



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District**

**AGM 2024**



**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – 7.30 p.m.**

**Keele in Town**

# **District Chair's Report 2024**

The past 12 months can be split into two distinctive halves, the first saw us with a District Executive with last years AGM seeing the move to a District Board of Trustees formally taking place.

The first half of the year saw the Exec dealing with the issues that it always had but the move to the Trustee format saw the Trustee focusing on the governance of the District including financial management, property, insurance and compliance with regulations. This then allowed the District Leadership Team to focus on the overall function and operation of the District, areas that previously had seen the Executive Committee get drawn into at times.

The Trustee Board is scheduled to meet bi-monthly with an extra meeting for budget setting so the second half of 2024 saw three meetings plus the budget meeting taking place. The focus on the appropriate areas of the Board and not getting involved in areas where it shouldn't meant that the longest of the meetings was just 45 minutes!

However we have managed to cram quite a lot into those 45 minutes and apart from the 'normal' day-to-day governance of the District the Trustees were able to look at areas including:

- The ongoing transformation;;
- An insurance policy review;
- The setting up of Motion Picture Licensing for all the District;
- Requests for financial support and inclusivity support;
- The oversight of the creation of a new group within the District and, unfortunately, the closure of another;
- Creation of GDPR and Privacy policies.

There was a reduction in the number of individuals on the Trustee Board as compared to the Executive Committee and I would like to thank all members of the Exec for the work and support they gave during the first half of the year. Equally my thanks go to all Trustees for the help and support they gave during the second part of the year as we got to grips with the new style of meeting. In particular I would like to thank Kevin Stanyer for all the work and hours he puts in and Treasurer and to Dot Bailey as secretary to the Executive Committee and Hazel Brown as administrator to the Board of Trustees.

If I have missed anyone please accept my apologies and here's to the next 12 months.

*Paul*

**Paul Bailey**  
District Chair

# **District Treasurers Report - 2024**

**Year Ending 31st December 2024**

A copy of our accounts for 2024 which have been independently examined and approved by accountants at VAST (Voluntary Action Stoke-on-Trent) are attached to our annual report for your information.

It is worth explaining that these accounts cover not only our specific, district, financial activities across our general business account, and three separate savings funds, but also include those of our 4 ESU's, our District Drum Corps but also the accounts of the 2024 Castle Capers gang show. The District also availed banking facilities to the Harriet Higgins Centre for the first six months of the year. These factors help to explain the large increase in income and expenditure figures in comparison to the previous year.

## **Castle Capers Golden Jubilee Show**

Undoubtedly this was our biggest, brightest and most expensive project of the year. The show itself realised a "profit" of £1,860. It is important to note some context however, in that the show, fortunately benefited from combination of grants and corporate sponsorship to the value of £8,617. The majority of this funding came in the form of a grant from the Staffordshire County Council Community Fund and we would like to thank the following council members for their kind support: Derrick Huckfield (Keele, Knutton and Silverdale), Paul Northcott (Newcastle Rural), James Salisbury (May Bank and Cross Heath), Simon Tagg (Westlands and Thistleberry,) Stephen Sweeney (Newcastle South), Jill Waring (Talke and Red Street)

## **Other Grants**

Knutton and Silverdale Scout Groups both benefited from sizable grants during the year from the Knutton Quarry-Ibstock Brick Community Project Fund. This was postcode ring fenced, and additionally St Giles and St George's received £500 from the SCC Climate Change Fund. All of which were successfully applied for by Vera Bloor on behalf of the district.

Whitmore Scout Group also profited from a couple of very generous donations from Biffa Waste Services Ltd which were received through our account as the company required proof of registered charity status before granting the payments.

I mention these simply to highlight the potential for donations and local grants to other groups and units across our area.

## **Personal Note**

I have acted as the District Treasurer for the Newcastle District Scout Council since 2014, having previously carried out a similar role for Porthill Scout Group for many years. It is my intention to stand down from this role in the next 12 months. I would be happy to support and mentor anyone else who would be prepared to succeed me.

**Kevin Stanyer**

District Treasurer

# **District Lead Volunteer Report – 2024**

## **Part one - January to June**

We had an eventful start to 2024, and census showed the district had 783 young people, an increase of 4.5% on the previous year, and 300 adults, a 3.8% increase, absolutely demonstrating how amazing volunteers enable the participation of young people, and something that is crucial for their continued participation. Sadly recruitment and continuity of volunteers is a continued issue across many groups

One of the main focuses of the District was the Golden Jubilee of Castle Capers our District gang show, and we are indebted to the skill and commitment of Paul and Dot Bailey, who led an amazing production team, to bring it to fruition after countless hours of planning and rehearsals. Our Family of Scouting were inspirational, overcoming all sorts of problems, including Adam Gray's van containing staging being stolen the day before dress rehearsals. The support of dozens of other volunteers backstage, sewing, sound, lighting, teas, registration, dressing rooms and front of house together with an amazing cast, enabled the show to dazzle their expectant audiences, and the plaudits flowed in from them and from our VIP guests.

