

Annual Report 2024 - 2025

Brent District Scout Council

Charity No. 271413



Introduction

As Scouts, we believe in preparing young people with skills for life. We bring communities together and contribute to society. Above all, we aim to build better futures.

This report demonstrates how we did this from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

Our purpose and method

Scouting actively engages and supports young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. In partnership with adults, young people take part in fun indoor and outdoor activities. They learn by doing, by sharing in spiritual reflection and by taking responsibility. They make choices, undertake new and challenging activities, and live their Scout Promise.

The District Scout Council's Trustees must report on the Council's public benefit in our Annual Report. We have assessed our aims, activities, and charitable objectives, which are to contribute to 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.

We believe that we have met the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria for both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship and community development. The Scouting Movement complies with two key principles set by the Commission regarding public benefit:

1. Identifiable benefit

The way in which Scouting is carried out helps young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society; this benefit is directly linked to the Purpose of Scouting.

2. Public benefit

Scouting is a national movement open to young people aged 4-25 and to adults. Full membership is restricted to young people and adults who are willing to make the Scout Promise. The District enables those who are financially challenged to benefit from Scouting; while the District charges a subscription to its members, the benefits of Scouting are not constrained by a member's ability to pay. The District has arrangements to waive subscriptions, fund uniforms and subsidise activities so that young people are not excluded from activities if they face financial difficulties.

District Lead Volunteer

It is with a deep sense of pride and gratitude that I present the annual report for Brent District Scout Council. This past year has been one of remarkable milestones and continued growth, and I am honoured to have shared this journey with so many dedicated volunteers, young people, and community partners.



A particular highlight was welcoming Dwayne Fields, our new Chief Scout, to Brent for his first official engagement following his investiture. His decision to begin his tenure with a visit to our district is a powerful recognition of the work we've done to build inclusive, vibrant Scouting across the borough. It was a moment of celebration and affirmation for everyone involved in Brent Scouts.

Looking ahead, I'm excited to support the upcoming Kandersteg Expedition in August 2025, where Brent will proudly represent the largest contingent in the County. This international adventure will be a fitting continuation of our commitment to offering life-changing experiences to young people.

Following this, I will be stepping down as District Lead Volunteer at the AGM in September. It has been a privilege to serve in this role, and I am immensely proud of the legacy we've built together. Thank you to every volunteer, leader, trustee, and supporter who has contributed to our success.

Do your best!

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to David Kitchen. The signature is stylized and cursive, with the first part resembling "DK" and the second part being a more elaborate flourish.

David Kitchen
District Commissioner

District Chair

Brent District continues to grow and evolve, with new sections and groups launched in historically underserved areas such as Wembley, Sudbury, and Kingsbury. These developments have been supported by the Underrepresented Communities Fund and two local development assistants, helping to strengthen and sustain our expansion.

We are proud that Brent Scouts will form the largest contingent in the County's 2025 Kandersteg Expedition. District support has focused on ensuring broad participation, reflecting our commitment to inclusive and adventurous Scouting.

This year also saw a significant change in the management of Explorer Scout Units. Following the 2025 update to POR, the Trustee Board agreed to transition group-based Explorer Units to their host groups for operational and financial management. This change will leave only the Young Leader Unit under direct district oversight and finances.

The Trustee Board has remained active and engaged, meeting regularly to oversee property management, financial operations, and development initiatives. Special thanks go to Frank Penter for his financial stewardship, Trevor Toombs for property oversight, and our dedicated trustees for their continued service.

Scouting in Brent is making a real difference by enhancing community cohesion and supporting young people's development, as well as offering meaningful opportunities for volunteers. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to another successful year.



Martin Beard, District Chair

Membership

	2024			2025			2024 v 2025		
	Male	Female	Total*	Male	Female	Total*	Male	Female	Total*
Youth membership									
Squirrel Scouts	9	5	14	16	22	38	7	17	24
Beaver scouts	109	57	171	111	83	194	2	26	23
Cub scouts	135	105	241	146	83	229	11	-22	-12
Scouts	149	96	247	152	92	245	3	-4	-2
Explorer scouts	33	36	70	48	45	93	15	9	23
Network members	9	1	11	7	2	9	-2	1	-2
Total youth membership	444	300	754	480	327	808	36	27	54
Adult Roles									
Leadership	45	72	117	50	78	130	5	6	13
Management	8	6	14	6	7	13	-2	1	-1
Support	6	12	18	3	5	8	-3	-7	-10
Governance	19	35	54	21	35	56	2	-	2
Total adult members	78	125	203	80	125	207	2	-	2
Total membership	522	425	957	560	452	1015	38	27	56
Squirrel Scout Dreys			2			4			2
Beaver Scout Colonies			13			15			2
Cub Scout Packs			15			15			-
Scout Troops			16			16			-
Explorer Scout Units			6			7			1
Groups			14			15			1

