

Annual Report 2023



EAST SUSSEX COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

Registered Charity 291136
Bushy Wood Activity Centre
Main Road, Hailsham
BN27 3LZ
Telephone 07907 119054 www.eastsussexscouts.org.uk

SCOUT ASSOCIATION REGISTRATION

Charity Number 00170; 1 April 1974

PRESIDENT

Andrew Blackman, Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex

TRUSTEE BOARD

Ex-officio

Kathryn Frost
Elaine Gausden
Sharon Bishop
Tony Richardson
Gabriel Jones

County Chair
County Lead
County Secretary
County Treasurer
County Youth Lead

Nominated

Ray Tennant
Stephen Dawson
Mark Lloyd
Andrew Smith

BANKERS

Barclays Bank plc
High Street
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 2DF

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

MR M CLARK

Report from the County Chair

I am pleased to present the Annual report for the East Sussex Scout Council.

Despite the continued challenging economic landscape, we are pleased to report that Scout Board maintained a stable financial position throughout the year. Our revenue sources remained consistent, and we successfully managed our expenses within the allocated budget. The prudent financial management ensured that we continued to support and invest in our core scouting programs and initiatives.

Growth and Development: The County have part funded the introduction of a Local Growth officer, focused on membership growth initiatives. Squirrel Dreys are now in almost all districts and there are strong moves towards growth in areas of the county that need direct and detailed support from our Officers expertise for both young people and adult recruitment.

Our Youth team also continues to grow with a Youth lead either in role or identified as being suitable in all Districts; this key team have come into 2024 with strong ideas and plans for youth engagement and shaping the youth focus in our County.

Leadership Development: Recognising the importance of leadership skills, our training teams have continued the drive across our training programs and workshops for scout leaders. Specifically, the introduction of our health & safety team who have been working together with our District leads to review and refocus safety in the County supporting groups and districts with all health and safety matters.

These initiatives aimed to equip our leaders with the necessary tools and knowledge to effectively guide and mentor our young people through exciting programs.

International: The unprecedented challenges faced by our young people and adult volunteers at the World Scout Jamboree in the summer of 2023 were a matter of great concern for the Board of Trustees. However, the careful management of the situation by our County team and those at the Jamboree ensured our young people and adults were supported fully and we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all those who navigated a very difficult situation. The Board continues to work closely with the County team on supporting all adults and young people on international trips and we look forward to more opportunities for this into 2024/25.

Challenges and Mitigation: While we celebrated many achievements, as above we also faced challenges during the year. Our County can and will continue to swiftly adapt to any challenges with targeted support ensuring that our scouting experience remains accessible, engaging, and interactive.

Transformation: We have already seen some changes adopted in the past few months and we remain working hard to prepare the county for transformation. These will see exciting new changes to the way we deliver scouting and how we welcome and develop new volunteers into our leadership and governance teams.

Diversity and Inclusion: Recognising the importance of inclusivity, we aim to enhance diversity within our organisation. We will continue to implement initiatives that create a welcoming and supportive environment for members from diverse backgrounds, ensuring everyone feels valued and represented within East Sussex.

Partnerships and Collaborations: We will continue to actively seek partnerships and collaborations with other counties, local businesses, educational institutions, and governmental bodies. These partnerships will provide our scouts with valuable learning experiences, resources, and opportunities to contribute to the community.

Community Outreach: Across the County, our young people actively participated in community service projects and environmental initiatives, fostering a sense of social responsibility among our members, and leaving a positive impact on the community.

In conclusion, the past year has been successful and rewarding. We have navigated through some uncertainty, adapted to changing circumstances, and continued to provide an excellent and meaningful scouting experience for our members. We extend our gratitude to all the dedicated volunteers, leaders, and supporters who have

contributed to our success. We look forward to the year ahead and remain committed to fulfilling our mission of giving every young person skills for life.

Kathryn Frost

Chair Board of Trustees

CENSUS OF MEMBERSHIP AS AT 31 JANUARY 2024

	Squirrel Scouts	Beaver Scouts	Cub Scouts	Scouts	Explorer Scouts	Network Scouts	Adults	Total 2024	Total 2023
Ashdown	41	235	262	223	82	5	211	1,059	1,087
Brighton & Hove	-	203	351	308	87	2	200	1,151	1,432
Eastbourne	39	200	277	249	99	27	327	1,218	1,189
Hailsham & Heathfield	-	114	145	134	48	-	152	593	559
Hastings & Rye	57	212	307	208	85	4	232	1,105	996
Lewes	2	83	108	116	36		129	474	435
Seahaven	-	66	84	83	31	23	102	389	372
Senlac	24	133	165	184	62	11	195	774	758
County							65	65	54
Total 2024	163	1,246	1,699	1,505	530	72	1,613	6,828	
Total 2023	91	1,243	1,762	1,532	513	143	1,598		6,882

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The East Sussex County Scout Council is the electoral body which supports and encourages the development of Scouting within the County. The Scout County consists of eight autonomous Districts: Ashdown; Brighton & Hove; Eastbourne; Hailsham and Heathfield; Hastings and Rye; Lewes; Seahaven; and Senlac. The constitution of the Scout County is set out in the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association.