Castle Capers and other activities would not be possible without the support of generous grants from Staffordshire county council community fund and other sponsors, and we are grateful for their support, and also to Kevin Stanyer our District Treasurer, who works his magic claiming gift aid, and ensuring that all reports and accounts are compliant with charity commission rules.

Adventurous activities continued, with our young people attending some great events including young leader training weekends, climbing, sailing, hikes and numerous camps. The drum corps, continued to welcome new members and the Keele Squirrel Drey continued to thrive, and provided a template for others to plan to open new dreys.

Owen Dyde kindly agreed to take on the district Lead volunteer role, and as the spring programme continued, Owen brought together his new district teams to progress transformation. I was sad to hand over in June, after 10 great and indeed interesting and at times challenging years, but also happy that the District was being taken forward by great individuals

I'd like to thank every volunteer and young person who helped create *a legacy for the future*, through all the skills development and fun.

Yours in Scouting

**Vera Bloor**

District Lead Volunteer – January-June

# **District Lead Volunteer Report – 2024**

## **Part two - June to December**

Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported me in my first few months as DLV. I really could not have got through some of the challenges that have come my way without a great team to ask for support and a listening ear! I would also like to thank everyone who, overall, have made me feel welcome in my new role; it is certainly one that comes with its quirks and expectations!

I think it is fair to say that it has been an eventful few months for us all as we moved closer to transformation. We had lots of questions, of which most did not have an answer at the time; heard lots of rumours and all were in a different place with the changes to come. We got there in the end; we all have new titles, and we are slowly becoming more familiar with the new system and watching out for the next HQ update.

I know that we are still all getting used to the new membership and I thank you for your patience and commitment as we navigate the best way to do things together.

Through everything that transformation has thrown at us, Scouting has carried on regardless. We are still offering great experiences for young people across the borough, and you should all be truly proud of everything that you do on a weekly basis.

Thank you for everything you do, your commitment and enthusiasm that adds up to thousands of hours per year! Looking ahead we have another extremely exciting year packed full of great activities, next stop district camp.

You are all amazing.

**Owen**

A very new District Lead Volunteer!

# **District Youth Lead Report – 2024**

Taking on the role of Youth Lead in August 2024 was a step into the unknown—but one filled with excitement, potential, and a genuine passion for making Scouting more youth-shaped across our District. The last few months of the year were about finding my feet, learning the ropes, and beginning to build the foundations of what I hope will grow into a strong culture of youth-led Scouting in Newcastle.

One of my main focuses has been promoting the YouShape Award across the District. After a slow but steady start, I'm proud to share that I've delivered multiple successful YouShape sessions with Holy Trinity groups and Kingfisher Explorers - with more groups lining up in the coming months. These sessions have sparked some brilliant conversations and shown just how capable and creative our young people are when given the space to lead. Both groups are now well on track to complete the full YouShape Award collection. I have taken the opportunity to use these sessions as a source of youth feedback for the District too and I hope that through these sessions, I've inspired leaders to embed youth-shaped Scouting into their regular programme - not just as a one-off badge, but as a lasting mindset.

A big part of my focus has also been supporting the pathway of **up-and-coming young leaders**, and I want to say a **huge thank you to Dot and Paul** for allowing me to share opportunities with those who are just beginning their leadership journey. It's been really rewarding to help younger members take that next step in Scouting - and to show them just how much of an impact their voices can have. Also, a bit of an apology to you both - I haven't been able to attend as many Young Leader sessions as I would have liked, purely due to being away at university. Despite that, I'm really grateful for their continued support and understanding, and I look forward to getting more involved with the Young Leader side as time allows.

Speaking of voices and impact, I have to say a **massive thank you to Owen** for appointing me to this role in the first place. I'm so honoured to have this opportunity to push the positive change that comes when young people are listened to - and I'm excited to help push that even further.

Beyond the District, I've also started connecting with Youth Leads from across the county and UK, including some of our UK Youth Leads. The conversations I've had with them have been incredibly energising - filled with fresh ideas and motivation for the year ahead. Their support and enthusiasm have played a huge part in shaping the direction I want to take forward in Newcastle in 2025. (Though you'll have to wait until next year's report to hear exactly what's already been happening and upcoming—trust me, it's exciting!)

