

## **Cambridge District Scout Council**

### **Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025**

#### **Trustees' Annual Report**

The Trustees are pleased to present their report for the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

#### **Reference and administration details**

**Charity name:** Cambridge District Scout Council

**Registered Charity Number:** 1046049

**Scout District Number:** 10001386

**Principal address:** Cambridge Scout Centre, Green End Road, Cambridge. CB4 1RW

#### **Trustees**

The names of the Trustees who managed the activities of the charity during the year and up to the date of this report, and who served for the whole period unless otherwise stated, are as follows:

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Role(s)</b>
George Devine	District Chair
Christine Mackey	District Treasurer (resigned 31 March 2025)
Hon Kee Lau (Keith Lau)	District Treasurer (co-opted 1 April 2025)
William Holliday	District Lead Volunteer until 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Chris Ward	District Lead Volunteer 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
Lee Mason	District Lead Volunteer from 14th January 2025
Robert Pain	Trustee
Philip Garrett	Trustee
Colin Sills	Trustee
Richard Hames	Trustee
Yassar Mustafa	Trustee
Geoff Oliver	Trustee
Susan Fanning	Trustee

The role of District Administrator has been provided by Joanne McGowan, Administrator of the Cambridgeshire County Scout Council. The District pays the Cambridgeshire County Scout Council for this service.

#### **Advisers**

The principal bankers of the District during this year have been:

Barclays plc, Cambridge

Lloyds Bank plc, Chesterton Road and Sidney Street, Cambridge

#### **Independent Examiner**

Nigel Poulter

32 West Street

Over

Cambs

CB24 5PL

# **Cambridge District Scout Council**

## **Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025**

### **Structure, governance and management**

#### **Governing document**

The District's governing documents are those of The Scout Association. They consist of a Royal Charter, which in turn gives authority to the Bye Laws of the Association and The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

#### **How the Charity is constituted**

The District is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

The Council adopted the Policy Organisation and Rules (POR) published by The Scout Association March 2024.

#### **Trustee Selection Method**

The Trustee Board adopted an open selection process for its trustees from the 2024 Annual General Meeting. Trustees are appointed at the Annual General Meeting to serve for 1, 2 or 3 years each. They may then be re-appointed following the open selection process and may continue on the Trustee Board for a maximum of nine consecutive years under POR.

The Trustee Board continues to act collectively on behalf of Cambridge District Scout Council. The Council is in turn registered as a Charity with the Charity Commission.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The objectives of the District are as a unit of the Scout Association. Scouts is a national movement, open to young people aged 4-25 and adult volunteers. Appointments are confirmed through the joining process applicable to their role.

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. As Scouts, members are guided by the values of:

- 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 cooperate with others and make friends.

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



## **Cambridge District Scout Council**

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#### **Management of the District**

Composition of the Scout District, reflecting changes made by The Scouts to team structures and roles titles from 28 November 2024:

The District is led by the District Lead Volunteer (formerly District Commissioner) supported by District Appointments as below:

- District Youth Lead (position vacant)
- District Leadership Team members
- District Team Leads for Programme, Volunteering Development, 14-24 years and Support
- Group Lead Volunteers (formerly Group Scout Leaders)

#### **Governance**

The Trustee Board is a team of volunteers who work together, as charity trustees, to make sure Scouts is run safely and legally. At the heart of their role is a focus on strategy, performance and assurance. Effective Trustee Board governance helps our volunteers deliver fantastic programmes that give young people skills for life.

In doing so, the Trustee Board supports the District Leadership team's development of Scouting through the provision of activities to support individual Scout groups and Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Explorers, are designated a District section and as such the District has broader responsibility for those sections including oversight of funding.

The Trustee Board meets approximately every three months and receives reports from the District Lead Volunteer, District Treasurer and its sub-committees. The Trustees, including officers, receive no remuneration and they and others who support the Scouting activities of the District do so as volunteers, with there being no cost to the District for the time committed.

From 28 November 2025, all Trustees are required to complete mandatory learning modules within 6 months of joining. The modules include Safety, Safeguarding, Creating inclusion and Being a Trustee In Scouts.

#### **The District Scout Council**

Is the electoral body which supports Scouting in the district. It is the body to which the Trustee Board is accountable.