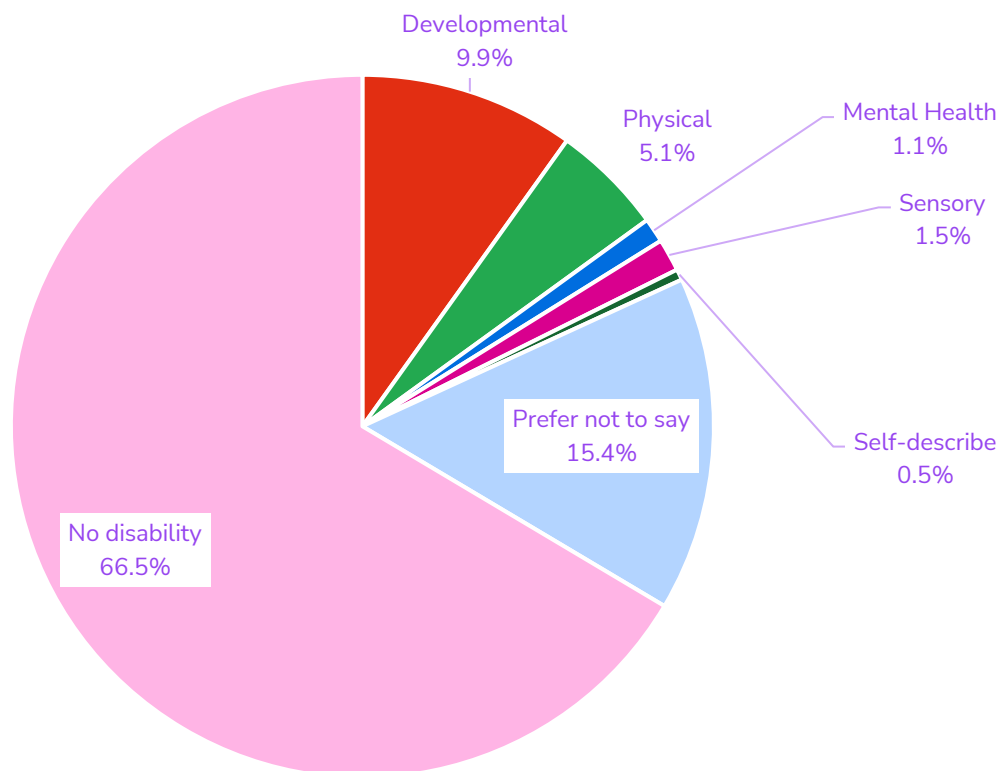
* This total includes those who self-identify or did not declare their gender.

Diversity

Ethnicity & Religion

Unfortunately, The Scout Association have not provided us with the ethnicity breakdown from the 2025 census, and we are unable to report on this.

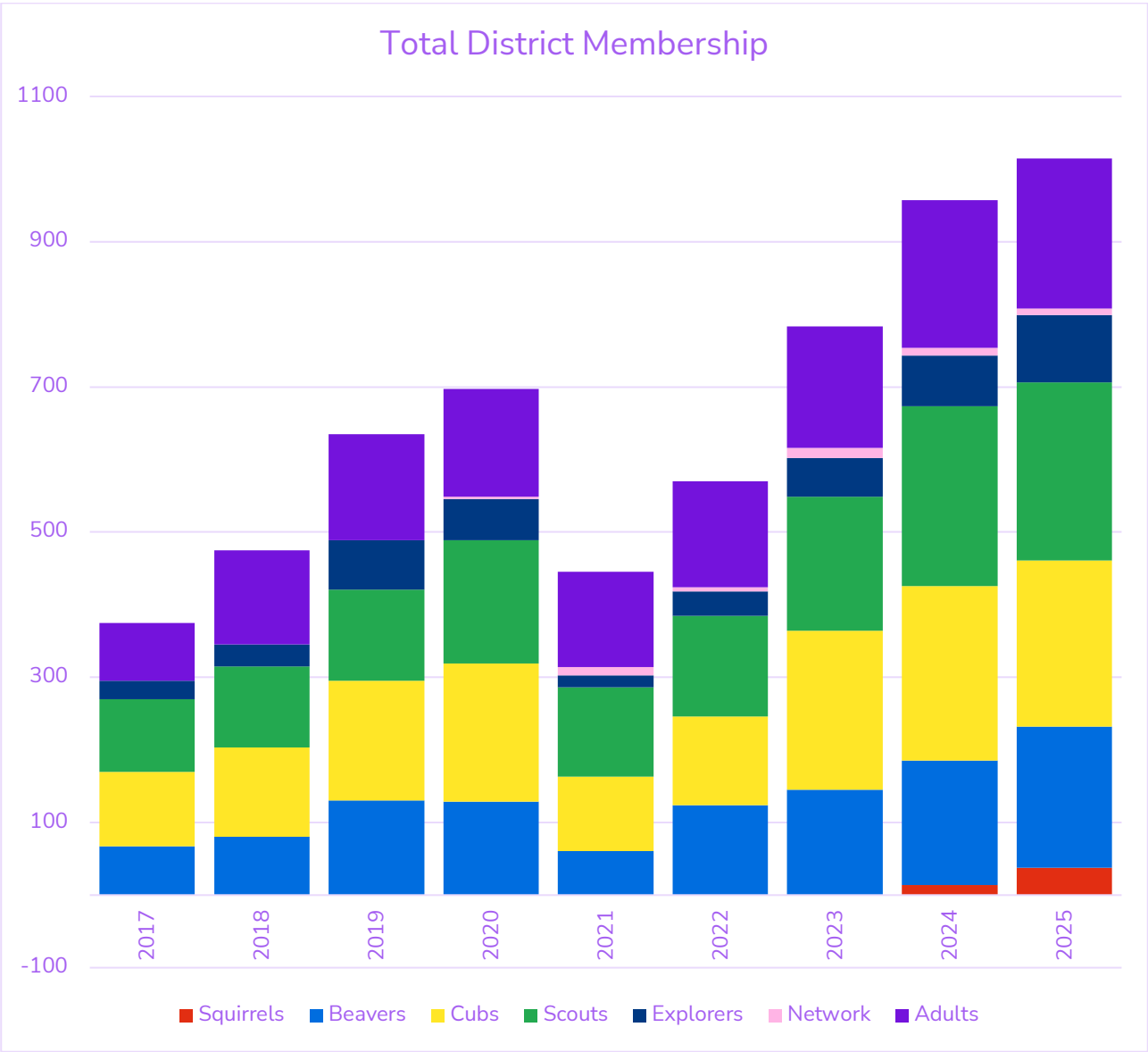
Disabilities



We have seen the number of youth members in the district with developmental disabilities continue to increase from 5.5% in 2022 to 5.7% in 2023, 6.1% in 2024 and now 9.9% in 2025. This compares to only 2.5% in the national population¹.