While 2024 was the beginning of my journey, I already feel a shift happening. The confidence, ambition and insight of our young people are front and centre - and I'm determined to ensure their voices are heard loud and clear.

I want to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to Laura and Jon, who have provided great patience and help (especially when I've had more questions than I care to admit!).

And finally, to the incredible young people of Newcastle: thank you. Your voices are powerful, your ideas are inspiring, and your ability to shape the future of Scouting is second to none. Please continue to share your thoughts, challenge the norm, and be part of shaping the Scouting journey for yourselves and others. You are what makes Scouting inclusive, adaptable, and truly brilliant.

Let's keep the momentum going into 2025 - there's so much more to come!

**Maddie Hill**  
District Youth Lead



## **District Squirrel Scout Report 2024**

2024 has been a fun-filled and exciting year of many firsts for Squirrels in Newcastle District. Following the first drey in Newcastle District opening in October 2023 at 94th Keele, the Squirrels have grabbed the opportunities provided by District with both hands and thrown themselves in to all of the events that they can get involved in.

Squirrels took part in the special 50 years of Castle Capers Gang Show, a momentous occasion for Castle Capers as a whole, celebrating its golden jubilee, but also for the Squirrel section as this is the first time they were represented in the Gang Show in Newcastle. After all of their rehearsing, they were amazing and stole the show in their 'Our First Show' item, alongside the Beavers. Their smiles lit up the stage and their cheeky nature stole the hearts of the audiences at each and every show!

For the first time in the history of Newcastle District's St George's Day parade, Squirrels were able to represent their Group, and able to carry their flag and renew their promise the same as all of the other sections. They looked super smart and did us proud marching through the town centre representing their Group, Newcastle District and Squirrels as a section!

In September, Squirrels from all across Staffordshire were invited to the County Squirrel Day at Kibblestone. They had the opportunity to take part in loads of activities including axe throwing (soft of course!), a scavenger hunt, team games, biscuit decorating, making nature artwork, experimenting with giant bubbles, mini raft-building and cooking over a fire! They all had immense amounts of fun and got to meet other Squirrels from across the County, all whilst working towards lots of different badges.

Squirrels also had the opportunity to go to the District Christmas Carol service, where they sang carols and did all the actions to a nativity story version of 'We're going on a bear hunt'. It must have gone down well as one Squirrel asked if we can go again next year!

In the autumn term, 94th Keele had the privilege of being able to award our very first Chief Scout Acorn awards! To earn this top award, over their time in Squirrels, the young people go on adventures, help their friends, and learn new things – it's a big achievement to get their Chief Scout Acorn, and they should all be so proud – we know that we definitely are!

Although in 2024 there has only been one drey open at 94th Keele, 2025 will bring the opening of more Squirrel sections across Newcastle District. It is amazing to see Squirrels gaining momentum and growing across the District and we look forward to this next year and all of the new opportunities it will bring. There are plans for even more fun and adventures, Squirrel sleepovers and, who knows, maybe even a Newcastle District Squirrel event with other dreys opening. The future of Squirrels in Newcastle District definitely looks exciting and we can't wait to see what's to come.



We'd like to take the opportunity here to thank all of those who have been a part in creating and supporting all of these opportunities. Firstly, thanks must go to our current DLV Owen, and his predecessor Vera. Without your help, support and belief in Squirrels none of this would have been possible and we wouldn't have been able to begin this journey. To all the volunteers who give up countless hours of time to support the running of Squirrel weekly sessions and other events – your hard work does not go unnoticed and it is hugely appreciated by us and the young people in the district. To Laura and Jude, our Cub and Beaver counterparts – your advice, support and willingness to include the Squirrel section has meant a great deal in this process so thank you! And last but certainly not least, an enormous THANK YOU must go to all of the Squirrels with their give-it-a-go attitude and constant energy. The future of Scouting in Newcastle is very bright; you all make us so proud with everything you do! We can't wait to support the opening of more dreys across the District, and have even more fun and make more memories next year!

Many thanks

**Abbie & Briony**





## **District Beaver Scout Report 2024**

Across the District, the Beaver section has had a great year. Leaders have planned amazing section meetings and there have been camps, sleepovers, boating along with some amazing walks. Fun activities have taken place at their meeting places, leaders going above and beyond to ensure that the Beavers have a full program and a fun Scouting experience.

We have joined with the District at Castle Capers, The St Georges parade in Newcastle, joined with the Cubs for the District Carol Service which was held at Newcastle Baptist Church. We held our sports evening which was a great fun, many thanks to the support team for their invaluable help, without them this event could not take place.