#### **Risks and Internal control**

The major risks to which the charity are exposed have been reviewed and where appropriate actions taken to mitigate those risks. The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, which include requiring two signatories for all payments and maintenance of comprehensive insurance policies believed sufficient to ensure the insurable risks in relation to premises and significant items of equipment are covered.

#### **Public Benefit statement**

The Trustees consider that the District meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community charity headings.

#### **Achievements and performance**

## **Cambridge District Scout Council**

### **Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025**

#### **Trustees' Report on the activities of the charity (year ended 31 March 2025)**

Cambridge District Scouts continues to grow, with a 2.5% increase from 1537 (2024) to 1,537 (2025) in the numbers of Young People. A comparison with pre-covid figures shows a significant growth of approximately 10%.

We have a waiting list of 450+ Young People which is a small decrease from 2024 when we had over 500 Young People waiting for places in scouting.

Thank you to the 445 adult volunteers that make Cambridge an excellent place to experience Scouting and to teach our Young People Skills for Life.

Transformation continues to take place, with our volunteers getting used to the new structure. With a new District Team in place, we can move forward positively with the correct support network in place. The 14-24 years Team is an area we continue to need more support for.

District led activities continue to thrive, with a Programme Team now in place for the Younger Sections. Thank you to Debbie Rosier, Sue Fanning, Andrew Davison & Greg Harewood for all of their efforts linking to Programme.

Nights Away events are continuing to return to their pre-covid strength, with the excellent support of our Nights Away Approval Team. Deb Thomas, in particular, works tirelessly to support this approval process to enable some many Young People experience Nights Away events. There is also excellent support from Dave Woollard linking to Nights Away Permit Applications. Thank you also to all the volunteers who give up their time for Nights Away Events, such an important part of our Programme.

Looking forward, we have exciting plans for 2026 and beyond. The sale of the Perne Road HQ after the year end provides a strong financial backing to our future plans. The Finance Team have spent a lot of time ensuring the funds we acquired from the sale are placed in high interest accounts, to ensure we earn interest while decisions are made on what to do with the funds going forward. The consultation, headed up by the Funds Panel, is so important for Leaders & Volunteers to have a voice in how District should move forward with these funds. Thank you to both of these teams.

The District Leadership Team agreed a provisional interest in the Dernford Nook Campsite Project. Discussion will be ongoing with Tom Hartley and it's really important we analyse this project in the correct way, looking at barriers and assessing the relationship between the workload and the positives that this project potentially has.

Scouting will also be returning to our District HQ, with Ukrainian Scouts (members of PLAST) set to meet in the HQ from October 2025. This is a real positive for the HQ.

The District Team look forward to seeing you in the upcoming year

#### **Financial Review**

##### **Reserves policy**

The trustees have reviewed the level of general reserves necessary to fund the ongoing activities of the Trustee Board. This has been assessed as being the amount to approximately cover the general expenditure of the District, excluding expenditure for sections activities which are self-funding, for the period of one year, plus a further amount as contingency for possible unforeseen costs in relation to District premise and to enable continued support for the development of Scouting in the



## **Cambridge District Scout Council**

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district. This equates to approximately £25,000. For this purpose, general reserves exclude amounts held by Sections which are designated for forthcoming activities and amounts set aside for specific future events such as jamborees.

These reserves held as 31 March 2025 comprised £73,952 in the general fund net of section balances. The Trustee Board is continuing to review the deployment of funds in supporting of Scouting whilst being mindful of the need to retain sufficient funds to help mitigate risks.

The Trustee Board will continue to be pro-active in finding additional funds should the level of the general fund fall below the level commensurate with maintaining the financial stability of the District.

#### **Investment policy**

The District does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The District has therefore adopted a risk adverse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.

The District HQ is let when not required for Scouting and income is also received from rental of a residential flat held as an investment property, both to provide income to support the District's activities.


#### **Approval of the Trustee's Report and accounts**

This report, including the financial statements, was approved by the Trustees on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 and has been signed on their behalf by:



Mr G Devine (Chair)

4<sup>th</sup> October 2025.