¹ Mencap (<https://www.mencap.org.uk/learning-disability-explained/research-and-statistics/how-common-learning-disability>)

Historical Comparison



Our annual census is taken on 31st January, and our 2025 figures have grown beyond our 2024 membership. With a 9% growth in both youth membership and 7.7% growth overall, we are again one of the fastest-growing districts in the UK.

Youth Programme

Programme Team Leader: Tom Hughes

Youth Awards

Youth awards play a vital role in recognising and celebrating the achievements of young people within Scouting. They mark both personal milestones and reflect the values of resilience, leadership, and community engagement that Scouting promotes.

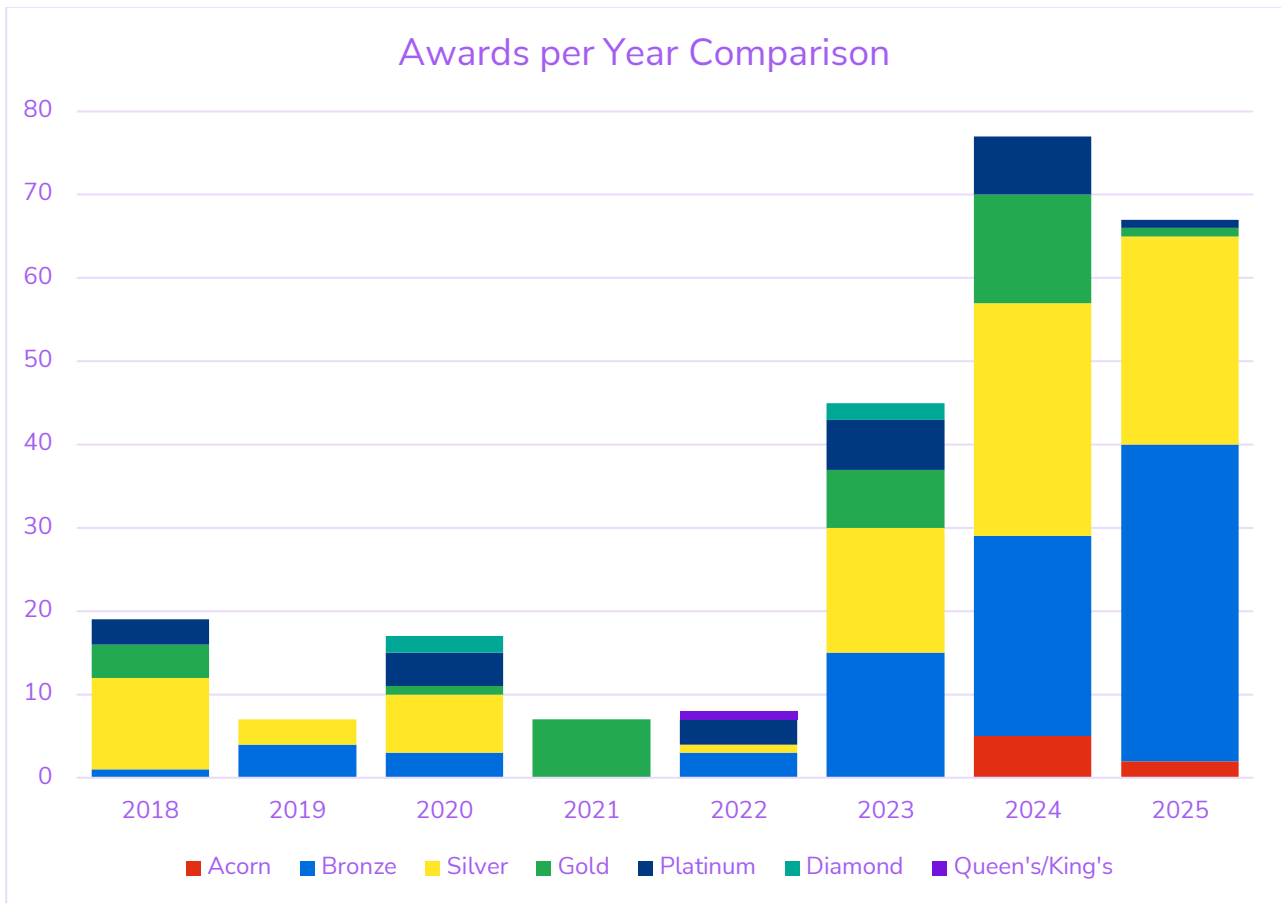
Since setting our district goal in 2019 to increase the number of Chief Scout's and Queen's Scout Award recipients, we've seen how these awards inspire young people to fully engage with the programme and strive for excellence.

The national "Skills for Life" strategy reinforces this by aiming for 50% of young people to achieve top awards, aligning with our own ambitions. Given Brent's rapid growth and strong foundation, setting specific targets for each award ensures we continue to motivate and support our members in reaching their full potential.

Award	Name	Group
Chief Scout's Acorn Award	Kieran Karamshi	2nd Kingsbury
	Luolin Cheng	2nd Kingsbury
Chief Scout's Bronze Award	Adam Yousif Khan	2nd Kingsbury
	Alexander Adcock	7th Wembley
	Anna Cartwright	28th Willesden
	Annie Holt	28th Willesden
	Arjun Vyas	23rd Willesden
	Avani Bhuj	7th Wembley
	Arlo Noah	25th Willesden
	Beetle Press	28th Willesden
	Dilan Patel	7th Wembley
	Eric Taylor	23rd Willesden
	Ettie Bruce	28th Willesden
	Bela Tailor	7th Wembley
	Frank Okun	2nd Kingsbury
	Dylan Elias-Munday	23rd Willesden
	Iris Holmes	28th Willesden
	Dylan Pedro Elias-Munday	23rd Willesden
	Felix Foley	28th Willesden
	Jacopo Di Martino	23rd Willesden
	Jaina Patel	7th Wembley
	Freya Murphy	23rd Willesden
	Luka Sharma	7th Wembley
	Hannah Mitchell	25th Willesden