Many thanks to the Beaver leaders across the District who give up their free time to Scouting , ensuring that our young people gain skills for life

**Jude Edgeley**

District Lead Beaver Volunteer



## **District Cub Scout Report 2024**

2024 has been another incredible year for the Cubs within our District, and as always, I am immensely proud of both our leaders and Cubs. Their dedication, energy, and enthusiasm have continued to make this section a true highlight of our scouting family.

This year, many of our Cubs achieved the **Chief Scout Silver Award**—the highest award a Cub can earn. It's a testament to their hard work, commitment, and perseverance. Congratulations to every Cub who reached this milestone!

In April, weeks of rehearsals culminated in our golden year of "**Castle Capers**." The Cub item—brilliantly directed by Amy Auckland (thank you, Amy!)—was a resounding success. Their performance was a joy to watch, and I'm sure we witnessed some future stars on that stage. The Cubs were truly incredible!

We came together again for the **St George's Day Parade**, a powerful celebration and moment of reflection. The theme of the service was *Journey*. Highlights included a performance from the *Castle Capers* cast and a heartfelt talk from our Chairperson, Paul Bailey, about his own journey in Scouting. Over 500 people attended—what an inspiring event.

While we sadly had to cancel the **Sports Evening and Football Tournament** due to venue issues, the **Swimming Gala** was a huge success, with even more Packs taking part than in previous years. Congratulations to **Ashley**, our champions, and to **Keele** for a strong second place finish!

In July, we held **Sixers Camp**, led by Richard Smith from Basford. Richard successfully gained his *Nights Away* permit—well done! The camp received excellent feedback, with great weather and an exciting programme. **St Wulstans** took home first place in the **Lewis Trophy** competition.

Our **Carol Service** was hosted by Newcastle Baptist Church and led by our wonderful Cub leader, Tom. The church was so full that many parents had to stand outside! It was a joyful, festive evening filled with energy and audience participation—a perfect start to the Christmas season.

Throughout the year, our Cub packs continued to deliver diverse and fun programmes. We've had numerous successful camps and day trips:

- **St Wulstans** attended Kibblestone's *Spooky* event.
- **Whitmore** hosted *Mspace*, who ran an exciting escape room night.
- **Holy Trinity Cubs** enjoyed a much-loved Pokémon Day.
- Several packs took part in the *Chip Shop Challenge*, with *The Dancing Octopus* voted the clear winner by many packs!

Most packs have also enjoyed nights away—from sleepovers in their huts to bigger adventures:

- **Keele** braved a soggy but fabulous camp at *Milldale*.
- **Red Street** hosted a Wild West-themed camp at *Sherratt's Wood*.
- **Knutton** also used Sherratt's for their group camp, involving Cubs in a great weekend of scouting.

We were deeply saddened in May by the sudden passing of **Emma Bowler**, Cub leader from Holy Trinity. Emma left a massive void in the group and the wider district. As a community, we came

together to support her group and keep Emma and her family in our thoughts during moments of reflection.

After over 40 years of dedicated service, **Paul and Sharon Hickton** made the tough decision to retire. We thank them both for their incredible commitment and wish them all the best.

A huge congratulations to **Deana Welsh**, Cub leader from Audley, who was *highly commended* as a **Community Champion** by Newcastle Council. Well deserved!

This year also saw the appointment of our new **District Lead Volunteer, Owen Dyde**. Owen, thank you for your support, guidance, and your extensive knowledge of all things Scouting—it's very much appreciated.

To all our **Cub volunteers across the district**—thank you. Your unwavering support, time, and energy enrich the lives of our young people and make scouting the transformative experience that it is.

Lastly, please pass on the biggest **BRAVO** to each and every Cub! It's these young people who make our district so special. Their eagerness to learn and develop new skills never ceases to amaze me.

Here's to another fantastic year of Cub Scouting!

**Laura Boyles**

District Lead Cub Volunteer



## ***District Scout Report – 2024***

While the Scout section was as active as ever during 2024 we are still looking for a District Lead Scout Volunteer.

Anyone who may be interested in being considered for this role should contact Owen Dyde – DLV.

# **District 14-25 Report - 2024**

In 2024 the 14-25 team took the opportunity to develop itself and build a plan for the future.

The 14-25 section involves young people taking part in Explorers, as Young Leaders and Network.

After an initial meeting in August a few things became clear.

- We have 4 established and thriving Explorer Units.
- We didn't have regular local provision for Young Leaders Module A.
- There was no official local set up for Network members.

As a District and a movement across the UK, a current problem we face is a lack of volunteers.

We are struggling within our Explorer Units and its clear that Scout groups across the District are also struggling with many volunteers regularly engaged in multiple roles.

The long term plan to run in conjunction with some short term goals is as follows...