Mrs Christine Mackey (Treasurer)

**Cambridge District Scout Council**  
**Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025**

**Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2025**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31 March 2025**

		31st March 2025		Total	31st March 2024
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted income Funds		Total
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Voluntary income	3	1,362	—	1,362	1,346
Investment income	3	9,701	—	9,701	9,521
Incoming resources from charitable activities	3	51,075	—	51,075	54,859
Total incoming resources		62,137	—	62,137	65,726
Resources expended					
Charitable activities	4	(49,702)	—	(49,702)	(66,009)
Investment costs	4	(800)	—	(800)	(800)
Governance costs	4,5	(8,213)	—	(8,213)	(7,138)
Total resources expended		(58,715)	—	(58,715)	(73,947)
Net movement in funds		3,422	—	3,422	(9,846)
Funds brought forward		104,073	—	104,073	113,919
Funds carried forward		107,495	—	107,495	104,073

**Balance sheet for the year ending 31 March 2025**

		31/03/2025		Total	31/03/2024
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted income Funds		Total
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Debtors	7	6,948	—	6,948	15,837
Cash at bank and in hand			—		
Current accounts	9	41,424	—	41,424	121,322
Deposit account		60,812	—	60,812	36,746
National Savings account			—		353
Total cash at bank and in hand		102,235	—	102,235	158,421
Total current assets		109,184	—	109,184	174,258
Creditors - amount falling due	8	(1,688)	—	(1,688)	(70,186)
Unrestricted funds	12	107,495	—	107,495	104,073
Restricted funds	11		—		
Total funds		107,495	—	107,495	104,073

# Cambridge District Scout Council

## Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 20245

#### 1. Basis of presentation

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP (FRS 102))
- Accounting Standards, and
- Charities Act 2011

#### 2. Accounting policies

##### 2.1 Recognition of Incoming resources

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- The charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- The trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources, and
- The monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

##### 2.2 Incoming resources with related expenditure

When incoming resources have related expenditure, the Incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

##### 2.3 Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources

##### 2.4 Donated services or facilities

Donated services or facilities are only included in Incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefits to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measureable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

##### 2.5 Gifts in kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for as reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as Incoming resources when receivable.

##### 2.6 Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the financial statements.

##### 2.7 Investment Income

Investment income is included in the SoFA when receivable.

##### 2.8 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

##### 2.9 Governance costs



Governance costs include any costs such as preparing and examining the statutory accounts, the cost of Trustee meetings, general administration and the costs of any legal advice to trustees on governance and constitutional matters.

**2.10 Grants payable without performance conditions**

These are only recognised in the financial statements when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grants which remain in the control of the charity.

**2.11 Property assets**

Tangible fixed assets comprising freehold and leasehold property are recognised as historic cost. The District does not revalue such assets for accounting purposes.

**2.12 Amounts held on behalf of groups that have closed**

The accounts include amounts held on behalf of groups that have closed. When a group closes, funds are transferred to the District in accordance with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Association. Such funds are then held by District, either for use by a re-formed group where this is considered likely or for the development of Scouting within the District generally, at the discretion of the District Trustee Board.



**Cambridge District Scout Council**  
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**3. Analysis of Incoming Resources**

	31/03/2025 £	31/03/2024 £
<b>Voluntary Income</b>		
Membership fees receivable	77,369	69,934
Less memberships fees element payable to Cambridge Scout Council	(77,369)	(69,934)
<b>Gift Aid</b>	<b>1,362</b>	<b>1,346</b>
<b>Total voluntary income</b>	<b>1,362</b>	<b>1,346</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>		
Interest received	701	526
Investment property income	8,999	8,996
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>9,701</b>	<b>9,521</b>
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>		
Hire of HQ	1,690	2,706
Fees for training		-
District activities	58	46
Explorer activities (excluding gift aid)	32,520	36,243
Scout section activities	1,733	4,710
Cub section activities	12,613	2,924
Beaver section activities		1,627
Squirrel section activities	360	241
Sale of Badges	1,400	1,316
Other income	417	513
Income to be held for 10th Cambridge	285	4,533
<b>Total income from charitable activities</b>	<b>51,075</b>	<b>54,859</b>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>62,137</b>	<b>65,726</b>

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**4. Analysis of resources expended**

