

Scouts

Chelmsford

Chelmsford Scouts Annual Report and Accounts 2025-2026

Annual General Meeting
Sunday 27th September 2026
Skreens Park Activity Centre

Contents

Charity information ..... page 1

Trustee's report ..... page 2

Review of the year 2025 - 2026 ..... page 6

Riffhams Campsite ..... page 9

Final Note from our Trustees ..... page 10

Gone Home ..... page 10

Report of the District Treasurer ..... page 10

Financial accounts ..... page 11

- Independent Examiner's Report ..... page 11
- Statement of Financial Activities ..... page 12
- Balance Sheet ..... page 13
- Notes to the Financial Statements ..... page 14

2026 census ..... page 19

Scouts
Chelmsford

The Chelmsford District Scout Council is a Trust established under the rules of The Scout Association. Trustees are appointed under the Policy, Organisation and Rules of The Scout Association.

Chelmsford District Scout Council

President
Richard Oscroft, MBE

Vice President
Roger Cole

Our trustees

Name	Role	Term End
Malcolm Taylor	Chair	2027
Frederick Balding	Secretary	2027
David Clarke	Treasurer	2027
Suzanne Ball	Co-Lead Volunteer	Ex-Officio
Leanne Oscroft	Co-Lead Volunteer	2027
Amy England	Youth Lead	Ex-Officio
Danyel Horner	Programme Team Lead	2028
Andrew Missen	Support Team Lead	2028
Christopher McCann	Safety Advisor	Co-opted
Darrel Cansell	Trustee	Co-opted

Our advisors

Kris Reynolds	Digital, media and communications
Christopher McCann	Safety

Independent Examiners
Community 360, Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester, CO1 1UG

Bankers
CAF Bank

Insurers
Unity Insurance Services

Charity number
302033

Trustee's report

This year has been another busy one across the Chelmsford District. A wide-ranging programme of activities and events has kept young people inspired and engaged, with our dedicated leaders continuing to deliver the movement's promise of Skills for Life.

Our mission

Scouting is here to actively engage and support young people in their personal development. We help them grow in confidence and character, and empower them to make a positive contribution to society and to the communities they call home.

Our values

The Scouting journey is shaped and guided by the values we live by:

- Integrity – acting honestly, with trustworthiness and loyalty.
- Respect – showing respect for ourselves and for others.
- Care – supporting those around us and caring for the world we live in.
- Belief – exploring personal faiths, beliefs, and attitudes.
- Co-operation – working together, making friends, and creating positive change.

Our goal

Our vision for Chelmsford District is to keep building Scouting that is inclusive, youth-led, and deeply rooted in our communities. We aim to do this through a progressive programme that challenges and excites, guided by the Scout Promise and Law and delivered by committed adult leaders in safe and supportive settings.

This responsibility sits alongside all others entrusted to us as providers of Scouting activities, and we take it seriously. Scouting remains open to all young people aged 4 to 25, regardless of background, ethnicity, gender, faith, ability, or circumstances.

Our structure

Chelmsford District currently supports 1,974 young people through a strong and varied structure:

- 28 Scout Groups, each operating as an independent charity with its own trustees. These deliver:
  - ★ Squirrels (ages 4–6)
  - ★ Beavers (ages 6–8)
  - ★ Cubs (ages 8–10)
  - ★ Scouts (ages 10–14)
- 8 Explorer Scout Units (ages 14–18), which operates at District level with finances reported as part of the District accounts.
- 1 Scout Network Unit (ages 18–25), which operates at District level with finances reported as part of the District accounts.

This framework ensures that young people receive support and opportunity at every stage of their Scouting journey.



Our volunteers

The Scout experience in Chelmsford is made possible by the dedication of over 560 trained adult volunteer leaders and 200 more volunteers who give their time in governance and Active Support roles. The District Trustee Board recognises that these volunteers are our most valuable resource—Scouting would not exist without them.

Recruitment and volunteer retention remain a priority so that we can continue to offer good quality Scouting throughout Chelmsford.