- Short term; Bring young people from across Newcastle together and engage them to work together, build relations with one another and break down barriers between Explorer Units. This way, we fulfil the role of Explorers being a District Section rather than being associated to a group.
- Long term; To develop those relationships forged in Explorers and encourage those young people to stay linked to the movement through adulthood. When Explorers & Young Leaders become 18, they become part of the Scout Network. Naturally we lose these members to University, Apprenticeships, full time work or life just gets in the way... So, Network members are invited to all the joint events being run by the Explorer section with the hope that a few of these groups of friends might volunteer as a Leader and give some time back to Newcastle Scouts in the future.

All Explorers & Young leaders are now able to access Module A training from the district.

This training must be completed within 3 months of becoming an Explorer Scout Young Leader.

Further training to work toward the completion of the Explorer Young Leader Award is provided by Staffordshire County Scouts.

Any Explorers turning 18 are invited to become Network members, a process is still being pulled together for this. We plan to try and run a Network only event in the near future.

Current figures:

- Explorer numbers: 72
- YL numbers trained this year: 10
- YL current numbers: 20ish
- Network numbers: 67

**Jon Mycock**

14-25 Lead Volunteer

# **Support and Community Engagement Team**

## **Report - 2024**

A key part of this new "District team" work is engagement with main organisations in our Borough and highlighting the incredible work that volunteers do and the amazing opportunities given to our young people and also encouraging groups to do the same. Some new contacts have been made, and work is continuing to develop these further.

Information and photographs from groups greatly assists in this, thank you to the groups that send information to me, I'll continue to "stalk" groups on Facebook too, please continue to keep the great news coming.

These contacts are also key in developing links to funding opportunities, and are vital in securing sustainability for district funds, to support groups and inclusivity. We have been fortunate to receive £4640 in Community funds from Staffordshire County Council, and also Newcastle Rotary club and the Strasser Foundation. This will assist the district in its support for individuals, support for the purchase of additional equipment for the Drum corps and assist in the District camp for 2025.

It's important to note that at the time of writing this report, that due to a change in political parties at County Council level that there is uncertainty regarding future funding from this source which has greatly assisted the District over a number of years. I will continue to work on this, and with other local organisations and companies. Congratulations to the groups who have been successful in grant applications to local and national companies, we know it has made a huge difference to enabling young people to participate in fabulous activities.

As a "support team" this really is a "Work in progress", to bring together individuals to support events such as sports days, town centre events and camps. If you know of anyone who would like to "assist on an occasional basis", and they can be entirely new to the district, PLEASE let me know.

Yours in Scouting

**Vera Bloor**

Support and Community Engagement Team Lead

# **District Appointment Secretary Report - 2024**

Since last year's report the Appointments Team has continued to process appointments.

During the year the team has processed 24 leaders, 11 of these were new leaders and 13 for change of role or additional role, the remainder have either been removed, changed to OH and / or moved to an Exec role.

In the 12 months we are reporting on, movement has been made to align the process to the new requirements. There have been more visits to groups to deliver the appointments process, as this will be needed post-transformation.

The Scout Association has now moved to our new system and processes for appointments, the Appointments Secretary role has now been removed and the responsibility for group appointments is now with the Group Lead Volunteer.

The new process will put the emphasis on the Group to instigate the appointment at Group level, however this still requires District validation. In the new process, an appointment will be added in the system by the GLV. The new member will then need to input their references. (GLVs are reminded that its now the responsibility of the new member to add the references and request them, the GLV has no access to this area of the new system.)

Once received, the GLV will organise a welcome meeting for the appointee. The welcome meeting will need a Group representative and a District representative both of whom being trained appropriately.

The welcome meetings will continue, and we may also be in-touch to arrange a visit to your group.

Appointment Secretaries,  
**Ian Pritchard / Steve Broadhurst**



# **Active Support Unit (ASU) Report - 2024**

As most of you will know the role of the Active Support Unit is to support the Sections in the Newcastle District as and when we can. This year, we lost some members due to health issues and two relocating to the Isle of Man to be closer to family. I sure that they will be looking for a scout group in the Isle of Man to offer their support to.

This being the case at present our unit is now down to 14 members, all still very keen to help and assist as and when we can.

During the year we have helped at the following events:

- Castle Capers.
- Sports events.
- Swimming gala.
- St Georges Day Service.
- Beaver and Cub Carol Service.

We also enjoy a social side of our unit which involved a day out on a Canal Barge, a bring and share meal which was hosted at The Wellings Farm Ashley, and to finish the year off a Christmas Meal at the Westlands Golf Club.

As ever we always enjoy serving Scouting in Newcastle but can only be of service if you the Scouters of the District invite us to help you and the young people in your Groups.

