

Being a Scout Group Trustee What do you want me to do...?

Each Scout Group needs around 4 to 6 people to make sure that we can sustainably deliver a fantastic programme for young people - safely, legally, and in line with our charitable purpose.

Here's a simple check-list of tasks a Trustee does to get you started - there are some more things to check, but you'll learn more about those as you get more experienced.

Not every Trustee needs to do everything, you can work as a team. So long as the Trustee Board is satisfied that all aspects are being checked regularly.

Meeting the charity's objectives

○ Check that the Group is providing a balanced programme

You can check this by asking to see how many Top Awards are being gained each year when the oldest Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are moving up to the next age range. Most young people should be achieving the Chief Scout's Acorn, Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

○ Check that the Group is providing Nights Away experiences

You can check this by asking to see how many camps and residential experiences the Group have put on in the last year. They should be offering at least one to all young people.

Complying with Policy, Organisation & Rules of the Scouts

○ Check that risk assessments are being carried out for all activities

You can check this by dropping in on any Section meeting, introducing yourself as a Group Trustee and asking to see a copy of the risk assessment for that session.

○ Make sure that a budget is in place so the Group operates within its means

As a Trustee Board you will collectively agree this budget by working out how much activities cost to put on, how much Membership Fee to pay and how much the meeting place costs.

Complying with the law

○ If your Group owns its own building, check that an asbestos survey been carried out

You can check this by asking to see a copy of the survey and check if it is correct and has been actioned as necessary.

○ If your Group is a Registered Charity, check that it has reported to the Charity Commission correctly

You can check this by going on the Charity Commission website and looking to see if the Group is listed and all details up to date.

You may at first feel uncomfortable 'checking up' on hard working volunteers, but we promise - you will be doing us a favour by helping us stay safe, legal and being a second pair of eyes. We all miss things and your independent review will make sure when this happens it's spotted before things go too far.

You may also think that you can't do this without support - don't worry, there is a Trustee Board at District level who will help you in your role and give advice and support where needed.