Membership

Youth membership has increased by an overall percentage of 3.3%, while adult volunteers in leadership roles has risen by 10.3%, although as these figures are taken from the census, it is possible that some volunteers have been counted more than once. Overall, our District increased by 9.6%, a positive sign that both young people and adults recognise the value of Scouting in our communities.

Governance and management

The Chelmsford District Scout Council is the electoral body that supports, guides, and encourages the growth of Scouting across the District. It operates under a written constitution, and the District Trustee Board is formally accountable to it. The list of Trustees can be found on page 1 of this report.

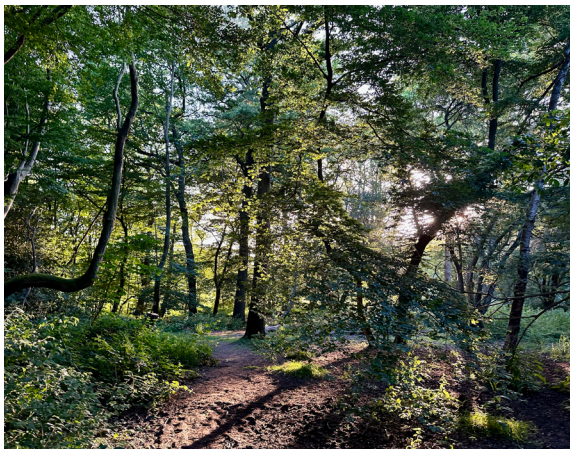
Trustees, including the Chair and Treasurer, are appointed at the District Scout Council's Annual General Meeting, following a selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. Each appointment is initially for a term of up to three years, with further terms considered and agreed by the Scout Council where appropriate. During the year, the Board may also co-opt additional Trustees to ensure effective governance and representation.

All Trustees are fully briefed on their responsibilities and are required to complete Trustee training within five months of appointment. The Board places great importance on ensuring young people have a voice in decision-making. We actively encourage participation from 18–25-year-olds, and are committed to offering opportunities across the District that will prepare young people to become future leaders and volunteers. This approach not only strengthens decision-making but also supports the long-term sustainability of the movement.



Over the past year, the District Trustee Board met on six occasions. As part of its ongoing commitment to effective governance, the Board has continued to review and improve the way meetings are managed and to strengthen the flow of information between Trustees.

Alongside a full programme of Scouting, the District provides a range of benefits and resources that are available to all members:



- **Riffhams Campsite** – Free use of our District campsite for day or evening sessions.
- District Grants – Financial support available to both Groups and individual young people experiencing need.
- **District Activities & Events** – A packed programme that includes the annual Gang Show, inter-Group competitions, training opportunities, and development days for young people and leaders alike.
- **District Equipment** – Access to an extensive store of equipment available for loan or hire to support Scouting adventures.
- **District Scout Shop** – Discounts on uniforms and other essential items.
- **Motion Picture Licence** – A District-funded licence enabling all Sections, Groups, and Units to legally show films, DVDs, or streamed content at meetings and events.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in line with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Under charity law in England and Wales, Trustees must produce financial statements each year that give a true and fair view of the charity's position, its income, and how resources have been applied during the period. In doing so, the Trustees are required to:

- select and apply suitable accounting policies consistently
- follow the principles and methods outlined in the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice)
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates
- confirm compliance with applicable accounting standards, disclosing and explaining any material departures in the statements
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, unless there is evidence that the charity will not continue in operation

In addition, the Trustees are responsible for maintaining accounting records that provide an accurate picture of the charity's financial situation at any time. These records must ensure compliance with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the charity's own governing documents.

Trustees also carry the responsibility of safeguarding the assets of the charity, taking all reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud or other irregularities.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have given due regard to the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 in ensuring that the District's aims continue to deliver clear public benefit. Our assessment is that Chelmsford District Scouts meets the public benefit criteria under two specific charitable purposes: the advancement of education and the advancement of citizenship or community development.

Scouting's principles clearly demonstrate how our work benefits the public:

- Helping young people develop towards their full potential through participation in the Scouting programme.
- Providing a direct and positive link between the purposes of Scouting and the personal growth, skills, and opportunities gained by young people.
- Ensuring all Scouting activities are organised with the health, safety, and wellbeing of young people as the top priority, while recognising that the benefits of these experiences far outweigh any associated risks.