Should you need help with a project or possibly the running of a badge course give me a ring on 01782 611091 and we will see if we can help. If you don't ask you won't know.

**M J Deakin**

Newcastle District ASU Manager

**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Registered charity number 524525**  
**Financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

<b>Page</b>	<b>Contents</b>
2-3	Trustees' annual report
4	Independent examiner's report
5	Receipts & payments account
6	Statement of assets & liabilities
7	Notes to the accounts



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Trustees' annual report**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Full name** Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council

**Registered charity number** 524525

**Principal address**

c/o Kevin Stanyer  
32 Kings Avenue  
Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Staffordshire  
ST5 8DQ

**Trustees**

Paul Bailey

Kevin Stanyer

Dorothy Bailey

Steve Broadhurst

Graham Baddeley

Patricia Viggars

Vera Bloor

Laura Boyles

Ian Pritchard

Adam Gray

David Gray

Karen Emmens

John Champ

Judith Edgeley

Owen Dyde

Jack Grey

Madeline Hill

Jay Aukland

David Sillitto

Chair

Treasurer

(resigned July 2024)

(resigned July 2024)

(resigned July 2024)

(resigned July 2024)

(resigned July 2024)

(resigned July 2024)

(resigned July 2024)

(resigned July 2024)

(appointed July 2024)

(appointed July 2024)

(appointed July 2024)

**Independent Examiner**

Daryl Denson ACMA

VAST

The Dudson Centre

Hope Street

Stoke on Trent

ST1 5DD



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Trustees' annual report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Governing document**

The charity is operated under the rules of Royal Charter granted 04/01/1912 as amended by supplemental charter dated 28/03/1949, as amended by supplemental charter dated 18/02/1959, as amended by supplemental charter dated 05/05/1967, and as amended by supplemental charter dated 19/07/1991.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy Organisation & Rules of the Scout Association.

**Aims and objectives**

- To promote and support Scouting in the area.
- To promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning activities.

The Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council promotes Scouting for all young people in the area through local groups.

**Summary of the main achievements during the period**

Please refer to the Annual Report to the Annual General Meeting.

**Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

**The charity's policy on reserves**

It is the charity's aim to ensure that there are adequate reserves to cover the following functions:

- Funds for specific projects such as a District Camp where all members are encouraged to attend together and for emergency support for Scout groups across the Newcastle area who may face immediate urgent financial support. Money is also budgeted, and ring fenced to "inclusivity" to ensure that in cases of extreme hardship individual Scouts can receive funding in order to allow them to participate in activities that they may otherwise be unable to do.
- Sufficient funding to cover general annual running costs including administration, accountancy, insurance, recruitment, selection, appointments and training, social media and marketing that enables the district to function and develop.
- To provide new or replacement equipment on an ongoing basis
- To offer support funding that enables the bi-annual Castle Capers Gang Show to take place (this requires a budget of £8,000-£10,000).

The trustees consider that the current level of unrestricted funds of £90,618 held will be adequate to meet these aims.

**Main Risks**

The trustees have completed their review of the major risks which they believe the District is exposed and established systems to mitigate them.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed   
Kevin Stanyer (District Treasurer)

Date 16/05/2025



**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of  
Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council  
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed



Date 16/05/2025

Daryl Denson ACMA  
VAST



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Receipts & payments account**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>					
Membership Subscriptions		45,640	-	45,640	46,421
Less membership subscriptions paid on		( 36,444)	-	( 36,444)	( 38,532)
<b>Net membership subscriptions retained</b>		<b>9,196</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,196</b>	<b>7,889</b>
Donations		15,809	-	15,809	3,952
Gift Aid		-	-	-	2,809
<b>Grants</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12,490</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,490</b>	<b>9,331</b>
Other grants		200	-	200	3,419
<b>Fundraising</b>		<b>1,793</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>288</b>
<b>Activities</b>					
Activities, trips, badges etc		35,253	-	35,253	4,219
Camp		509	-	509	1,188
Training		860	-	860	760
Letting fees		5,645	-	5,645	-
Transferred from closed group		-	-	-	12,000
<b>Investment Income</b>					
Bank and Building Society Interest		1,131	-	1,131	45
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>		<b>2,529</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,529</b>	<b>940</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>85,415</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85,415</b>	<b>46,840</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Activities, support and training		29,258	-	29,258	6,831
Camp		1,140	-	1,140	729
Donations		16,985	-	16,985	2,853
Rent		2,017	-	2,017	900
Room hire (district, storage and events)		6,545	-	6,545	753
Insurance		963	-	963	314
Accountancy		889	-	889	382
Postage, stationery and printing		1,451	-	1,451	189
Repairs and consumable equipment		7,984	-	7,984	4,252
Uniforms		2,199	-	2,199	314
Licences		564	-	564	280
AGM		128	-	128	53
Inclusivity		126	-	126	1,720
Gift Aid		-	-	-	1,766
Gifts		412	-	412	-
Money Transferred to other Groups		5,509	-	5,509	-
Sundry expenses		2,874	-	2,874	541
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>79,044</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,044</b>	<b>21,877</b>
<b>Net Receipts/(Payments)</b>		<b>6,371</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,371</b>	<b>24,963</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>					
Cash funds at start of this period		115,122	8,933	124,055	99,092
<b>Cash funds at end of this period</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>121,493</b>	<b>8,933</b>	<b>130,426</b>	<b>124,055</b>



