

Trustees Annual Report

(Financial year 1st January -31st December 2024)

Reference and Administration

Charity name: Horsham District Scout Council

Registered Charity number: 1076603

Scout Association number: 11937820

Charity's principal address: c/o Howick Gate, The Haven, Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9BQ

Charity Trustees:

District Lead Volunteer	Dave Hatton (ex-officio)
District Chair	Heather Greenwood
District Administrator (non-trustee role)	Vacant (Sue Apps, District Secretary until 30 June 2023)
District Treasurer	Joe Triccas
Trustee Board	Brian Barker, Mary Hamilton, Debbie Ladds, Alison Laker, Harry Lawrence, Anthony Smith, Alison Styles, Christopher Styles (ex-officio), Tim Taylor
*Note:	District AGM 30 th June 2024, in line with the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association, and following an open selection process, the above 12 trustees were appointed to the Trustee Board and the following stepped down from post: Sue Apps, Dave King, Andy Bray, Ellen Corke, Abi Davies, Nigel Friswell, Julian Peters, Geoff Spooner and Graham Whymark

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc and National Westminster Bank plc

Independent Scrutineer: Arthur Long

Structure, Governance and Management

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 and the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

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

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

The District is managed by the District Trustee Board, the members of which are the charity's trustees. 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. The District Trustee Board consists of the Chair, Treasurer and 10 Trustees (including 2 Ex Officio Trustees) and meets three to four times a year. Members of the District Trustee Board complete "Being a Scouts Trustee" learning within the first 6 months of joining the Board.

The District Trustee Board exists to make sure the charity is well-managed, risks are assessed and mitigated, district buildings and equipment are insured and in good working order, and everyone follows legal requirements and The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules. Their support helps the District volunteer team run high quality and safe programmes that gives young people skills for life.

The District Trustee Board has identified the major risks to the charity and have established systems to mitigate against them. The main risks identified are reduced through appropriate insurance cover on charitable assets and covering personal injury to members/public of the charity, providing appropriate training of its trustees and adult volunteers and providing support to maintain numbers of members and adult volunteers.

Objectives and Activities

The aim and purpose of The Scout Association is to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.

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 cooperate with others and make friends.

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.

The aim and purpose of the charity is to promote and support Scouting in the Horsham District.

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