



**Scouts**

**Croydon District**

**Croydon District Scout Council**

**District Funds Policy**

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## **PURPOSE**

This document details the individual funds held by Croydon District Scout Council ("The District") and the general terms and conditions of use of these funds. Where appropriate it also details the application, process required for the individual funds.

## **GENERAL POLICY**

The District Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring that all the funds held by the District are used for the benefit of and to support and develop Scouting in Croydon. They are also responsible for ensuring that the rules laid down in POR, the requirements of the Charities Act and the District Financial Management Policy are adhered to.

The District Finance Committee is responsible for overseeing the administration and management of the District Finances. They will make recommendations relating to financial matters to the District Executive Committee for discussion and final approval. They will also make recommendations (to the District Executive Committee) with regards to any applications received for funding.

Where applications are made for funding, they are subject to the funds being available in the appropriate fund. In addition, it should be noted that in all cases the decision of the District Executive Committee regarding the level of funding is final and binding.

The following funds are held and administered by the District Executive Committee for the benefit of and to support and develop Scouting in Croydon.

## **GENERAL FUNDS**

These are funds that are held by the District to support the day to day running of Scouting in Croydon. In accordance with the District Financial Management Policy the District Executive Committee will endeavour to ensure that surplus funds are kept to a minimum and do not exceed two years worth of general operating costs.

## **DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT FUND**

These are funds that are held by the District to promote and support the overall development of Scouting in Croydon. Subject to the recommendation of the District Finance Committee and the final approval from the District Executive Committee these funds can be used (but are not restricted to) for the following:

- Public relations and recruitment resources and materials etc.
- High profile “one off” District activities and events.
- Supporting and enhancing the development of Bears Wood Scout Campsite and Pinewood Scout Centre.
- Supporting and enhancing the provision of Explorer and Network Scouting.
- Making grants and loans available to District provisions for capital expenditure to buildings, large District activities/events and for the purchasing of large items of equipment or resources.
- Providing equipment and resources to support the District Team to undertake and fulfil their responsibilities.

Applications for grants and loans must be made in accordance with the requirements of the District Grant/Loan Application Policy.

## **GROUP DEVELOPMENT FUND**

These are funds that are held by the District to support the development of individual Groups in the District. Subject to the recommendation of the District Finance Committee and the final approval from the District Executive Committee these funds can be used (but are not restricted to) for the following:

- Providing financial support to new Groups in the form of start up grants.
- Making grants and loans available to Groups for capital expenditure to buildings, Group international experiences and for the purchasing of large items of equipment and resources.
- In exceptional circumstances (to ensure the long term future of a viable Group) providing temporary financial support to Groups.
- In exceptional cases providing (and where an individual Group is unable to provide the same) benevolent funding for individuals.

Applications for grants and loans must be made in accordance with the requirements of the District Grant/Loan Application Policy.

## **INTERNATIONAL FUND**

This Fund provides support to individuals (young people and Leaders) from the District who are selected to represent the Scout Association at a World Scout Jamboree or Euro jam. Individuals attending a World Scout Moot or undertaking an Explorer Belt expedition are also eligible for funds.

The funds are automatically awarded to the eligible individuals and there is no formal application process. Subject to sufficient funds being available (in the fund) all individuals are entitled to receive up to a maximum of 50% of the remaining cost once any contribution has been made against the total cost by the County.

The final level of funding will be based on a recommendation by the District Finance Committee to the District Executive Committee for their final approval. All eligible individuals will receive the same level of funding for a particular event. However, it should be noted that the final level of funding (in percentage terms) may vary from event to event.

In the event that a particular applicant is unable to attend the event (for any reason) then the funding they have received must be returned to the District. Alternatively, the funds can be transferred to a reserve/replacement individual from the District attending the same event.

## **TRAINING FUND**

This fund is primarily to support any Leader undertaking specialised courses which will provide a benefit to Scouting in Croydon. Applications must be made via the correct process to the District Finance Committee a minimum of 28 days prior to the course commencing.

Full details of the operation of this fund are contained in the District Training Grants Policy. In general, and subject to the recommendation of the District Finance Committee (and final approval from the District Executive Committee) applicants will be eligible to receive up to a maximum of 75% of the cost for courses up to £500 and up to a maximum of 50% of the cost for courses above £500.

As all the modular Leader Training Units and First Response (First Aid) Training is provided free of charge by the County (Greater London Scout West) it is anticipated that no applications will be received from this fund for the same.

However, in exceptional circumstances the District Finance Committee will consider applications for individuals to attend these courses in other Counties and with alternative providers. It should be noted that any such applications must be made a minimum of 28 days prior to the course being undertaken. A maximum of 50% of the course fees will be funded.

## **MOBILE CLIMBING WALL FUND**

These are funds which are held by the District to support the management and operations of the District Mobile Climbing Wall.

## **OCCASSIONAL FUNDS**

These are funds which are held by the District for a specific large scale District activity or event (i.e. District Camp). They are administered separately (by the District Treasurer) and are held on a temporarily basis for the duration of the activity or event.

## **BEARS WOOD & PINWOOD**

To aid the management of both Bears Wood Scout Campsite and Pinewood Scout Centre the District Executive Committee have authorised that a separate account can be operated by the respective Management Committees. All funds held in these accounts are District funds and must be managed in accordance with the District Financial Management Policy.

## **EXPLORER, NETWORK & SCOUT ACTIVE SUPPORT UNITS**

To aid the running of District Explorer, District Network and District Scout Active Support Units the District Executive Committee have authorised that a separate account can be operated by each Unit. All funds held in these accounts are District funds and must be managed in accordance with the District Financial Management Policy.