Through this, we affirm that Scouting in Chelmsford District continues to make a meaningful and lasting contribution to young people, their communities, and wider society.

Risk assessment policy

The safety of our young people and volunteers remains our highest priority. In response to the Prevention of Future Deaths Report (PFDR) issued after the tragic Great Orme incident, we have placed renewed emphasis on safety and safeguarding training. As noted last year, all volunteers successfully completed the updated training modules by mid-2025.

In early 2026, the Charity Commission issued an advisory note detailing Scout Trustees' safeguarding responsibilities. To ensure active governance, all Group and District Trust Boards were required to discuss and minute both this note and the PFDR outcomes, appending relevant documents to their records. Overseen by the District Co-Lead Volunteers and District Trust Board Chair, this mandatory exercise was formally reported to the Scout Association and the Charity Commission. Additionally, we reinforced the requirement that Trustees must have full access to view all risk assessments under their purview. This provides a critical, secondary system of checks and balances to effectively mitigate risk.

In addition to safeguarding, the District carefully monitors other potential risks and has systems in place to reduce or mitigate them:

- Riffhams Campsite – Risks relating to property, equipment, or buildings are managed through the Campsite Committee, which meets regularly to review operations. Insurance policies for buildings and contents have been updated to protect against potential permanent loss.
- Injury to Leaders, Volunteers and Members – The District is covered by accident insurance policies. All District events are subject to risk assessment, with safety incidents reviewed by the District Safety Adviser and reported to the Trustee Board when required.
- Reduced Income from Fundraising Activities – Covid-19 highlighted our vulnerability when key income sources—such as Riffhams Campsite, the annual Gang Show, and the District Scout Shop—were paused or significantly reduced. To address this, the District introduced a membership levy, which has helped reduce the deficit. As fundraising streams recover, the level and need for this levy will be reviewed annually.
- Internal Controls – Strong systems of internal control are in place. These include requiring two authorised signatories for all payments and maintaining comprehensive insurance to cover insurable risks.

Review of the year - April 2025 to March 2026

The past year has been one of continued transformation as we embed the new Scouting structures and adapt to the My Membership system. Throughout this period of change, our focus has remained firmly on delivering safe, high quality Scouting for every young person in Chelmsford.

Compliance and Safety

Compliance has once again been a major priority. Considerable work has gone into ensuring the District remains fully compliant at all times. Our current focus is on first aid training, with a clear plan in place to ensure all adults in youth facing roles meet the required deadline. This investment will strengthen both confidence and consistency across our teams.

Membership and Volunteer Growth

Membership across the District continues to rise, as reflected in the census figures. While this growth is extremely positive, it also highlights the ongoing need for more adult volunteers. Recruiting, supporting, and retaining volunteers remains a key priority so that we can continue offering high quality programmes across all sections.

Squirrels Expansion

We are delighted to now have six Squirrel Dreys operating across Chelmsford, with two further groups preparing to open. This expansion ensures more children aged 4–6 can access the benefits of early years Scouting.

District Weekend at Skreens Park



A major highlight of the year was our third District Weekend at Skreens Park, bringing together young people, leaders, and volunteers for a programme of celebration and learning. Activities included:

- Young people's awards
- Drop in sessions, including a trustee workshop
- Inclusion workshops
- Adult awards and recognition

The event was a great success and will now be a permanent annual fixture.

Nights Away and Programme Quality

We are immensely proud of the high quality Scouting delivered across the District. This year saw a significant increase in nights away opportunities, ranging from simple HQ sleepovers to international experiences. Young people enjoyed survival camps, back to basics weekends, and week long activity camps—each offering adventure, personal growth, and lasting memories.

Our Squirrel Dreys have also embraced nights away, running their own sleepovers and joining group camps, ensuring even our youngest members experience the excitement of a night away.

Awards and Achievements

This year has been a celebration of achievement. Young people across the District have earned awards from the Squirrel Acorn through to the King's Scout Award, each representing dedication, perseverance, and personal growth. We are incredibly proud of every recipient.