	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
	£	£
Charitable activities		
Whole District camps	-	-
Other District events and activities	-	-
Hardship funds and support to new groups	450	1,223
Jamboree Grants	-	-
Leader Recruitment	-	4,544
Payments on behalf of Units	924	503
Equipment and clothing	-	-
Badges and awards	896	914
Electricity and gas	824	679
HQ Fire and Security	1,346	1,647
HQ Cleaning and caretaking	1,226	2,352
Communications	-	132
Business rates HQ	120	123
Building works HQ	614	3,463
Bank and Just Giving Charges	77	104
Sundry	243	-
Explorer activities	31,370	37,299
Phoenix activities correction	3,449	-
Scout section activities	1,572	4,488
Cub section activities	6,211	3,804
Beaver section activities	34	361
Squirrel section activities	311	-
Expenses paid on behalf of 10th Cambridge (Girton)	36	4,373
	<u>49,702</u>	<u>66,009</u>
Investment Costs		
Investment property resident's association and ground rent	800	800
	<u>800</u>	<u>800</u>
Governance costs		
Insurance	2,154	1,858
District Secretary service	5,839	5,035
Appointment Committee	-	-
District Team Expenses	220	245
Total Governance costs	<u>8,213</u>	<u>7,138</u>
Total resources expended	<u>58,715</u>	<u>73,947</u>

**5. Expenses and fees**

The trustees do not receive any payment for acting as trustees of the charity.

The examiner received no remuneration for the independent examination of the accounts.

# Cambridge District Scout Council

## Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025

### 6. Property Assets

On closure of 54<sup>th</sup> Cambridge Scout Group, the Group's former HQ at Green Road, Cambridge and a leasehold flat at Regatta Court, Cambridge were transferred to the District at nil cost. The building at Green End Road is now used as District HQ, and the flat continues to be let on a short-term tenancy to generate income to support the activities of the District. No valuation of the premises have been obtained.

### 7. Debtors

	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
£	£	
Debts due from Groups	2,171	11,330
Prepayments by us and other debts	4,778	4,508
Total	<u>6,948</u>	<u>15,838</u>

### 8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
£	£	
Membership payable to Cambridge County Scout Council	-	69,934
Other creditors (People we owe) and deferred income	1,688	252
Total	<u>1,688</u>	<u>70,186</u>

### 9. Section balances

	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
£	£	
District Explorer Units not attached to Groups	15,568	16,506
Scouts	383	222
Cubs	18,732	12,330
Beavers	5,426	5,460
Squirrels	290	241
Total	<u>40,399</u>	<u>34,758</u>

### 10. Commitments to expenditure at year-end

There are no commitments to expenditure at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025



**Cambridge District Scout Council**  
**Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025**

**11. Restricted Income funds**

There are currently no restricted funds held.  
 The District holds no restricted endowment funds

**12. Unrestricted funds**

Fund name	Fund balance Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£
Harry Thompson and Claude Wa	1,163	-	1,163	-
Jamboree Fund	1,821	1,163	-	2,984
General Fund	101,088	62,137	58,715	104,511
Total unrestricted funds	104,073	63,301	59,878	107,495

**13. Funds of joint arrangements not included in the accounts**

	31/03/2025	31/03/2024
	£	£
Joint Liaison Committee	11,812	13,264

The District has a pro-rata interest in the freehold of the former Scout Shop premises at Perne Road, Cambridge, based on the declared census numbers in the preceding year. The Cambridge District participates in the Joint Liaison alongside Craft Hill District which manages the site. The amounts above do not include a valuation of the Perne Road property, are the total assets and not the share that might be attributable to the District.

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**Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Cambridge District Scout Council**

**Cambridge District Scout Council**  
**Report and accounts for the year ending 31 March 2025**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Cambridge District Scout Council**

I report on the accounts of the District for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes set out on pages 6 to 13.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity trustees for my examination work.

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The District's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for the year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charity Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act).
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145)(h) of the Charity Act) and
- To state whether matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the District and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matter. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**Independent Examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements  
To keep accounting records in accordance the Section 130 of the Charities Act and  
To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the  
accounting requirement of the Charities Act have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

N M Poulter

N M Poulter

Date 4/4/25