



**STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**

**Charity Registration No.                      524638**

**The Scout Association No.                      306101**

**STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024**

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## STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

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#### LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**Charity Registration No.** 524638  
**The Scout Association No.** 306101  
**Contact:** Alderman Tye Scout Headquarters  
South Road  
Norton  
Stourbridge  
West Midlands.  
DY8 3ET

**Trustees:** Mr. T. Castle  
Mr. P. Thomason  
Mrs. S Jackson  
Mr. A. Hickman  
Mrs. K. Darby  
Mr. M. Wall  
Mr. H Pearson  
Mr. A Nicholls  
Mr. S Garratt

**Bankers:** National Westminster Bank  
HSBC Bank  
Metro Bank

**Independent Examiner:** Neal & Co – Accountants and Business Advisors  
Shakespeare Building  
26 Cradley Road  
Cradley Heath  
B64 6AG

## **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS**

The Charity known as the Stourbridge and District Scout Council was formally registered with the Charity Commissioners on 30<sup>th</sup> January 1964 and its Registered Number is 524638. For the year ended 31st March 2024 the finalised results of the Stourbridge and District Scout Council have been consolidated into one balance sheet, but still fully disclosing the individual funds that are the responsibility of the District only.

## **TRUSTEES**

The Trustees in office during the last financial year were as shown on page 1.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### Governing document

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

### Charity constitution

The District is a trust established under its rules that are common to all Scouts in the UK.

### Trustee selection methods

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

## **SUMMARY OF THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY**

The objectives are as a unit of The Scout Association. The Aim of The Scout Association is to promote 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. The method of achieving the Aim of the Association is by providing an enjoyable and attractive scheme of progressive training, based on the Scout Promise and Law and guided by adult leadership.

## **PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The trustees of the Stourbridge and District Scout Council accept the need to have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. They recognise that it is their responsibility to ensure that the benefits offered are realised in the District by promoting all aspects of scouting within the area both in membership and in the wider community. The aim is as set out in the Objectives above, membership for both young people and leaders is voluntary, and the organisation believes in being fair, open and inclusive.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

Demand for Scouting activities across the District remains positive across all groups. As in previous years, the recruitment and retention of volunteers remains a challenge. However, the District continues to support to groups in order to recruit, train and retain volunteers.

September 2024's District camp at Blackwell Adventure will see representation from all groups and sections and plans are afoot that this should be the biggest coming together of Stourbridge Scouting since before the pandemic. Financial support from District will enable the groups to set costs so cost should not be a barrier to attending.

The district headquarters continue to be self financing and do not place a financial burden on the District. With ever increasing establishment costs, the trustees continue to seek best value for services supplied.

## **POLICY ON RESERVES**

The trustees have considered the need for reserves and derived a policy of working towards a level of reserves, which will eventually equate to one year's running costs. This level is to ensure sustainability through potential cash flow problems.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District support groups to ensure compliance with Scout Association rules and regulations and to mitigate risk when running Scouting activities. The District has in place systems of internal controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance against material mismanagement or loss, these include 2 signatories for all payments and a comprehensive insurance policy to ensure that insurable risks are covered. A District specific finance policy is currently being developed.

## **TRUSTEE TRAINING METHODS**

Trustees' attention is drawn to the responsibilities of trustees and training is available and encouraged on an ongoing basis. Members of the executive committee are encouraged to undertake training specific to their role.

## **INVESTMENT SELECTION POLICY**

Funds that are not needed for day-to-day use are kept in interest bearing deposit accounts held with the Scout Association.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The nett incoming resources for the year amounted to £1,026 (2022: £844). At the year-end, unrestricted reserves were held of £30,758 (2023: £30,263).

## **TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year that 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 financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

On behalf of the trustees

Aaron Hickman FCCA - Treasurer

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024

## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

We report on the accounts of the Group/District for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Scrutineer**

As the District's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that neither the audit nor independent examination requirements of the Charities Act 2011 apply. It is my responsibility without carrying out an audit or independent examination to scrutinise the accounts and to report to you.

### **Basis of Scrutineer's Statement**

In accordance with the directions given in the Group's/District's constitution, I have scrutinised the records and the accounts set out on pages 6 to 12.

### **Scrutineer's Statement**

In my opinion the accounts are in accordance with the records produced to me and comply with the constitution.

Neal & Co – Accountants and Business Advisors  
Shakespeare Building  
26 Cradley Road  
Cradley Heath  
B64 6AG

... December 2024

## STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

### PRINCIPLE ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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#### **BASIS OF PREPARATION**

##### Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities - Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2015), the Accounting Standards and with the Charities Act 2011.

##### Change in basis of accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

#### **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

Memberships subscription 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.

##### Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the financial statements but is described in the trustees' annual report.

##### Investment income

This is included in the financial statements when receivable.



## **STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

### **PRINCIPLE ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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#### **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.

##### Governance costs

These include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory financial statements, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

#### **ASSETS**

##### Stocks

These would be valued at the lower of cost or market value, but no stock is currently held. (2019: £nil)

##### Fixed assets

All current redevelopments at the headquarters are being financed by specific project grants to which there is no cost to the District. The headquarters are not included in the District accounts. The land on which the building is leased from Dudley MBC and the building costs held in trust by the Scout Association.

#### **INSURANCE**

Annually, a review of the property and equipment owned by the District is carried out with values insured and equipment covered being updated accordingly.

# STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	<b>Total 31st March 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 31st March 2023 £</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Membership and subscriptions	28,141	26,643
Badge sales	3,493	3,097
Hire of headquarters	10,881	16,062
Interest received	244	21
Donations	-	400
HQ repairs fund	2,412	-
HQ development fund	2,690	-
Covid group support fund	693	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>48,555</b>	<b>46,223</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Capitation	24,300	21,414
Badges for re-sale	3,573	3,132
Scouting activities	3,000	2,000
Heat and light	7,728	5,335
Ground rents	-	2
Water	611	508
Insurance	1,443	1,314
Waste collections	281	242
Telephone and internet	576	1,159
HQ maintenance	2,653	3,117
HQ repairs fund	-	6,024
HQ development fund	2,690	-
Covid group support fund	693	-
Office expenses	511	950
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>48,060</b>	<b>45,196</b>
<b>Net surplus of resources from activities</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>1,027</b>

**STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	Note	Total 31st March 2024 £	Total 31st March 2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	1	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors and prepayments	2	35,058	2,752
Short term investment deposit		-	10,000
Cash at bank and in hand	3	68,060	93,657
		<u>103,117</u>	<u>106,409</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accruals	4	2,589	4,855
		<u>2,589</u>	<u>4,855</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>100,528</b>	<b>101,554</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b><u>100,528</u></b>	<b><u>101,554</u></b>
<b>THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>			
<b><u>Restricted funds</u></b>			
Short term investment deposit		-	10,000
Headquarters redevelopment	5	6,082	8,772
Scouting activities	6	22,962	9,962
Headquarters property fund	7	13,265	15,677
Covid support fund	8	18,976	19,669
Explorer funds	9	8,487	7,211
		<u>69,770</u>	<u>71,291</u>
<b><u>Unrestricted funds</u></b>			
At the beginning of the financial year		30,263	29,236
Net surplus of resources from activities		495	1,027
At the end of the financial year		<u>30,758</u>	<u>30,263</u>
		<b><u>100,528</u></b>	<b><u>101,554</u></b>

# STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

THE ACCOMPANYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES FORM AN INTEGRAL PART  
OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

## 1 Short term investment deposit

Deposit investment previously held by the Scout Association has been closed in the year under review.

## 2 Debtors and prepayments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Hire of headquarters due	2,853	2,406
Prepayments	4,550	346
Capitation due	3,478	-
Capitation paid in advance	24,178	-
	<u>35,058</u>	<u>2,752</u>

## 3 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current account (1) - Natwest	48,194	90,631
Current account (2) - Natwest	20	656
Current account (3) - HSBC - Badges	3,117	2,350
Current account (4) - Metro	16,710	-
Cash in hand	19	19
	<u>68,060</u>	<u>93,657</u>

## 4 Creditors and accruals

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due to Oldswinford Group	-	4,067
Creditors and accruals	2,589	788
	<u>2,589</u>	<u>4,855</u>

# STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

## 5 Headquarters redevelopment

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	8,772	8,772
Grant money recognised against expenditure	- 2,690	-
	<u>6,082</u>	<u>8,772</u>

## 6 Scouting activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	9,962	9,362
Tfr to restricted funds in year	13,000	600
	<u>22,962</u>	<u>9,962</u>

## 7 Headquarters property fund

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	15,677	9,653
Restricted funds recognised as income in year	- 2,412	6,024
	<u>13,265</u>	<u>15,677</u>

## 8 Covid support fund

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	19,669	19,669
Grant money recognised against expenditure	- 693	-
	<u>18,976</u>	<u>19,669</u>

## 9 Explorer funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance brought forward	7,211	7,211
Tfr from restricted funds in year	1,276	-
	<u>8,487</u>	<u>7,211</u>

**STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL**

**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

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**10 Staff costs**

The charity had no paid employees during the year (2023/24 £nil).

**11 Transactions with trustees**

No remuneration was paid to trustees during the year other than out of pocket expenses and mileage (2024: £nil).