Adult awards have also been presented throughout the year, recognising the outstanding commitment of our volunteers. Each award reflects the time, energy, and passion that our adults bring to Scouting.

Events and Activities

The year has been filled with inspiring activities that have brought energy and excitement to every section. Highlights include:

- Beaver Handicraft competitions
- Cub World Challenge Day
- Kayaking on local rivers
- The adventurous Plainsman Hike
- District Panto for younger sections
- Celebrations for Squirrels, Beavers, and Cubs anniversaries, including a Big Birthday Party planned for July and the Cubs' 110 Challenge
- Dofe Expeditions Bronze, Silver and Gold.





Weekly meetings have continued to offer varied and engaging programmes, from visits to emergency services to essential life skills sessions,throughout the sections.

St George's Day

Our St George's Day celebration was another standout moment. Young people led the renewal of promise ceremony following a parade through the town, showcasing both tradition and the enthusiasm of the next generation.



Events Support Team

Formerly the Active Support Unit, the Events Support Team has once again played a vital role. Alongside running their own social events, they have supported major District activities including St George's Day and the Swimming Gala. Their commitment and flexibility are deeply appreciated.

District Trustee Board

The District Trustee Board continues to work diligently behind the scenes, ensuring strong governance and effective support for volunteers and young people. Their work may be less visible, but it is essential to the smooth running and long term success of Scouting in Chelmsford.

Chelmsford Gang Show

The Chelmsford Gang Show has flourished this year, with increased cast numbers and enthusiastic audiences. Beyond the performances, the Gang Show provides young people with opportunities to build confidence, develop new skills, and express themselves creatively—often in ways they may not encounter elsewhere.



International Opportunities

Several young people and adult volunteers have signed up for County international experiences, representing Chelmsford on the global Scouting stage and broadening their horizons.

Looking Ahead

Our key challenge—and opportunity—for the coming year is to welcome more adults into Scouting. By encouraging more volunteers to give whatever time and skills they can, we can continue to strengthen the District, maintain safe and high quality provision, and ensure even more young people benefit from the incredible opportunities Scouting offers.

Thank You from our Lead Volunteers

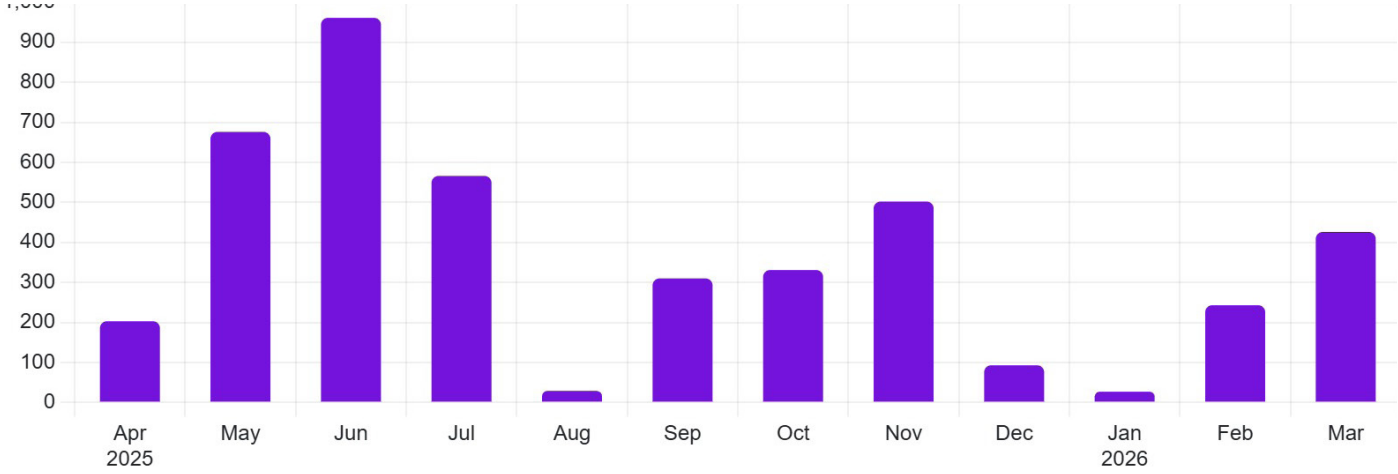
We extend our heartfelt thanks to every volunteer across the District. Whether in leadership, support, or governance roles, your dedication has enabled young people to enjoy another year filled with adventure, skills, friendships, and unforgettable experiences. Scouting in Chelmsford simply would not exist without your time, knowledge, and care.