	Massimiliano Martins	23rd Willesden
	Saanvi Madisety	7th Wembley
	Samuel Shah	7th Wembley
	Shayan Varsani	7th Wembley
	Jack Anderson	28th Willesden
	Sophie Smith	23rd Willesden
	Jacob Remon	2nd Kingsbury
	Khushi Pindoria	7th Wembley
	Luke Donoghue	23rd Willesden
	Manat Ernst Stark	7th Wembley
	Sofia Law	2nd Kingsbury
	Eric William Taylor	23rd Willesden
	Jacopo Di Martino	23rd Willesden
	Sophie Smith	23rd Willesden
	Massimiliano Pappalardo Martins	23rd Willesden
	Tomas Remon	2nd Kingsbury
Chief Scout's Silver Award	Adam Grey-Obian	3rd Kingsbury
	Anna Silver	23rd Willesden
	Caspar Valentin Gocksch	23rd Willesden
	Charlie Harris	2nd Kingsbury
	Daniel Johnston	25th Willesden
	Eddie Young	23rd Willesden
	Elsie Sha	23rd Willesden
	Emelia Robu	2nd Kingsbury
	Gladstone konda	10th Willesden
	Inigo Halsby	23rd Willesden
	Isaac Bellman	20th Willesden
	Liam Krajnik	2nd Kingsbury
	Lorenzo Pappalardo	23rd Willesden
	Martin Poultney	28th Willesden
	Mathew Dimunge	10th Willesden
	Misri Vyas	7th Wembley
	Molly (Ollie) Murphy	23rd Willesden
	Nina monu	10th Willesden
	Sebastian Zaprawa	23rd Willesden
	Shreyas Patel	2nd Kingsbury
	Theodor Holfeld	23rd Willesden
	Vihaan Ashworth	20th Willesden
	Xavier Raghvani	2nd Kingsbury
	Yashvi Kara	2nd Kingsbury
	Yashvi Pindoria	7th Wembley

Chief Scout's Gold Award	Bakary Kanteh	25th Willesden
Chief Scout's Platinum Award	Shreeya Halai	Chandos ESU



We have noted a decline in the number of Chief Scout's Gold Awards presented this year. However, this is not indicative of reduced achievement, but rather a timing issue. Many of the young people eligible for the Gold Award completed their Expedition Challenge as part of the District's dedicated weekend, which was held in April 2025. As a result, a significant number of Gold Awards are scheduled to be presented in May 2025. We fully expect these figures to reflect positively in next year's report, demonstrating continued progress toward our district goals.

Young Leader Training

Young Leader training is broken up into Modules and Missions. There are ten modules that are designed to cover all aspects of training. They help Young Leaders become aware of and learn how to deal with various facets of leadership within the Scouting Movement.

There are also four missions to be completed alongside the ten modules. These missions are designed to allow the Young Leaders to put the learning from the Modules into practice. By doing so, they gain in confidence and become an integral part of the leadership team within sections and groups.



On completion of the course Young Leaders are presented with the Young Leader Belt.

Young Leader Belt Recipients

Name	Section	Group
Hugh Jones	Squirrel Scouts	Monarch ESU

District Programme

We are proud of all our young people who have attended district events this year and thankful to all the groups and volunteers for supporting our events. We are looking forward to the next year and hopeful that we can continue running exciting events for our Young People.

St. George's Day Parade & Awards Ceremony

In Brent, St. George's Day is our opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our members over the past year. Youth and adult awards are presented, and the event serves as a powerful reminder of the impact Scouting has on individuals and communities.

This year's parade began at Wembley Park Boulevard, where groups mustered before processing through the heart of Wembley. The route took us north along the Boulevard, turning onto Engineers Way and Olympic Way, before concluding at Olympic Square. Families and spectators lined the route, cheering on our young people as they proudly represented their groups.

Following the parade, we gathered at Lycée International de Londres Winston Churchill for our Awards and Promise Renewal Ceremony. The programme included:

- A formal Flag Ceremony
- Live music performed by youth members
- Presentation of Youth Member Awards and Adult Service Awards
- A collective Promise Renewal
- Refreshments and social time to close the afternoon

The event was a resounding success, with strong attendance across all sections. It reaffirmed our commitment to unity, celebration, and the values that underpin Scouting in Brent.

Patrol Challenge

Our annual Patrol Challenge brought together Scouts and Explorer Scouts from across Brent for a weekend of skill, teamwork, and friendly competition. Patrols were tested on their campcraft, leadership, and resilience through a series of challenges designed to showcase their Scouting abilities.

Congratulations to the Wind Worriers Patrol from 2nd Kingsbury Scouts, who topped the Scout section with 533 points, and to Chandos Explorer Scout Unit, who led the Explorer section with 601 points. Special recognition also goes to Pioneer ESU, who won the coveted Cooking Trophy for their outstanding culinary skills.



The event was a fantastic celebration of Scouting spirit and camaraderie, and we thank all the leaders and volunteers who made it possible.

Larkin' Jamboree

This summer, **Brent Scouts** proudly took part in the inaugural **Larkin' Jamboree**, held from **27th July to 3rd August 2024** in the beautiful countryside of **North Yorkshire**, just outside the historic city of York.

Our contingent included **18 young people and 6 leaders**, who joined thousands of Scouts and Guides from across the UK and beyond for a week of adventure, friendship, and celebration. The programme featured over **100 activities**, including water sports, high ropes, bushcraft, mountain biking, crafts, and evening entertainment such as discos, film nights, and the "Larkin' Got Talent" show. We also had the opportunity to visit York for the day, and ride on the North York Moors Railway to Whitby.



In preparation for the camp, Brent Scouts took part in a **dedicated programme of team-building activities**, including a **Preparation Camp at PACCAR**, fundraising efforts, and parent briefings.