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

The function of the Trustee Board Committee is to:

- support the County Lead in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment.
- provide support for the Scout Districts and Scout Network within the County.

Members of the Trustee Board are appointed in accordance with Policy, Organisation and Rules (P.O.R.) of The Scout Association. The County Chair, County Lead, County Treasurer, County Secretary and the County Youth Lead are ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. Other members are elected or appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the County Scout Council. The Executive Committee may co-opt members to fill casual vacancies.

Trustees already have, from the appointments they have held, basic understanding of both Scouting generally and of how the County is organised and run. With effect from 1 January 2016 all new Trustees were required to become members of The Scout Association and undertake the Association's training for Trustees.

It is a duty of the Trustee Board to identify, review, and mitigate the major risks to which it believes the County is exposed. The main areas of concern remain the need to recruit sufficient volunteers to provide the requisite management and support of Scouting within the County; and the requirement to set and maintain high standards of health, safety, and protection of the environment.

Risk Assessments are undertaken for all major County Activities in accordance with the recommendations and requirements of the Scout Association's published document entitled "Policy, Organisation and Rules". Regular risk assessments of the County's activity centre are carried out and reported to its Management Committee.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Scout County, as part of the national Scout Association, is to help young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens, and as members of their local, national, and international communities. The method of achieving this aim is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law, and guided by adult leadership.

The Scout County's overall objective is to encourage the development of Scouting in East Sussex. It does this by supporting the County Lead and their team in ensuring that appropriate administrative and financial arrangements are in place to promote good practice in the Scout Districts and Groups. In particular, it provides all adult leader training free of charge at the point of delivery and organises certain activities which are not provided at a more local level. It publishes internal newsletters to keep adults informed of developments. Promoting good health and safety practices also remains a key activity.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit (Charities and Public Benefit). The trustees believe that the benefits enjoyed by young people participating in Scouting activities, supported by East Sussex County Scout Council, meet the public benefit criteria of the Charities Act 2011, without distinction by reason of age, diversity or disability.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- make judgements 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 charitable organisation will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws and regulations.

They 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 Review

The consolidated accounts for all County activities shows Income of £60,752 (2022 £61,063) with expenditure of £51,846 (2022 £64,094). This has left a surplus of £8,906 as compared with a deficit in 2022 of £3,031.

The County has supported the group attending the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea by subsidising the cost of the event fees and by financing the expenses due to the issues with the event in South Korea and the enforced delay on the return journey. The County has also agreed to support Scouts attending Roverway 24.

The trustees have a policy of retaining monies in the general fund to meet 9 months expenditure and to allow for any emergency assistance required by Scout Districts or Groups within the County. The reserves policy is reviewed annually. The general fund balance as of 31 December 2023 is £174,075 (2022 £163,188).

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of East Sussex County Scout Council

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of East Sussex County Scout Council (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr M Clark
5 Kingsdown Avenue
Bexhill on Sea
East Sussex
TN39 4EJ

29 June 2024

East Sussex County Scout Council

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

		2023			2022
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total £	Total £
Incoming resources	3				
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		29,401	2,500	31,901	39,845
Investment income		9,171	0	9,171	2,812
Incoming resources from charitable activities		17,166	2,514	19,680	18,406
Total incoming resources		55,738	5,014	60,752	61,063
Resources expended	4- 6				
Costs of Generating Funds					
Charitable activities		34,351	17,495	51,846	64,094
Total resources expended		34,351	17,495	51,846	64,094
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		21,387	(12,481)	8,906	(3,031)
Gross transfers between funds	12.3	(10,500)	10,500	0	0
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		10,887	(1,981)	8,906	(3,031)
Total funds brought forward		163,188	111,533	274,721	277,752
Total funds carried forward		174,075	109,552	283,627	274,721

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

		31-Dec-23			31-Dec-22
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Total £	Total £
Current assets					
Stocks	7	818	-	818	1,045
Debtors	8	11,017	-	11,017	17,295
Cash at bank and in hand	9	171,297	109,552	280,849	295,594
Total current assets		183,132	109,552	292,684	313,934
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	9,057	-	9,057	39,213
Net current assets/(liabilities)		174,075	109,552	283,627	274,721
Total assets less current liabilities		174,075	109,552	283,627	274,721
Net assets		174,075	109,552	283,627	274,721
Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted funds	12	174,075	-	174,075	163,188
Designated Funds	12	-	109,552	109,552	111,533
Total funds		174,075	109,552	283,627	274,721

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 29 June 2024 and signed on their behalf by

K Frost

Chair

A M Richardson, FCCA

Treasurer

Notes to the accounts

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost (except that investments are shown at market value) in accordance with:

- Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015);
- and with Accounting Standards
- and with the Charities Act 2011.