Riffhams Campsite

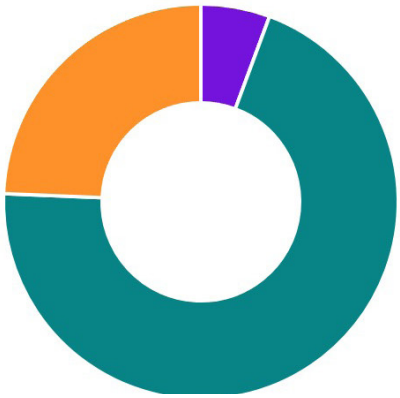
The year in numbers

164	4367	1508	£5,384
Bookings	Total attendees	Person-nights camped	Estimated income
16 day · 103 eve · 45 overnight	3304 day · 1063 overnight		£355 day · £5,029 overnight

70	26.6	1.4	50
Unique groups	Avg group size	Avg stay (nights)	Median lead time (days)



Visit mix



Highlights

- Busiest month: **June**
- Busiest night: **Friday, 23rd May 2025** — **122** people on site
- Day visitors: **3304** from 33 groups
- Overnight campers: **1063** from 39 groups
- Nights under canvas: **1508** person-nights

Income summary

Group type	Estimated income
School or Other Youth Organisation	£3,539.00
Other Scout Group	£1,404.25
Chelmsford District Scouts	£440.50
Total	**£5,383.75**

A Final Note from our Trustees

The changes in governance and Trust Boards continue, the most recent being that related to the management and mitigation of risk in all activities. This has spotlit the quiet work undertaken by those who take on these roles in the background.

The District Trustees would like to place on record their sincere thanks to all those volunteers who have implemented these significant changes to enable the leaders to continue to develop the Scouting programme across Chelmsford. Their adaptability, energy, and ongoing support remain at the heart of the District's success.

Gone Home

This year, we bid a fond farewell to Paul Harden, a dedicated member of the District Scout Team for many years and a valued leader at both Bicknacre and the 25th Chelmsford. We were also deeply saddened by the passing of Doris Ketley in late 2025 at the age of 94. Doris was a devoted, long-time volunteer, warmly remembered by many as our Gang Show refreshment extraordinaire.

Report of the District Treasurer

The Chelmsford District Scout Council maintained a solid operational position during the financial year ending 31 March 2026, delivering an operating surplus before asset revaluations. Total incoming resources reached £121,743, generated primarily through vibrant section programmes and activities (£81,558) as well as retail and campsite operations at Riffhams (£18,710). Total expenditure for the year stood at £110,739, driven chiefly by direct investment in local scouting events and support costs. This resulted in net operational income of £11,004 prior to revaluations, split between £9,654 in unrestricted funds and £1,350 in restricted grants.

The overall financial position was significantly affected by a formal valuation of the 12-acre Riffhams campsite property, conducted by a RICS registered valuer. This updated assessment resulted in an £81,300 reduction in the recorded market value of the freehold land. Consequently, total net funds carried forward ended the year at £190,297 (down from £260,593 in 2025). Crucially, this property adjustment is a non-cash accounting exercise and does not impact the District's day-to-day liquidity.

The District remains in a healthy financial standing with strong working capital reserves. Cash holdings increased to £244,286 by year-end, generating £5,782 in bank interest and leaving net current assets of £168,797. Of the overall funds, £155,747 is held in unrestricted reserves to support ongoing operations, with the remaining £34,550 held in restricted funds for designated projects.

The audited accounts for the 2025/2026 financial year can be found starting at page 10 of this document.