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Statement of assets and liabilities**  
**at 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash assets</b>				
Cash at Bank	129,367	959	130,326	123,764
Cash held by Units	-	-	-	191
Appointment Secretary's Float	100	-	100	100
	<b>129,467</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>130,426</b>	<b>124,055</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accruals	933	-	933	887
	<b>933</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>887</b>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed

Kevin Stanyer  
District Treasurer



Date

16/05/2025



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1. Receipts & payments accounts**

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the charity during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

**2. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

Trustees received no remuneration or expenses in this period (2023: £nil).

**3. Funds analysis**

	Opening balance	Receipts	(Payments)	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Derek Hollinshead Fund	8,933	-	-	-	8,933
	<b>8,933</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,933</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	103,608	79,907	(73,536)	-	109,979
Designated fund:					
Margaret Schofield Jamboree fund	11,514	-	-	-	11,514
	<b>115,122</b>	<b>79,907</b>	<b>(73,536)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>121,493</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>124,055</b>	<b>79,907</b>	<b>(73,536)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130,426</b>

**4. Grant Information**

	2024 Unrestricted Funds	2024 Restricted Funds
<b>Grants</b>		
Ibstock Knutton Quarry Liaison Committee	5,000	-
SCC Climate Change Project	500	-
Staffordshire County Council Community Fund	4,640	-
Stasser Foundation	1,000	-
The Barracks Trust	1,000	-
Newcastle-under-Lyme Lions Club	250	-
B2 Hanley Freemasons	100	-
	<b>12,490</b>	<b>-</b>



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Registered charity number 524525**  
**Financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

<b>Page</b>	<b>Contents</b>
2-3	Trustees' annual report
4	Independent examiner's report
5	Receipts & payments account
6	Statement of assets & liabilities
7	Notes to the accounts



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Trustees' annual report**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Full name** Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council

**Registered charity number** 524525

**Principal address**

c/o Kevin Stanyer  
32 Kings Avenue  
Newcastle-under-Lyme  
Staffordshire  
ST5 8DQ

**Trustees**

Paul Bailey

Chair

Kevin Stanyer

Treasurer

Dorothy Bailey

Steve Broadhurst

(resigned July 2024)

Graham Baddeley

(resigned July 2024)

Patricia Viggars

Vera Bloor

(resigned July 2024)

Laura Boyles

Ian Pritchard

(resigned July 2024)

Adam Gray

(resigned July 2024)

David Gray

(resigned July 2024)

Karen Emmens

John Champ

(resigned July 2024)

Judith Edgeley

Owen Dyde

Jack Grey

(resigned July 2024)

Madeline Hill

(appointed July 2024)

Jay Aukland

(appointed July 2024)

David Sillitto

(appointed July 2024)

**Independent Examiner**

Daryl Denson ACMA

VAST

The Dudson Centre

Hope Street

Stoke on Trent

ST1 5DD



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Trustees' annual report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Governing document**

The charity is operated under the rules of Royal Charter granted 04/01/1912 as amended by supplemental charter dated 28/03/1949, as amended by supplemental charter dated 18/02/1959, as amended by supplemental charter dated 05/05/1967, and as amended by supplemental charter dated 19/07/1991.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Policy Organisation & Rules of the Scout Association.

**Aims and objectives**

- To promote and support Scouting in the area.
- To promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning activities.

The Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council promotes Scouting for all young people in the area through local groups.

**Summary of the main achievements during the period**

Please refer to the Annual Report to the Annual General Meeting.

**Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

**The charity's policy on reserves**

It is the charity's aim to ensure that there are adequate reserves to cover the following functions:

- Funds for specific projects such as a District Camp where all members are encouraged to attend together and for emergency support for Scout groups across the Newcastle area who may face immediate urgent financial support. Money is also budgeted, and ring fenced to "inclusivity" to ensure that in cases of extreme hardship individual Scouts can receive funding in order to allow them to participate in activities that they may otherwise be unable to do.
- Sufficient funding to cover general annual running costs including administration, accountancy, insurance, recruitment, selection, appointments and training, social media and marketing that enables the district to function and develop.
- To provide new or replacement equipment on an ongoing basis
- To offer support funding that enables the bi-annual Castle Capers Gang Show to take place (this requires a budget of £8,000-£10,000).

The trustees consider that the current level of unrestricted funds of £90,618 held will be adequate to meet these aims.

**Main Risks**

The trustees have completed their review of the major risks which they believe the District is exposed and established systems to mitigate them.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed   
Kevin Stanyer (District Treasurer)

Date 16/05/2025



**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of  
Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council  
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed



Date 16/05/2025

Daryl Denson ACMA  
VAST



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Receipts & payments account**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>Receipts</b>					
<b>Donations, legacies and similar income</b>					
Membership Subscriptions		45,640	-	45,640	46,421
Less membership subscriptions paid on		( 36,444)	-	( 36,444)	( 38,532)
<b>Net membership subscriptions retained</b>		<b>9,196</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,196</b>	<b>7,889</b>
Donations		15,809	-	15,809	3,952
Gift Aid		-	-	-	2,809
<b>Grants</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12,490</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,490</b>	<b>9,331</b>
Other grants		200	-	200	3,419
<b>Fundraising</b>		<b>1,793</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>288</b>
<b>Activities</b>					
Activities, trips, badges etc		35,253	-	35,253	4,219
Camp		509	-	509	1,188
Training		860	-	860	760
Letting fees		5,645	-	5,645	-
Transferred from closed group		-	-	-	12,000
<b>Investment Income</b>					
Bank and Building Society Interest		1,131	-	1,131	45
<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>		<b>2,529</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,529</b>	<b>940</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>85,415</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85,415</b>	<b>46,840</b>
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Activities, support and training		29,258	-	29,258	6,831
Camp		1,140	-	1,140	729
Donations		16,985	-	16,985	2,853
Rent		2,017	-	2,017	900
Room hire (district, storage and events)		6,545	-	6,545	753
Insurance		963	-	963	314
Accountancy		889	-	889	382
Postage, stationery and printing		1,451	-	1,451	189
Repairs and consumable equipment		7,984	-	7,984	4,252
Uniforms		2,199	-	2,199	314
Licences		564	-	564	280
AGM		128	-	128	53
Inclusivity		126	-	126	1,720
Gift Aid		-	-	-	1,766
Gifts		412	-	412	-
Money Transferred to other Groups		5,509	-	5,509	-
Sundry expenses		2,874	-	2,874	541
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>79,044</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>79,044</b>	<b>21,877</b>
<b>Net Receipts/(Payments)</b>		<b>6,371</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,371</b>	<b>24,963</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>					
Cash funds at start of this period		115,122	8,933	124,055	99,092
<b>Cash funds at end of this period</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>121,493</b>	<b>8,933</b>	<b>130,426</b>	<b>124,055</b>



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Statement of assets and liabilities**  
**at 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash assets</b>				
Cash at Bank	129,367	959	130,326	123,764
Cash held by Units	-	-	-	191
Appointment Secretary's Float	100	-	100	100
	<b>129,467</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>130,426</b>	<b>124,055</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accruals	933	-	933	887
	<b>933</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>887</b>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed

Kevin Stanyer  
District Treasurer



Date

16/05/2025



**Newcastle-under-Lyme District Scout Council**  
**Notes to the accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1. Receipts & payments accounts**

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the charity during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

**2. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

Trustees received no remuneration or expenses in this period (2023: £nil).

**3. Funds analysis**

	Opening balance	Receipts	(Payments)	Transfers	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Derek Hollinshead Fund	8,933	-	-	-	8,933
	<b>8,933</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,933</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	103,608	79,907	(73,536)	-	109,979
Designated fund:					
Margaret Schofield Jamboree fund	11,514	-	-	-	11,514
	<b>115,122</b>	<b>79,907</b>	<b>(73,536)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>121,493</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>124,055</b>	<b>79,907</b>	<b>(73,536)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130,426</b>

**4. Grant Information**

	2024 Unrestricted Funds	2024 Restricted Funds
<b>Grants</b>		
Ibstock Knutton Quarry Liaison Committee	5,000	-
SCC Climate Change Project	500	-
Staffordshire County Council Community Fund	4,640	-
Stasser Foundation	1,000	-
The Barracks Trust	1,000	-
Newcastle-under-Lyme Lions Club	250	-
B2 Hanley Freemasons	100	-
	<b>12,490</b>	<b>-</b>