, safety, safeguarding and GDPR within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

This District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner 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.

Risk and Internal Control

The District Executive Committee 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 buildings, property and equipment. 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. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from the annual District levy. 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 the levy to increase the income to the District 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 or a group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for young people aged 6 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- 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 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

The District works to support Groups and Explorer Units to provide active and safe Scouting and provides activity opportunities to enhance the programme offered by Groups. The District is responsible for implementing a safe recruitment process, in line with Policy, Organisation and Rules.

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

This year began under Dawn Grice as DC carefully managing the return of face to face Scouting across Sandwell after the amber restriction were lifted and became yellow. For many groups it was an initial struggle as volunteers and families cautiously returned to the groups. The main focus as a District was to get groups back face to face safely, so the other events and normal District occasions were delayed/postponed/cancelled so that groups could do what they do best – offer quality Scouting to their young people.

When and where possible the District Executive provided opportunities to apply for funding to compensate for financial difficulties throughout the pandemic. This continued to be made available whilst the restrictions began to lift, knowing that many groups would still have to juggle financial implications as well as the loss of some key volunteers and members.

Most groups returned face to face using outside spaces as often as possible and used Zoom when necessary to provide blended Scouting opportunities as and when needed. For many groups numbers in sections remained cautious and in some groups numbers remained well as a result of online scouting during the pandemic keeping them interested and linked to their Scouting family.

May then bought the sad news that Dawn was going to be stepping down as DC and the County Team started their search process for a new DC for Sandwell. A search panel of members from the District and the County was set up and all members were notified of the search so they could either nominate themselves or someone else.

The rest as they say is history and now, here I am! I like you am grateful for all the hard work that Dawn did over her time as DC and have a District in a good and solid position in which to continue building on.

After some time together and a series of handover meetings, I found myself as prepared as I could be to begin the next chapter of this Scouting adventure. The District team, I kept the same initially – just so there was some sanity and normality about what was and wasn't going to happen to keep me grounded and to inform me of what plans were already in place. My first big decision was to appoint a new Chair Person – Chris Wallace, who I have to say has been an absolute star and has worked tirelessly to ensure the District is as safe, financially stable and as legal as it could be in this change over period. Can I please use this opportunity to thank Phil Wright for his time as District Chair and for all the guidance and support he offered to the District and the DC in particular. Our new treasurer Gemma also came into post at this time and has hit the ground running when it comes to crunching the numbers and keeping a reign on our spending plans.

So the highlights so far...in no particular order:

*Sandwell opened its first Squirrel Drey in October 2021 at 46th Sandwell

*313th Sandwell Beaver Scout Group finally opened in Nov 2021 and is now growing week on week with a brand new but committed team of amazing adults

*We held our District AGM for the year 2020/2021 online – thank you for appearing as a little box on the screen – it was lovely to see you then – but much better to see you in the flesh now!

*We planned and almost ran the first new District Event – Eat and Meet with Santa, but due to a rise in Covid 19 Cases over the winter months, we decided not to run this event as we didn't want any of our young people, families and volunteers being exposed to any unnecessary germs over the festive holidays.

*Continued to run YL training sessions at District office once the restrictions allowed face to face meetings. This has definitely been needed and been very beneficial as our YL numbers are growing more and more every few weeks.

*The YouShape award badge was launched nationally by HQ giving lots of opportunities for our young people to have more of a say and help shape the future of scouting in their groups and as a District.

*HQ asked us to a “membership head count” in October, just to help them understand the numbers at local level and help them adjust their priorities to support us in the coming months. Thank you to all the GSL’s and Leaders who made this happen – our numbers at this point look promising.

*Many groups were able to attend and support Remembrance Parades and events local to them, which also gave the public the opportunity to see that despite Covid 19, we were still alive and kicking and more important...still relevant and needed by young people, their families and the local community.

*Sandwell has been lucky to have 2 adults selected as Jamboree Unit 90 Leaders for West Mercia and another adult has been successful in her IST application to support at the event. We await news of any young people as their selection event isn’t until next year.

*New and acting GSL’s have been appointed in many groups around the District to lead and drive these groups to even better scouting and opportunities in the future

*The DAAC Team under their Chair’s guidance have continued to provide invaluable support in welcoming new adults into Scouting, discussing potential roles, commitment etc and being the first few friendly faces that encourage them on their Scouting journey – thank you for all this unseen work, time and commitment given to this role

At a District level we again took action to protect our finances as a result of Covid 19 lockdown and the slow release of restrictions by delaying spending on items where possible. Fortunately, a number of Scout Groups benefitted from government funding linked to the business rates they pay for their own buildings again and some other Groups have also been successful in applying for and receiving other smaller sources of funding. This isn’t however equal across the District and each Group’s executive has had to take different actions in 2021 to continue to protect their finances and ensure their continued sustainability.