CHELMSFORD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

I report on the accounts of Chelmsford District Scout Council for the year ended 31 March 2026 which are set out on pages 2 to 8.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act) but that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

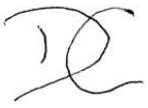
Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

David Courtier FMAAT AATQB for and on behalf of:



Community360
Winsley's House, High Street, Colchester, Essex Date 14/09/2026

CHELMSFORD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2026 £	Restricted Funds 2026 £	Total Funds 2026 £	Prior period Total Funds 2025 £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds:					
Donations and legacies	3	2,996	-	2,996	37,268
Charitable activities					
Membership	2	12,698	-	12,698	11,705
Activities for generating funds	4	15,110	3,600	18,710	16,747
Activities & sections	6	81,558	-	81,558	54,818
Investment income	5	5,782	-	5,782	4,269
Total incoming resources		**118,143**	**3,600**	**121,743**	**124,807**
Resources expended					
Cost of generating funds					
Fundraising costs	7	10,950	-	10,950	9,571
Costs of charitable activities	8	97,540	2,250	99,790	78,876
Total resources expended		**108,489**	**2,250**	**110,739**	**88,446**
Net income/(expense) for the year		**9,654**	**1,350**	**11,004**	**36,361**
Revaluation		(81,300)	-	(81,300)	-
Net income/(expense) for the year after other gains and losses		**(71,646)**	**1,350**	**(70,296)**	**36,361**
Reconciliation of funds					
Total Funds B/Fwd		227,393	33,200	260,593	224,232
Total Funds C/Fwd		**155,747**	**34,550**	**190,297**	**260,593**

CHELMSFORD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		21,500		103,200
Current assets					
Stock		5,863		5,945	
Debtors	12	24,112		25,800	
Cash at bank and in hand		244,286		240,946	
		274,261		272,691	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	105,464		115,298	
Net current assets			168,797		157,393
Net assets			**190,297**		**260,593**
Funds	14				
Unrestricted income funds			153,801		144,147
Restricted funds			34,550		33,200
Revaluation Reserve			1,946		83,246
			190,297		**260,593**

Signed _____ Date _____

M Taylor - Chairman

Signed _____ Date _____

D Clarke - Treasurer

CHELMSFORD DISTRICT SCOUT COUNCIL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1.1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement on Recommended Practise applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Incoming resources

All income is accounted for on a receivable basis, other than income received in respect of expenditure which is deferred to the period in which the activity or event takes place.

1.3 Resources expended

Expenditure is included in the accounts on an accruals basis.VAT is not recoverable by the charity and is included with the expenditure to which it relates.

1.4 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Items costing at least £500 will be capitalised. They are calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected life as follows:

No fixed depreciation allowance is made for buildings and land. Occasional revaluation is made when a permanent change in value occurs.
Freehold improvements are depreciated straight line at 10%.
All other assets are depreciated straight line at 25%.

1.5. Taxation

The Council is a registered charity and, as such is exempt from corporation tax.

1.6. Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:
Unrestricted general funds- these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees

Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particluar restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

1.7. Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and the net realisable value. Cost includes all direct costs incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition.

1.8. Cash flow

The financial statements do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under Financial Reporting Standard 1 "Cash flow statements".

1.9 Going Concern

These accounts have been produced on a going concern basis.

2 Voluntary income

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Membership		
Membership fees received from Groups in the District	93,200	88,445
Subscriptions from Explorers & Network	15,237	13,926
Less payable to Essex Scouts	(95,739)	(90,666)
	12,698	**11,705**

Total membership fees paid to Essex Scouts in the year including membership fees of the 7 Explorer units. The membership fees include a District Levy of £5,415.

3 Donations and legacies

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Donations	2,996	37,268
	2,996	**37,268**

Restricted donations and legacies amounted to £Nil (2025 - £30,000).

4 Activities for generating funds

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Retail	8,899	10,414
Riffhams camp site	3,961	6,333
Grants	3,600	-
Other income	2,250	-
	18,710	**16,747**

Restricted grants amounted to £3,600 (2025 - £4,000)

5 Investment income

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Bank interest	5,782	4,269
	5,782	**4,269**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

6 Income from activities and sections

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Programme, activities & events	81,558	54,818
	81,558	**54,818**

7 Fundraising costs

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Retail	7,703	6,801
Riffhams camp site	3,247	2,769
	10,950	**9,571**

8 Costs of charitable activities

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Donations and grants	450	275
Programme, activities & events	76,126	58,107
Support costs (note 10)	23,214	20,494
	99,790	**78,876**

Restricted expenses were £Nil (2025 - £Nil).