Note 2 Accounting policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources	These 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.
Membership subscriptions	Membership subscriptions collected on behalf of other parts of the Scout Movement are reported in the SoFA net of any amount paid out. This is because these subscriptions are in effect held as agents before being paid out.
Incoming resources with related expenditure	Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.
Contractual income and performance related grants	This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.
Gifts in kind	Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.
Volunteer help	The value of any voluntary help received is not included although the reliance placed on this vital resource is referred to in the annual report.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Investment gains and losses	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.
Grants with performance conditions	Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.
Grants payable without performance conditions	These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the charity.

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity	These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1000. They are valued at cost or a reasonable value on receipt.
Investments	Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at trustees' best estimate of market value.
Stocks	These are valued at the lower of cost or market value.

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Note 3

Analysis of incoming resources

	Analysis	2023 £	2022 £
Voluntary income	Membership subscriptions	211,906	212,450
	Less: Membership subscriptions paid to National Scout Headquarters	(182,505)	(174,605)
	Net membership subscriptions retained	29,401	37,845
	Grants & Donations	2,500	2,000
		31,901	39,845
Investment income	Bank & Short term Investment Interest	9,171	2,812
	Total	9,171	2,812
Incoming resources from charitable activities	Youth Programme and activities	19,680	18,206
	Adult Training	-	200
	Total	19,680	18,406

Note 4

Analysis of

	Analysis	2023 £	2022 £
Charitable Activities	Youth Programme and activities	31,242	51,196
	Governance	239	162
	Adult Training	5,794	4,047
	Development of Scouting	5,605	1,118
	County Office	8,966	7,571
	Total	51,846	64,094

Note 5

Expenses

5.1 Trustee expenses

The total amount of payments or reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses made to

Number of trustees who were paid expenses

Nature of the expenses

Total amount paid

2023	2022
0	0
Travel	Travel
£0	£0

5.2 External Examiner Fees

The following fees were paid for the statutory external scrutiny of accounts and other

2023 £	2022 £
0	0

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Note 6

Paid employees

6.1 Staff Costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross wages, salaries and benefits in kind	6,671	6,148
Total staff costs	6,671	6,148

6.2 Average number of full-time equivalent employees in the year

	2023 Number	2022 Number
	1	1

No employee emoluments exceeded £60,000 during the year

Note 7

Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Activity Books & Badges	818	1,045
Total	818	1,045

Note 8

Debtors and prepayments

Analysis of debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	9,894	13,016
Prepayments and accrued income	1,123	4,279
Total	11,017	17,295

Note 9

Cash at bank and in hand

Analysis of deposits

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank Accounts	25,824	40,374
Investment Accounts	255,000	255,186
Cash in hand	25	34
Total	280,849	295,594

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Note 10

Creditors and accruals

Amounts falling due within one year	
31/12/2023 £	31/12/2022 £
Trade creditors	79
Receipts in advance	8,502
Accruals and deferred income	476
Total	9,057

Note 11.

Analysis of County Activities

	Income	Expenditure
International Events	3,014	9,629
Beaver Scouts Events	9,625	9,005
County Office & General Stationery	-	8,966
Adult Training	-	5,794
Development Costs	-	5,605
Overland Hike	4,124	3,993
LEA Grant	2,000	2,260
Other Costs		2,104
Scout Events	1,345	1,269
Badges & D of E awards	1,472	1,265
Scout Active Support	600	603
Tune up	-	469
ACC Youth Involvement		329
Health & Safety		249
Governance	-	239
Squirrels		67
Membership Fees	29,401	-
Investment Interest	9,171	-
Totals	60,752	51,846

Notes to the accounts (continued)

Note 12

Designated and restricted funds

12.1 Funds held

The charity held the following funds at the year end

General Fund (GE); Designated Funds (D)

Fund Name	Type GE, D	Purpose and Restrictions
International Reserve	D	To support Scouts taking part in international activities.
LEA membership grants	D	Represents the value of grants received to support Scouting within the East Sussex County Council area.
Development Fund	D	To support future Development of Scouting within East Sussex

12.2 Movements of major funds

Fund names	Type GE, D	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
General Fund	GE	163,188	55,738	(34,351)	(10,500)	174,075
International Reserve	D	53,033	3,014	(9,630)	10,500	56,917
Development Fund	D	52,000	-	(5,605)	-	46,395
LEA membership grants	D	6,500	2,000	(2,260)	-	6,240
sub total designated funds		111,533	5,014	(17,495)	10,500	109,552
Total Funds		274,721	60,752	(51,846)	-	283,627

12.3 Transfers between funds

From Fund (Name)	To Fund (Name)	Reason	Amount
General Fund	International Reserve	To support future International activities	£10,500