The District has also benefitted again from funding linked to its buildings that the District Trustees must ensure is used wisely to support the long-term development of Scouting in Sandwell.

Whilst the past year wasn’t quite as challenging as the previous year, we believe Scouts across Sandwell have a lot to be proud of and as we look back, we can see how the efforts of these twelve months have enabled us to bounce back strongly and provide that super quality Scouting we did before. A calendar of District events – some whole District and many for specific sections has been put together and shared with groups. We have tried really hard to listen to you all and take on board as much as we can – your ideas, suggestions and feedback from previous events etc so hopefully the District Team and myself can provide you with a District to be proud of and that you want to Scout in.

The future- January 2022 onwards... hopefully holds...

*Our Awards and Thanks Evening for adults

*The start of District Drop in evenings

*Sports Events, Section Badge days, sleepovers and camps

*Another Squirrel Drey opening (617 Air Scouts)

*Queen's Jubilee Platinum Event

The first few months have been a whirl wind but the amazing people around me have kept me grounded, enthused, motivated and have shown so much support and kindness it is unbelievable.

But remember, Sandwell Scouts is and will always be a TEAM and...

“Together, Everyone Achieves More”

Thank you for all you have done and in advance...thank you for everything you will continue to do and as our Scout promise says... I promise I will do my best for you, your young people, their families and the wider community.

Section E – Financial Review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Quantify and explain any designations

The District'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 Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £20,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £90,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.

This is due in part to receiving unexpected income from Government grants for premises occupied by the District. The trustees will take stock of the reserves currently held and consider how best to invest these funds over the coming 12/18 months. This may be to reinvest in some of the District assets to ensure they can be used to support the objectives of the District longer term.

Further financial review details (optional information)

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. 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.

The District Executive regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group 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 Executive considers the cash flow requirements.


Section F – Other Optional Information

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

Section G – Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full Name(s)	Chris Wallace	Nicola Johnson
--------------	---------------	----------------

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	Chair	DC
--------------------------------	-------	----

Date	23/05/2022
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period Start Date 1/4/2021	To	Period end date 31/12/21
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted Funds (Groups) to the nearest £	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees	6,976	-	-	6,976	3,650
Short Term Investment Fund Interest	10	-	-	10	74
Interest	-	-	-	-	66
COVID Grants	16,000	40,899	-	56,899	74,313
Other Income	972	405	-	1,377	3
Late Membership Fees	-	-	-	-	287
Events	683	-	-	683	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	24,640	41,304	-	65,944	78,394
Total receipts	24,640	41,304	-	65,944	78,394
A3 Payments					
Membership Fees	14,329	-	-	14,329	21,060
Utilities	5,666	1,839	-	7,504	691
Rates	1,656	332	-	1,988	400
Bank Charges	-	-	-	-	6
Activities & Events	781	-	-	781	-
Insurance	821	-	-	821	-
1st Rowley Regis - Expenses	-	3,176	-	3,176	2,503
Miscellaneous Expenditure	749	65	-	814	-
Uniform	125	-	-	125	-
Repayment of COVID grants	-	42,511	-	42,511	-
Bob Addie Fund	-	-	-	-	2,811
Sub total	24,127	47,923	-	72,049	27,470
Total payments	24,127	47,923	-	72,049	27,470
Net of receipts/(payments)	514	- 6,619	-	- 6,105	50,923
A6 Cash funds last year end	86,795	23,806	4,000	114,601	63,677
Cash funds this year end	87,308	17,187	4,000	108,495	114,601

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Barclays Bank Account	66,775	21,187	-
	Scout Association Short Term Investment Fund	20,533	-	-
	Total cash funds	87,308	21,187	-
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
B3 Investment assets			-	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
B5 Liabilities			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's report on the
accounts**

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Sandwell Scout District		
On accounts for the year ended	31/12/2021	Charity no (if any)	1020042
	Set out on pages 1-2		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the 9 month period ended **31/12/2021**.

**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.

Signed: **Date:**

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

(if any):

Address:

Apartment 23, 18 Union Road
Solihull
B91 3DH

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.

SANDWELL SCOUT DISTRICT

England & Wales - Charity number 1020042

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From 01/04/2020 to 31/03/2021

Section A – Reference and administration details

Charity Name

Sandwell Scout District

Registered charity number (if any)

1020042

HQ registration number

10001662

Charity's principal address

14 Powke Lane, Rowley Regis, B65 0AA

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 the whole year
Sean Acton		
Kieran Andrews		
Phil Bird		Apr 2020 – Nov 2020
John Crawford		
Will Fellows		
Dawn Grice		Apr 2020 – Jul 2021
Julie Grice	Secretary	Apr 2020 – Sep 2021
Ryan Hadley		
Alistair Head		
Altaf Moosa	Treasurer	Apr 2020 – Feb 2021
Diane Walker		
Phillip Wright	Chair	Apr 2020 – Aug 2021
Nicola Johnson		Jul 2021 –
Chris Wallace	Chair	Aug 2021 –

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/Area/County 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)

The District is managed by the District Executive Committee, 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.

