

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date) 0 1 0 4 2 4 to end date 3 1 0 3 2 5

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name1st Hillsborough Scout Group

Other names the charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)103838

HQ registration number10012081

Charity's principal address

2a Ballynahinch Road

Hillsborough

Co. Down

PostcodeBT266AR

Names of the charity trustees who managed the charity during this reporting period

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Anne Thompson	Group Scout Leader	
2	Conor Lydon	Secretary	
3	Mike McCracken	Chairperson	
4	Pamela Daniel	Treasurer	
5	Lindsay Reid		
6	Natalie Wray		
7	Georgina Huston		
8	Maurice Diamond		
9	Karen Watson		
10			
11			
12			

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
Legal	Thompson Mitchell Solicitors	9 The Square, Hillsborough BT26 6AG
Independent Examiner	Iain Gillespie FCA	75 Waterloo Road, Lisburn BT27 5NW

Our internet sites

Facebook:<https://www.facebook.com/1sthillsboroughscoutgroup/>

Web Site:<https://1sthillsboroughscouts.org/>

Section B

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

(e.g. trust deed, constitution)

How the charity is constituted

(e.g. trust, association, company)

Trustee selection methods

(e.g. appointed by, elected by)

1st Hillsborough Scout Group'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.

1st Hillsborough Group is a trust established under its rules which are common to all Scouts.

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

Additional governance issues (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

Policies and procedures adopted for:
a) the induction and training of trustees;
b) trustee' consideration of major risks and the systems and procedures to manage them

1st Hillsborough Scout Group ("The Group") is managed by the Group Executive Committee, the members of which are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout Group which is an educational charity. As charity trustees they are responsible for complying with charity legislation. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leader, individual section leaders & parent representation and meets every month. Members of the Executive Committee complete 'Essential Information for Executive Committee' training within 5 months of joining the committee.

This Group Executive Committee exists to support the Group Scout Leader in meeting the responsibilities of the appointments and is responsible for:
The maintenance of Group property;
The raising of funds and administration of Group finance;
The insurance of persons, property and equipment;
Group public occasions;
Assisting in recruitment of leaders and other adult support;
Appointing any sub committees that may be required;
Appointing Group Administrators and Advisors other than those who are elected.

Risk and Internal Control

The Group Executive Committee has identified the major risks to which they believe the Group is exposed, these have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate against them. The main areas of concern that have been identified are:

Damage to buildings, property and equipment. The Group would request the use of buildings, property and equipment from neighbouring organisations, churches, community centre and other Scout Groups. Similar reciprocal arrangements exist with these organisations. The Group periodically checks that Hillsborough Scout & Community Hall has sufficient buildings and contents insurance in place to mitigate against permanent loss. The Group also has sufficient equipment insurance to cover permanent loss of its equipment.

Section B	Structure, governance and management (continued)
	<p>Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy through the capitation fees. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.</p> <p>Reduced income from fund raising. The Group is primarily reliant upon income from subscriptions. The group does hold a reserve to ensure the continuity of activities should there be a major reduction in income. The Committee could raise the value of subscriptions to increase the income to the group on an ongoing basis, either temporarily or permanently.</p> <p>Reduction or loss of leaders. The group is totally reliant upon volunteers to run and administer the activities of the group. If there was a reduction in the number of leaders to an unacceptable level in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst-case scenario, the complete closure of the Group.</p> <p>Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 4 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the group as a whole then there would have to be a contraction, consolidation or closure of a section. In the worst case scenario, the complete closure of the Group. This risk is currently very low as there are waiting lists.</p>
Section C	Objectives and activities
Summary of the objects of the charity setout in its governing document	<p>The Purpose of Scouting Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.</p> <p>The Values of Scouting As Scouts we are guided by these values: Integrity - We act with integrity; we are honest, trustworthy and loyal. Respect - We have self-respect and respect for others. Care - We support others and take care of the world in which we live. Belief - We explore our faiths, beliefs and attitudes. Co-operation - We make a positive difference; we co-operate with others and make friends.</p> <p>The Scout Method Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and: - enjoy what they are doing and have fun - take part in activities indoors and outdoors - learn by doing - share in spiritual reflection - take responsibility and make choices - undertake new and challenging activities make and live by their Promise.</p>

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

- Badgework covering multiple strands of activity.
- Outdoor activities at camps, a local forest and other adventure/culture centres.
- Teamworking activities.
- Outreach through fundraising for other charities.
- Participation in The Scout Association "You Shape" and "A Million Hands" initiatives.
- Operates as a 'whole community' organisation.

See <https://www.facebook.com/1sthillsboroughscoutgroup/> and <https://1sthillsboroughscouts.org/>

Additional details of the objectives and activities (optional information but encouraged as best practice)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- contribution made by volunteers;
- policy on investments.

1st Hillsborough Scout Group wishes to acknowledge the contribution made by uniformed leaders and occasional helpers who without their time and dedication no Scouting Activities would happen.

Public benefit statement

The Group meets the Charity Commission's public benefit criteria under both the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development headings.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year	Delivered a quality, structured programme of activities using the framework of The Scout Association, leading to Chief Scout's Awards and Duke of Edinburgh's Awards. Youth membership increased from 234 to 241. We have continued to enjoy the return to post covid normality with various camps, rallies and district events attended in addition to our weekly gatherings.
Section E Financial Review	
Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	Reserves Policy The Group's policy on reserves is to hold sufficient resources to continue the charitable activities of the group should income and fundraising activities fall short. The Group Executive Committee considers that the group should hold a sum equivalent to 4 months running costs, circa £5,000.
Quantify and explain any designations	The Group held unrestricted reserves (excluding section funds) of approximately £13,329 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.
Details of any funds materially in deficit (circumstances plus steps to eliminate)	No funds were in deficit at year end
Further financial review details (optional information)	
You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);	Membership subscriptions totalled £22,307. The Group would like to acknowledge ongoing financial support from the Education Authority amounting to £2,800 for general use, and from All State towards Explorer activities. The loan to Hillsborough Scout & Community Hall Group was fully paid off in the prior year. 1st Hillsborough Scout Group intends to use the payments received to further develop facilities at Hillsborough Scout & Community Hall specifically for the benefit of scouting but also for general use by the local community. The balance of these restricted funds is £23,385.
how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity	The major categories of expenditure this year were: -Capitation of £10,583 -Hall hire £6,815 -Camps/events and activities of £17,030 ; and -Badges and uniforms of £4,893.

	See 1st Hillsborough Scout Group 2024-2025 Payments & Receipts Accounts for further details.
Investment policy and objectives	Investment Policy
	The Group does not have sufficient funds to invest in longer term investments. The Group has therefore adopted a risk averse strategy to the investment of its funds. All funds are held in cash using only mainstream banks or building societies.
Section F	Other Optional Information
Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)	<p>The leaders held a planning evening in February 2018 to identify priorities for improving facilities and activities. These included (1) constructing an outdoor play surface at Hillsborough Scout & Community Hall (2) providing better access to group transport for off-site events (3) gaining easier access to the adjacent forest park.</p> <p>Leader recruitment will continue for all sections of the Group, with the aims of (1) improving the quality of programme provided (2) reducing the workload on individual leaders.</p> <p>These aims are still ones we work towards.</p>
Section G	Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Richard McAleer	Pamela Daniel
Position (eg Secretary, Chair)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	30/01/2016	