9 Trustees' expenses

No trustee received any remuneration during the year.

Trustees were reimbursed for expenses at a total of £1,978 (2025 £3,939).

10 Analysis of support costs

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Insurance	1,686	1,697
Premises hire	3,116	2,398
Property expenses	12,066	11,544
General admin including postage	1,895	2,126
Bank Charges	1,024	1,049
Computer & website costs	629	616
Equipment	26	-
Examination & accountancy	440	340
Legal fees	1,850	-
Depreciation	400	400
Travel expenses	81	50
Miscellaneous	-	275
	23,214	**20,494**

Restricted support costs were £2,250 (2025 - £400).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land £	Freehold Improvements	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
As at 1 April 2025	100,000	4,000	26,496	130,496
Additions	-	-	-	-
Revaluation	(81,300)	-	-	(81,300)
As at 31 March 2026	18,700	4,000	26,496	49,196
Depreciation				
As at 1 April 2025	-	800	26,496	27,296
Charge for the year	-	400	-	400
At 31 March 2026	-	1,200	26,496	27,696
Net book values				
At 31 March 2026	18,700	2,800	-	21,500
At 31 March 2025	100,000	3,200	-	103,200

King Edward VIII Scout Park (Riffhams), Lingwood Common, Little Baddow is a freehold property (12 acres) with beneficial interest* acquired in 2004.
*The freehold is held by The Scout Association Trust Corporation on behalf of the District.

The Trustees had the land revalued in the financial year. This was conducted by a RICS registered valuer, who determined that the market value of the land was £43,200 in total. This has been reflected in the accounts as a revaluation in the financial year to 31 March 2026.

The freehold improvement additions purchased in 2024, were from a restricted grant from Essex County Council. The funds are now spent in monetary terms, and the restricted funds will reduce each year with the relevant depreciation charge.

12 Debtors

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Other debtors	3,408	3,801
Prepaid expenses	17,703	21,999
Accounts receivable	3,000	-
	24,112	**25,800**

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026 Total £	2025 Total £
Accounts payable	98,904	98,835
Deferred income	6,119	16,123
Accruals	440	340
	105,464	**115,298**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

14 Fund balances

	Balance 01/04/2025 £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance 31/03/2026 £
Unrestricted	227,393	118,143	(189,789)	-	155,747
Restricted					
Essex County Council	3,200	-	(400)	-	2,800
Jack Petchey	-	3,600	-	-	3,600
Legacy	30,000	-	(1,850)	-	28,150
Total	**260,593**	**121,743**	**(192,039)**	**-**	**190,297**

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Net Current Assets £	Total 2026 £
Fund balances are represented by:			
Unrestricted funds	18,700	137,047	155,747
Restricted funds	2,800	31,750	34,550
	21,500	**168,797**	**190,297**

16 Related Parties

There were no related parties in the year.

17 Number of staff

The charity has nil employees for the period (2025 - Nil).

The 2026 census

	January 2025	January 2026	Change
Squirrel Scouts	73	118	+61.6%
Beaver Scouts	499	487	-2.4%
Cub Scouts	656	635	-3.2%
Scouts	540	585	+8.3%
Explorer Scouts	203	212	+4.4%
Network Scouts	3	2*	-33.3%
Adult Volunteers	569	747	+31.3%

** all but two of our Network members are also adult volunteers and so are not included in this figure.*

Our total membership increased by 9.6%, from 2543 in January 2025 to 2786 in January 2026.



6 Squirrel Dreys



29 Beaver Colonies



34 Cub Packs



31 Scout Troops



8 Explorer Scout Units



1 Scout Network

Do more. Share more. Be more.

Scouts
Chelmsford

#SkillsForLife

chelmsfordscouts.org.uk