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the District Commissioner, District Explorer Scout Commissioner and representation from the District Scout Council. The Committee meets at least four times a year.

Members of the Executive Committee complete training which includes a trustee introduction, safety, safeguarding and GDPR within the first 5 months of joining the committee.

This District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner 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.

Risk and Internal Control

The District Executive Committee 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 buildings, property and equipment. 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. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.
- Reduced income from fund raising. The District is primarily reliant upon income from the annual District levy. 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 the levy to increase the income to the District 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 or a group as a whole, then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- Reduction or loss of members. The District provides activities for young people aged 6 to 25. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section, or a Group.
- 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 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

The District works to support Groups and Explorer Units to provide active and safe Scouting and provides activity opportunities to enhance the programme offered by Groups. The District is responsible for implementing a safe recruitment process, in line with Policy, Organisation and Rules.

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

We started the year, with a national lockdown that many of us at the time expected to last weeks, not months - schools were closed, face-to-face Scouting was suspended and for many of us, the Scouting world felt weird! For the 11 Groups across Sandwell the circumstances were broad and varied. For some of our volunteers this has meant taking a break and waiting for restrictions to ease while for others it has meant logging into Zoom each week and carrying out a range of activities at home from finding household items to spell out 'CUBS' to camping out in gardens and homemade dens. As more of us got to grips with virtual Scouting, Sandwell members became braver and braver and really showed some flair and creativity in the activities planned. Although seeing little faces in boxes on a screen wasn't ideal...it still felt like you were in the room with them based on the noise level!! The one good side from virtual Scouting was though....the mess and the clean up was up to the young people and their families and not us for half an hour or so after everyone has gone!

As the lockdown continued, we were fortunate to be able to support and participate in the County "Round the World Event", visiting countries virtually, learning new skills and knowledge as well as practising their STEM, cooking and creative skills...this was well supported by families and groups in Sandwell. We also were fortunate to begin sharing the growing IT expertise, programme ideas which is testament to the volunteers and families in Sandwell who still wanted to keep the Scouting spirit alive and well! Later on in this year 3 or 4 groups joined together virtually for a Harry Potter themed weekend away...indoors! I was blown away by the commitment of the adults who organised it, as nearly every hour of the weekend was filled with a wide range of activities. Even the families got into the spirit of it by decorating their houses, dining tables and gardens with the theme too. We even had a campfire on the Saturday evening with West Bromwich and Wednesbury being lit up by garden fires and treating their neighbours to a raft of fun, silly songs! The lockdown spirit wasn't dampened and on a personal level, I think I was more tired than being at camp face to face! A massive thank you to the leaders, young people and families who made this weekend so successful!

At a District level we took action to protect our finances at the start of the lockdown by delaying spending on items where possible. Fortunately, a number of Scout Groups benefitted from government funding linked to the business rates they pay for their own buildings and some other Groups have also been successful in applying for and receiving other smaller sources of funding. This isn't however equal across the District and each Group's trustee board has had to take different actions in 2020 to protect their finances and ensure their sustainability.

The District has also benefitted from funding linked to its buildings that the District Trustee's must ensure is used wisely to support the long term development of Scouting in Sandwell.

Last year we reflected on the saying, "We are all in the same storm, but we are not all in the same boat". As each Scout Group and each volunteer approached the circumstances of the year in their own way and in line with their own circumstances, we'd like to celebrate the respect shown to each other throughout the District; acknowledging and understanding when taking a pause from Scouting has been the best option, while also celebrating those volunteers who have been able to go above and beyond expectations to deliver virtual Scouting for their sections.

A massive thank you to Dawn Grice as outgoing commissioner who dedicated 11+ yrs of her life to Scouting in Sandwell, who helped the young people, families and adult volunteers achieve amazing things and experience wonderful opportunities. We thank you whole heartedly for your leadership and promise to keep going in the same way and continue building on the previous achievements. Also a big thank you to Phil Wright, the outgoing Chairperson who has led and guided diligently,

ensuring that Sandwell followed the rules, stayed solvent and supported the District team to provide the best Scouting possible under such difficult circumstances

Whilst the past year was challenging, we believe Scouts across Sandwell have a lot to be proud of and as we look back we can see how the efforts of these twelve months will enable us to bounce back strongly in the coming months and years. This is evident in most groups who have returned to face to face – the numbers of young people joining and returning is somewhat astounding and shows how much they have missed Scouting and shows just how needed and important Scouting still is!