Larkin' was a memorable experience for all involved, and we look forward to building on its success in future international events.

Brent Roar!



In October was our largest district camp ever, with over 350 Young People and 100 adults taking part in the 2-night camp that saw young people take part in a large district campfire, a range of adventurous activities, including climbing and high ropes, adrenaline activities like Human Hungry Hippos and some district-led badge activities.



The camp was open to all sections, with our first squirrels on a district camp, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Most importantly everyone left the camp with a camp badge (Thank you Michael for designing) and lots of happy memories!

Remembrance Sunday Parade

Scouts from across Brent joined the London Borough of Brent Remembrance Sunday Parade, showcasing their respect and community spirit. Members from 2nd Kingsbury, 7th Wembley, 10th Willesden, 20th Willesden, 23rd Willesden, 28th Willesden, and 37th Willesden Scout Groups proudly represented the district.



Swimming Galas

We were delighted to hold our District Swimming Galas once again in 2024, bringing together young people from across Brent for a fun and energetic celebration of aquatic skills. Separate galas were held for **Beavers and Cubs**, and for **Scouts and Explorers**, with strong participation and enthusiastic support from families and leaders.

The events provided a great opportunity for young members to challenge themselves, cheer on their peers, and enjoy the spirit of friendly competition. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped organise and run the galas.

The winners of each section were:

- Beavers: 28th Willesden
- Cubs: 23rd Willesden
- Scouts: 23rd Willesden
- Explorers: Pioneer ESU

The overall group winner (Beaver, Cubs and Scouts) was 23rd Willesden.

5-a-side Football

In March, Brent District hosted an exciting **5-a-side football competition** for **Cub Scouts and Scouts** at **Powerleague Harrow**. The event brought together teams from across the district for a fast-paced morning of football, teamwork, and fun.

Young people showed great enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout the matches, with leaders and volunteers helping to referee and support the event. It was a fantastic opportunity for Scouts to connect, compete, and celebrate their skills off the field.

The winners of each section were:

- Cubs: 23rd Willesden
- Scouts: 23rd Willesden

Kandersteg

Brent District is proud to be sending the **largest contingent** in the County to the **GLMW Expedition to Kandersteg**, with **51 young people and 23 adults** preparing to take part in this exciting international adventure.

Throughout the reporting year, we've focused on building team spirit, developing expedition skills, and ensuring all participants are ready for the journey ahead. Key activities included:

- **Initial Selection Weekends**, where young people were introduced to the expedition programme and assessed for readiness.
- **Two Unit Meetings**, bringing participants together to plan, bond, and learn more about the trip.
- **Two training hikes**—one through **Epping Forest** and another to **Ivinghoe Beacon**—to build fitness and navigation skills.
- A **Winter Camp at Phasels Wood**, which provided a valuable opportunity for the full contingent to come together, experience cold-weather, and strengthen group dynamics.



These activities have laid a strong foundation for a successful expedition, and we look forward to representing Brent on the international stage in August.

Expeditions Support Team

Expeditions Team Leader: Patrick O’Conner

The Expeditions Support Team is playing a pivotal role in the district by organising a dedicated Scout Expedition Challenge weekend, scheduled to take place in April 2025. This event is designed to provide Scouts with the opportunity to complete one of the most demanding components of the Chief Scout’s Gold Award—the Expedition Challenge.

By hosting this weekend, the team ensures that young people across the district have access to a structured, supportive environment in which to develop their outdoor skills, teamwork, and resilience. The event aligns with the district’s strategic goals for increasing top award attainment, and many participants are expected to receive their Gold Awards shortly after the expedition, contributing to next year’s achievements.

Explorer Scouts

The 2025 edition of POR provided three options for the management of Explorer Scout Units. The trustees agreed to adopt option three for group-based units allowing the operation and financial management of them to move to the groups. This will only leave the Young Leader Unit within the district’s finances.

[Young Leader Explorer Scout Unit](#)

Explorer Scout Leader: Vacant

[Chandos Explorer Scout Unit \(2nd Kingsbury\)](#)

Explorer Scout Leader: David Kitchen

[Dragon Explorer Scout Unit \(8th Kenton\)](#)

Explorer Scout Leader: Harshil Shah

[Monarch Explorer Scout Unit \(25th Willesden\)](#)

Explorer Scout Leader: Michael Edwards

[Pioneer Explorer Scout Unit \(28th Willesden\)](#)

Explorer Scout Leader: Marcin Dziura

[Voyager Explorer Scout Unit \(27th Willesden\)](#)

Explorer Scout Leaders: Usma Shah & Alam Udin

[3rd Kingsbury SEND Explorer Scout Unit](#)

Explorer Scout Leader: Peter Hayllar

Volunteer Development

Volunteer Development Team Leader: Adam Green



Wood Badge

Since September 1919, adult volunteers in the Scouts have been awarded the Wood Badge on the completion of their leader training. The basic badge comprises two wooden beads worn at the end of a leather lace.

Name	Role	Group
Aga Zajkovska	Assistant Scout Leader	28 th Willesden
Ajay Shah	Beaver Leader	8 th Kenton
Alam Uddin	Scout Leader	27 th Willesden
Jack Stride	Support Team Leader	
Sagar Patel	Group Scout Leader	7 th Wembley
Tom Hughes	Deputy District Commissioner	

Chief Scout's Length of Service Awards

Length of service awards are available to Members and Associate Members of the Association with eligible roles that accrue service, uniformed or not.



Award	Name	Role	Group
5 Years	Hugh Woolley		25 th Willesden
	Jasmin Varsani		7 th Wembley
	Len Rubio		10 th Willesden
	Mark Torres		25 th Willesden
	Milan Shah		8 th Kenton
	Rania Gonem		27 th Willesden
	Fatimalbatoul Medlej		12 th Willesden
10 Years	Ajay Shah		8 th Kenton
	Aslam Bakarally	Explorer Scout Leader	27 th Willesden
	Jay Varsani		7 th Wembley
	Usma Shah	Group Lead Volunteer	27 th Willesden
15 Years	Angela Mayes	Group Lead Volunteer	3 rd Kingsbury
	Josh Mayhew		8 th Kenton
	Lindsey Karia		8 th Kenton
20 Years	David Kitchen	District Lead Volunteer	
25 Years	Katina Doyle		28 th Willesden

Awards for Good Service

Commissioner's Commendation

The Commissioner's Commendation is a local award that can be used by any commissioners to recognise adult and youth members and non-members for their contribution to the Scouts.



Name	Role
Sofia Munoz Zuluaga	Young Leader, 2 nd Kingsbury
Tom Hughes	District Programme Team Leader

Chief Scout's Commendation for Good Service

Awarded in respect of not less than 5 years good service, which stands out. It should be regarded as the Chief Scout's recognition of the very real contribution made to the Scouts by the individual concerned.



Name	Role	Group/Unit
Marcin Dziura	Scout Leader	28 th Willesden
Michael Edwards	Group Lead Volunteer	25 th Willesden

Development

Development Committee Chair: David Kitchen

The Trustee Board have maintained their commitment to growth and has developed a successful approach to establishing new groups via the “six-week challenge” run by our amazing Local Growth Team Leader, Derek, our Local Growth Assistants, Irene and Tom with additional help from Christian from Scout Headquarters.

Our Underrepresented Communities Fund project continued through this year with Local Growth Officer, Claudia, supporting multiple projects.

Our efforts have significantly expanded the reach of Scouting in Brent, providing more opportunities for young people to embark on their Scouting journey.

New Sections and Groups

- 3rd Sudbury Squirrels (June): We held a challenge to start a Squirrel Drey at 3rd Sudbury in June, however over the summer this developed into a new group, 2nd Wembley.
- Monarch ESU (September): In September we supported the opening of a new explorer scout unit partnered with 25th Willesden.
- Stonebridge Cub Challenge (October): We held a fully subscribed challenge for cubs in Stonebridge in October and November, unfortunately no volunteers came forward to continue running the section and we had to cancel the project.
- 3rd Sudbury Cubs (March): With the beavers starting to age up a 3rd Sudbury, this cub challenge was supported by the Under-represented Communities fund and started on 12th March 2025.
- 2nd Wembley Beavers (March): Following the creation of the 2nd Wembley in September, we supported a beaver scout challenge to expand the group in March.
- 20th Willesden Beavers: The Challenge was set to start on 13th March 2025, but due to a lack of applications this has been postponed to April 2025.

Support & Operations

Support & Operations Team Lead: Jack Stride

Property

Property Team Lead: Trevor Toombs

The Property Team is currently responsible for two properties: Randall Avenue at NW2 7SX currently occupied by the 37th Willesden Group; and Village Way at NW10 0LH, our District HQ, and meeting place of the 27th Willesden Group.

Randall Ave

Despite some mechanical issues with the ride on mower the grounds have been well maintained and used extensively by the 37th Willesden Scout Group, although the brambles continue to encroach at speed.

A new path has been started along the drive and materials purchased to fence off the wildlife pond which is currently overgrown with brambles.

Further work has been identified including replacement windows and a review of the heating system.

Village Way

Village Way site is much newer than Randall Avenue but is starting to need additional attention.

The external storage area nicknamed the Bungalow had a large section of the felt roofing replaced this year to prevent water ingress into the equipment storage area.

The ground maintenance continues to be the focus of support for this site currently.

Finance

District Treasurer: Frank Penter

Trustees' responsibilities

Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view. Trustees are also responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the district and charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that show and explain the charity's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with any applicable charity laws, and particularly the Charities Act 2011. Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Financial statements are published on Brent District Scout Council's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements, which may vary from legislation in other jurisdictions. The maintenance and integrity of the group's website is the responsibility of the Trustees. The Trustees' responsibility also extends to the ongoing integrity of the financial statements contained therein.

The Finance Sub-Committee monitors the effectiveness of any external and internal audits. The Trustees believe that the system of internal controls has been adequate to provide reassurance against material misstatement or loss.

Financial review

During the year the charity received a total income of £140,195 (2024: £85,802)

The charity's resource expenses totalling for the year were £145,570 (2024: £162,749). As a result, the deficit for the year was £5,375 and has been subtracted from the accumulated funds (2024: deficit of £76,947).

£60k continues to be held by County in readiness for tenure costs associated with the Kenton and Kingsbury headquarters. The progress at Kingsbury slowed in 2024-25 – we now hope to conclude in 2025-26. Kenton continues to be unresolved.

The Development Project's costs were £33.8k, compared to £69.5k the previous year (decreasing as a result of accumulated funds for the project being held by The Scout Association resulting in reduced claims from them). The trustees have intended for some years to be in a position whereby the accounts breakeven once the development project is removed. On this measure we have run the District at a £28.5k surplus (2024: £7k deficit). This surplus includes receipt of a £20k restricted grant – once this removed the surplus is £8.5k. While it is pleasing to note this significant change as compared to the previous year, the Trustees are still working on generating a regular income from the Village Way property.

How we operate

This report and accounts cover the activities directly controlled by Brent District Scout Council (Charity Number 271413 England & Wales). The Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association govern Brent District Scout Council.

Full details of the activities of the Scout Groups in Brent District are not reflected in this report and accounts. Scout Groups are autonomous charities and are affiliated with the District Scout Council.

The District Trustee Board

The Trustee Board delegates its work to three standing sub-committees, these are:

- Development Sub-Committee
- Operations Sub-Committee
- Finance Sub-Committee

Trustee Board

		From	To
Martin Beard	District Chair	Sept 24	
David Kitchen	District Lead Volunteer	Sept 24	
Frank Penter	District Treasurer	Sept 24	
Adam Green		Sept 24	Sept 26
Jack Stride		Sept 24	Sept 25
Wayne Eastmond		Sept 24	Sept 27
Shaila Shah		Sept 24	Sept 25
Denise Pambakian		Sept 24	Sept 26
Trevor Toombs		Sept 24	Sept 27

Principal Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC, Leicester, LE87 2BB

Independent Examiner

Goldwins Limited, 75 Maygrove Road, West Hampstead, LONDON NW6 2EG

Principal Address

Scout Approach, Village Way, Neasden, LONDON NW10 0LH

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brent District Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brent District Scout Council (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Epton BA FCA CTA FCIE
Goldwins
Chartered accountants
75 Maygrove Road
West Hampstead
London NW6 2EG

Brent District Scout Council**Statement of financial activities**

(incorporating an income and expenditure account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

				2025	2024
	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	1,916	23,000	24,916	8,220
Membership Subscriptions		53,932	8,809	62,741	49,552
Charitable activities:	3				
- Events and programmes		28,495	6,663	35,158	21,840
- Scout Building Income		3,252	-	3,252	2,303
- Shop income		176	-	176	563
- Others		248	-	248	-
Investment income	4	13,704	-	13,704	3,324
Total income		101,723	38,472	140,195	85,802
Expenditure on:					
Membership Subscriptions	5	43,945	5,670	49,615	40,863
Charitable activities:	5				
- Events and programmes		63,987	18,996	82,983	108,091
- Building Expenses		4,026	-	4,026	4,503
- Shop purchases & expenses		-	-	-	1,405
- Others		8,946	-	8,946	7,887
Total expenditure		120,904	24,666	145,570	162,749
Net income / (expenditure) before net gains / (losses) on investments		(19,181)	13,806	(5,375)	(76,947)
Net gains / (losses) on investments		-	-	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	6	(19,181)	13,806	(5,375)	(76,947)
Transfers between funds		(3,144)	3,144	-	-
Net movement in funds		(22,325)	16,950	(5,375)	(76,947)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		553,219	8,010	561,229	638,176
Total funds carried forward		530,894	24,960	555,854	561,229

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above.

The attached notes form part of these financial statements.

Brent District Scout Council
Balance sheet
As at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	9		8,828		8,100
			<u>8,828</u>		<u>8,100</u>
Current assets:					
Investments	10	342,895		471,406	
Debtors	11	86,066		17,021	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>205,752</u>		<u>71,521</u>	
		634,713		559,948	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(87,687)</u>		<u>(6,819)</u>	
Net current assets / (liabilities)			<u>547,026</u>		<u>553,129</u>
Total net assets / (liabilities)			<u>555,854</u>		<u>561,229</u>
Funds	14				
Restricted funds:			24,960		8,010
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds		424,760		458,449	
General funds		<u>106,134</u>		<u>94,770</u>	
Total unrestricted funds			<u>530,894</u>		<u>553,219</u>
Total funds			<u>555,854</u>		<u>561,229</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on
16 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Martin Beard
District Chair

The attached notes form part of the financial statements.

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 - effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP FRS 102).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

b) Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and that the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance for the provision of specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

d) Donations of gifts, services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item or received the service, any conditions associated with the donation have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), volunteer time is not recognised so refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated gifts, professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

e) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

f) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting policies (continued)

g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise of trading costs and the costs incurred by the charity in inducing third parties to make voluntary contributions to it, as well as the cost of any activities with a fundraising purpose.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charitable programmes and activities.

i) Operating leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

j) Tangible fixed assets

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £1,000. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life.

k) Investments

Investment includes cash held on long term deposit.

l) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

m) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

n) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

2 Income from donations and legacies

			2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
The Scout association				
-ESU Grant	-	3,000	3,000	7,500
London Borough of Brent (CO2GO grant)	-	20,000	20,000	-
Donations	1,342	-	1,342	720
Gift Aid on Donations	574	-	574	-
	1,916	23,000	24,916	8,220

Membership Subscriptions

General	53,932	-	53,932	45,262
Explorer Scouts	-	8,245	8,245	4,290
Gift Aid on Subscriptions	-	564	564	-
	53,932	8,809	62,741	49,552

3 Income from charitable activities

			2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Events and programmes				
- Events	28,495	-	28,495	17,972
- ESU income	-	6,663	6,663	3,868
Other charitable incomes				
- Scout Building Income	3,252	-	3,252	2,303
- Shop Income	176	-	176	563
- Others	248	-	248	-
Total income from charitable activities	32,171	6,663	38,834	24,706

4 Income from investments

			2025	2024
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	13,704	-	13,704	3,324
	13,704	-	13,704	3,324

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

5.a Analysis of expenditure

	Charitable activities				2025	Total	2024 Total
	Events and programmes	Building	Shop	Others			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Membership	-	-	-	49,615	49,615		40,863
Scout Shop purchase	-	-	-	-	-		1,405
Property Operating Cost	-	2,775	-	-	2,775		292
Property Maintenance Cost	-	1,251	-	-	1,251		4,211
Direct Costs:							
Direct Event Costs	28,466	-	-	-	28,466		17,972
ESU Programme and Costs	18,996	-	-	-	18,996		11,272
District Programme and activities	1,349	-	-	-	1,349		8,910
Volunteers	295	-	-	-	295		358
Growth and development	33,877	-	-	-	33,877		69,579
Grant:							
Grants to Individuals	-	-	-	602	602		996
Grants to Organisations	-	-	-	120	120		-
Support costs:							
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	-	2,169	2,169		1,890
Bank Fees	-	-	-	291	291		361
Insurance	-	-	-	3,101	3,101		2,690
Digital Systems & Telecommunications	-	-	-	1,976	1,976		1,450
Depreciation	-	-	-	687	687		500
Total expenditure 2025	82,983	4,026	-	58,561	145,570		162,749
Total expenditure 2024	108,091	4,503	1,405	48,750	162,749		

Of the total expenditure, £120,904 was unrestricted (2024: £147,207) and £24,666 was restricted (2024: £15,542).

