

## **Leander Sea Scout Group Trustee Report**

**For the Year Ending 31 March 2025**

### **1. Governance and Strategic Development**

- The Trustee Board met regularly throughout the year and continued to oversee the governance and operational management of the Group.
- A new Leander leadership structure was agreed and implemented, aligning with the revised roles defined by the Scouts' national transformation programme. Sub-teams (e.g. Water Activities, Facilities) now lead operational delivery.
- The new admissions policy, trialled successfully in early 2024, prioritises children of volunteers and is now fully in use, supporting volunteer recruitment and managing section transitions more effectively.
- Monthly Group Leadership Team meetings have been introduced, improving coordination and enabling early resolution of operational issues.

### **2. Programme and Section Support**

- All youth sections remained active and well-attended, with summer water activity planning underway as of March 2025.
- The number of Explorers remained stable, and a Switzerland trip planned for 2025 is being supported through targeted fundraising.
- Leaders noted an increase in challenging behaviour from some young people. Effective peer mentoring and breaks have helped, and additional leadership training is under discussion.
- A new system allows leaders to identify staffing for each water session and enables young people and volunteers to gain permits, with training costs covered by the Group.

### **3. Facilities, Boats and Safety**

- Long-standing facilities issues were progressed:
  - Boats are now certified until July 2028.
  - Leaks on one of the gigs and the gig pulleys remain under review.
  - LED lighting upgrades were completed.
- The galley refurbishment project is under review, and the scope is being scaled back after a revised estimate.

- Regular fire safety inspections are ongoing, and a monthly premises walk-round has been implemented.
- Boat licences were renewed, and the COSHH cupboard is being brought into compliance with updated documentation.
- A complete kayak review was undertaken, and all boats will be logged and inspected under Paddle UK guidelines.

#### **4. Risk Management and Compliance**

- The Group Risk Register is now a standing agenda item. It has been updated to reflect:
  - Water quality risks, (40% of river sample days not meeting bathing water standards, so additional risk mitigation is required for the safety of activities/young people.)
  - Riverbank erosion, which has caused trip / foot entrapment hazards. Trustees escalated this to the Council (temporary repairs since completed).
  - Following the Great Orme incident, all section leaders have been asked to review and update their Risk Assessments.
- New incident and near-miss reporting processes are in place, with regular monthly reviews.

#### **5. Finances**

- The Group remains in a healthy financial position:
  - As of March 2025, total funds (including savings) exceeded £99,000.
  - Capitation (~£5,000) and equipment investments (e.g. £8,200 replacement outboard motor) were accounted for.
  - The Gift Aid process is in place.
- An Expenses Policy is under final review, with leadership teams asked to use consistent templates for claims and tracking.
- An Anticipated Expenditure list is being maintained and updated through leadership meetings to support financial planning and prioritisation.

#### **6. External Relationships and Hirers**

- The Group continues to engage with external hirers such as a local Community Church, Pilates and Tai Chi groups. Issues with property storage and overstaying hours are being addressed.

- Leander's engagement with Royal Borough of Kingston's Voice of the River initiative continues, supporting advocacy on river access and water quality.
- A £2,500 Royal Navy grant and £250 donation were secured to help fund a new outboard motor.
- The Group is in the process of reviewing and updating its key policies. This includes:
  - A full Privacy Policy review.
  - Standardising and linking all policies to UK Scouts templates where applicable.
  - Ensuring insurance and safety documentation (including COSHH) are maintained and accessible.

**Andrew Jackson**

Chair of Trustees

# Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group

Registered Charity number 290029

## Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	31.3.25	31.3.25	31.3.25	31.3.24	31.3.24	31.3.24
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income</b>						
Subs	18,135.00				18,528.76	
Gift aid	3,036.21				1,900.68	Note 2
Donations and Grants	4,923.93				3,563.17	
Use of HQ	12,641.83				13,052.29	
Use of boats	675.00				489.84	
Fund raising	2,099.16				1,029.17	
Camp	6,225.00				3,870.00	Note 1
Great River Race	0.00				0.00	
Uniform sales	722.95				1,655.32	
Interest received	2,989.63				1,518.40	
Donation for water testing	4,480.00				0.00	
<b>Total Income</b>			<u>55,928.71</u>		<u>45,607.63</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Capitation		5,568.00			4,592.00	
HQ						
Maintenance	5,510.64			7,673.74		
Insurance	2,604.69			2,830.88		
Services	2,237.75			1,531.77		
Council tax/Envi Agency	1,250.89			1,120.82		
		11,603.97			13,157.21	
Boats						
Purchase/sale	0.00			300.00		
Maintenance	832.99			5,562.86		
Insurance	1,817.93			3,093.78		Note 3
		2,650.92			8,956.64	
Camp	3,023.81			2,473.83		
GRR	1,247.52			1,589.76		
Training	790.75			2,088.00		
Activities/meetings	1,952.54			3,765.82		
Uniform	454.63			2,325.91		
Equipment	86.92			71.17		
Administration & Misc.	149.24			707.00		
Water testing	743.20			0.00		
		8,448.61			13,021.49	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>			<u>28,271.50</u>		<u>39,727.34</u>	
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the Year</b>			<u><u>27,657.21</u></u>		<u><u>5,880.29</u></u>	

### Bank Accounts:

Community Account - Debit Card			567.54			438.53
Current Account			5758.91			4,220.34
Deposit Accounts	82,038.52	5,807.47	87,845.99	56,135.44	5,720.92	61,856.36
	C&C	Barclays		C&C	Barclays	
<b>Total at Banks</b>			<u><u>94,172.44</u></u>			<u><u>66,515.23</u></u>

Note 1 Contributions to 2025 camp included

Note 2 Improved recovery as more GA forms signed

Note 3 Only half year as balance paid next year

# **Leander (Kingston) Sea Scout Group**

**Charity number 290029**

## **Independent Examiner's Report on the accounts**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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



Edward Warans FCA, Chartered Accountant  
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31 July 2025