

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

0 1 0 9 2 3

to end date

3 1 0 8 2 4

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

4th East Belfast Scout Group

Other names the charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1 0 4 1 5 0

HQ registration number

Charity's principal address

53 Kings Road

Belfast

Postcode

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Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Mr Gareth McAuley	Boy Cub Leader	
2	Mrs Helen McConkey	Girl Beaver Leader	
3	Ms Louise Scott	Girl Cub Leader	
4	Mr Paul Brown	Sponsor Representative and Chairperson	
5	Mrs Denise Wilson	Girl Scout Leader	
6	Mr Iain Hall	Boy Scout Leader	
7	Mr Bill Ashe	Group Scout Leader	
8	Mrs Lesley Wilson	Treasurer	
9	Mrs Ann Watt	Secretary	

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

Type of advisor	Name	Address

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document

(eg trust deed, constitution)

The 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.

How the charity is constituted (eg trust, association, company)

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

Trustee selection methods

(eg appointed by, elected by)

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:

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 legislation applicable to charities. This includes the registration, keeping proper accounts and making returns to the Charity Commission as appropriate.

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

The Committee consists of 3 independent representatives, namely, Chair, Treasurer and Secretary together with the Group Scout Leaders, individual section leaders and parent's representation and meets every 4 months.

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 the administration of Group finance;

The insurance of persons, property and equipment;

Group public occasions;

Assisting in the 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.

Section B

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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:

Injury to leaders, helpers, supporters and members. The Group through the capitation fees contributes to the Scout Association's national accident insurance policy. Risk Assessments are undertaken before all activities.

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.

Reduction or loss of members. The Group provides activities for all young people aged 6 to 18. If there was a reduction in membership in a particular section or the Group as 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.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

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.

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.

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.

Section C	Objectives and activities (continued)
Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects	<p>This year the Group sections delivered Scouting programmes across the following sections:</p> <p>Girl Beavers Girl Cubs Girl Scouts Boy Beavers Boy Cubs Boy Scouts Explorer Scouts</p> <p>The programmes included a variety of educational elements which promoted the values of Scouting and embraced the Scouting method.</p>

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.

The Group applied to the Education Authority for non-generic/non targeted grant for Boy Scouts. The Scout leader applies for funding on behalf of the Group to the Education Authority and return forms to be signed off by Treasurer and Chairperson. The sponsor applies for EA and Belfast City council grants that additionally support the other sections.

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.

The Group's Executive Committee as trustees have read the Charity Commission's Public Benefit Requirements statutory guidance.

Section D	Achievements and performance
Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year	<p>The Group can claim a wide variety of achievements as a direct outworking of the Scouting programme across the 7 sections.</p> <p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attainment of a wide selection of badges within the group of 1481 across the 6 sections. There are currently 45 young people in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, with 10 completing their silver expedition in 2024. • Delivery of camp skills, sponsor walks, sporteering, athletics, games, sports tournaments, arts and craft sessions, wide games, tent pitching, off site trips and canoeing across the 7 sections. • Progression of members to higher sections within the Group and attracting new members from within the community with over 280 young people across the sections. • Over 140 at residential camps throughout the year locally in Crawfordsburn, the Moumes and Ireland.

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.
Quantify and explain any designations	The Group held reserves of approximately £37,000 against this at year end. This is above the level required for operating expenses.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	None
Further financial review details (optional information)	
You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; investment policy and objectives 	Primary Sources of Income Income is derived primarily from individual member subscriptions and Gift Aid. Expenditure has been primarily undertaken to underpin and facilitate the delivery of the Scout programmes across the Group's sections. 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. Restricted funds All funds are unrestricted, with the exception of EA grants which must be used for the purposes under which they are granted. Account codes are used to informally separate funds between different sections within the Group, and types of income and expenditure.

Section F

Other Optional Information

Plans for future periods (details of any significant activities planned to achieve them)

The 4th group sections will be relocated to new premises during the Knock Presbyterian rebuilding project, which started in September 24 and is due to complete in 18 months.

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)

Paul Brown

Lesley Wilson

Position (eg Secretary, Chair)

Chairperson

Treasurer (FY23/24)

Date

27 01 25