5.b Analysis of expenditure- Prior year (2024)

	Charitable activities				2024 Total
	Events and programmes	Building	Shop	Others	
	£	£	£	£	£
Membership	-	-	-	40,863	40,863
Scout Shop purchase	-	-	1,405	-	1,405
Property Operating Cost	-	292	-	-	292
Property Maintenance Cost	-	4,211	-	-	4,211
Direct Costs:					
Direct Event Costs	17,972	-	-	-	17,972
ESU Programme and Costs	11,272	-	-	-	11,272
District Programme and activities	8,910	-	-	-	8,910
Volunteers	358	-	-	-	358
Growth and development	69,579	-	-	-	69,579
Grant:					
Grants to Individuals	-	-	-	996	996
Support costs:					
Independent examiner's fee	-	-	-	1,890	1,890
Bank Fees	-	-	-	361	361
Insurance	-	-	-	2,690	2,690
Digital Systems & Telecommunications	-	-	-	1,450	1,450
Depreciation	-	-	-	500	500
Total expenditure 2024	108,091	4,503	1,405	48,750	162,749

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

6 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging / (crediting):	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examiner's remuneration (excluding VAT):	1,733	1,650

7 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management

The charity did not employ staff during the year.

The charity trustees were not paid and did not receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Property	Fixtures, fittings, and equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At the start of the year	3,150	5,450	8,600
Additions in year	-	1,415	1,415
At the end of the year	3,150	6,865	10,015
Depreciation			
At the start of the year	-	500	500
Charge for the year	-	687	687
At the end of the year	-	1,187	1,187
Net book value			
At the end of the year	3,150	5,678	8,828
At the start of the year	3,150	4,950	8,100

All of the above assets are used for charitable purposes.

10 Investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Investments at fair value:		
Cash held on long term deposit	342,895	471,406
	342,895	471,406

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

11 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	25,034	17,021
Other debtors	867	-
Prepayments	60,165	-
	86,066	17,021

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	(24)	910
Other creditors	-	428
Accruals	2,079	1,890
Deferred income	85,632	3,591
	87,687	6,819

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£		£	£
Tangible fixed assets	8,828	-	-	8,828
Net current assets	97,306	424,760	24,960	547,026
Net assets at the end of the year	106,134	424,760	24,960	555,854

Analysis of net assets between funds (prior year)

	General unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£		£	£
Tangible fixed assets	8,100	-	-	8,100
Net current assets	86,670	458,449	8,010	553,129
Net assets at the end of the year	94,770	458,449	8,010	561,229

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

14 Movements in funds

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Explorer Scouts	8,010	18,472	(24,666)	3,144	4,960
Brent CO2Go Fund	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
Total restricted funds	8,010	38,472	(24,666)	3,144	24,960
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Development Project 2023-2026Fund	137,466	-	(33,797)	-	103,669
District HQ Re-development Fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Capital Project Grant Fund	198,680	-	-	-	198,680
Hardship Fund	22,303	606	(498)	-	22,411
Total designated funds	458,449	606	(34,295)	-	424,760
General funds	94,770	101,117	(86,609)	(3,144)	106,134
Total unrestricted funds	553,219	101,723	(120,904)	(3,144)	530,894
Total funds including pension fund	561,229	140,195	(145,570)	-	555,854

Purposes of restricted funds

Scouting is carried out helps young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

Designated funds

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for ongoing operating activities.

Movements in funds (prior year)

	At the start of the year £	Incoming resources & gains £	Outgoing resources & losses £	Transfers £	At the end of the year £
Restricted funds:					
Explorer Scouts	7,894	15,658	(15,542)	-	8,010
Total restricted funds	7,894	15,658	(15,542)	-	8,010
Unrestricted funds:					
Designated funds:					
Development Project 2023-2026Fund	206,984	-	(69,518)	-	137,466
District HQ Re-development Fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Capital Project Grant Fund	198,680	-	-	-	198,680
Hardship Fund	23,053	-	(750)	-	22,303
Total designated funds	528,717	-	(70,268)	-	458,449
General funds	101,565	70,144	(76,939)	-	94,770
Total unrestricted funds	630,282	70,144	(147,207)	-	553,219
Total funds including pension fund	638,176	85,802	(162,749)	-	561,229

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

15 Contingent assets or liabilities

There are no contingent liabilities.

16 Legal status of the charity

Brent District Scout Council is a charitable organisation registered with the Charity Commission (registration number 271413).

17 Related party transactions

The charity has no related party transactions during the year.

Brent District Scout Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 March 2025

18 Statement of financial activities (prior year)

Comparative figures

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2024
	Note	£	£	Total
				£
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	2	720	7,500	8,220
Membership Subscriptions		45,262	4,290	49,552
Charitable activities:	3			-
- Events and programmes		17,972	3,868	21,840
- Scout Building Income		2,303	-	2,303
- Shop income		563	-	563
Investment income	4	3,324	-	3,324
Total income		70,144	15,658	85,802
Expenditure on:				
Membership Subscriptions	5	36,593	4,270	40,863
Charitable activities:	5			
- Events and programmes		96,819	11,272	108,091
- Building Expenses		4,503	-	4,503
- Shop purchases & expenses		1,405	-	1,405
- Others		7,887	-	7,887
Total expenditure		147,207	15,542	162,749
Net income / (expenditure) before net gains / (losses) on investments		(77,063)	116	(76,947)
Net gains / (losses) on investments		-	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) for the year	6	(77,063)	116	(76,947)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(77,063)	116	(76,947)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		630,282	7,894	638,176
Total funds carried forward		553,219	8,010	561,229