Sandwell Scouts is a TEAM and...

“Together, Everyone Achieves More”

Thank you for all you have done and in advance...thank you for everything you will continue to do.

Section E – Financial Review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Quantify and explain any designations

The District'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 Executive Committee considers that the District should hold a sum equivalent to 12 months running costs, circa £20,000.

The District held reserves of approximately £70,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.

This is due in part to receiving unexpected income from Government grants for premises occupied by the District. The trustees will take stock of the reserves currently held and consider how best to invest these funds over the coming 12/18 months. This may be to reinvest in some of the District assets to ensure they can be used to support the objectives of the District longer term.

Further financial review details (optional information)

Investment Policy

The District's Income and Expenditure is very small and as a consequence does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer-term investments such as stocks and shares. 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.

The District Executive regularly monitors the levels of bank balances and the interest rates received to ensure the group 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 Executive considers the cash flow requirements.

Section F – Other Optional Information

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

Section G – Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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Full Name(s)	William Fellows	Ryan Hadley
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	Trustee	Trustee
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Date	29/09/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted Funds (Groups)	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund)	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Fees (This Year)	3,650.00	-	-	3,650.00	15,184.00
Late Membership Fees	287.00	-	-	-	1,935.00
Short Term Investment Fund Interest	73.93	-	-	73.93	129.73
Interest	66.48	-	-	66.48	-
Covid LRSG Grants	40,672.42	33,640.92	-	74,313.34	-
Events	-	-	-	-	3,640.00
Misc Cash	3.00	-	-	3.00	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	44,752.83	33,640.92	-	78,393.75	20,888.73
Total receipts	44,752.83	33,640.92	-	78,393.75	20,888.73
A3 Payments					
Membership Fees (Previous Year)	21,059.50	-	-	21,059.50	20,475.00
District HQ - Utilities	691.28	-	-	691.28	527.70
District HQ - Ground Rent	400.00	-	-	400.00	400.00
Youth Programme and Activities	-	-	-	-	3,002.78
Stationery and Refreshments	-	-	-	-	114.35
Adult Support and Training	-	-	-	-	30.00
Bank Charges	6.00	-	-	6.00	-
1st Rowley Regs - Insurance	-	1,267.90	-	1,267.90	-
1st Rowley Regs - Cleaning	-	400.00	-	400.00	-
1st Rowley Regs - Asbestos Survey	-	290.00	-	290.00	-
1st Rowley Regs - Expenses	-	635.08	-	635.08	-
Bob Addie Fund	-	-	2,810.50	2,810.50	-
Sub total	22,156.78	2,502.98	2,810.50	27,470.26	24,549.83
Total payments	22,156.78	2,502.98	2,810.50	27,470.26	24,549.83
Net of receipts/(payments)	22,596.05	31,137.94	- 2,810.50	50,923.49	- 3,661.10
A5 Transfers between funds					
	7,332.00	- 7,332.00	-	-	-
Membership Fees 2021	3,895.00	- 3,895.00	-	-	-
Membership Fees 2020	3,437.00	- 3,437.00	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end					
	56,866.57	-	6,810.50	63,677.07	67,338.17
Cash funds this year end	86,794.62	23,805.94	4,000.00	114,600.56	63,677.07

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Barclays Bank Account	66,253	27,806	-
	Scout Association Short Term Investment Fund	20,533	-	-
	Cash	8	-	-
	Total cash funds	86,795	27,806	-
B2 Other monetary assets				
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets				
		-	-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
B5 Liabilities				
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Chris Wallace	29/09/2021
		William Fellows	29/09/2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Sandwell Scout District

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/3/2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1020042

Set out on pages

3

(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 31/03/2021^{YYY}.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with 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 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.

Signed: 

Date: 29/09/2021

Name: Gemma Dixon

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

ICAEW

Address:

14 Ansell Way, Harborne, Birmingham, B32 2AT

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2020	To	Period end date 31/03/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted Funds (Groups) to the nearest £	Restricted (Bob Addie Fund) to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
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	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
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Adult Support and Training	-	-	-	-	30.00
Bank Charges	6.00	-	-	6.00	-
1st Rowley Regis - Insurance	-	1,267.90	-	1,267.90	-
1st Rowley Regis - Cleaning	-	400.00	-	400.00	-
1st Rowley Regis - Asbestos Survey	-	200.00	-	200.00	-
1st Rowley Regis - Expenses	-	635.08	-	635.08	-
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Membership Fees 2020	3,437.00	- 3,437.00	-	-	-
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B3 Investment assets				
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Orchard School Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
	Westbourne Road Scout HQ	Unrestricted	-	-
B5 Liabilities				

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval