

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY SCOUT COUNCIL

COUNTY SCOUT NETWORK CONSTITUTION

The following represents the established Constitution for the County Scout Network.

The Scout Network was established in 2002 following a review of The Scout Association's 6-20 youth programme. The present Constitution is based on the County Scout Council Constitution and governs the operation of the Scout Network in the County of Staffordshire. The County Executive Committee at its meeting on 7 June 2004 agreed the text of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 1 - Title and Decision Making

1. Title: The County Scout Network is governed by the County Constitution under the title 'County Scout Network'. The Scout Network is the fifth Section of The Scout Association's 6-25 youth programme provision. The aims and principles of the Scout Network are the same as the aims and principles of The Scout Association as set out in the publication, Policy Organisation and Rules. The County Commissioner is responsible for the Provision of the Scout Network in the County and he/she may appoint a County Scout Network Commissioner to manage the Section.

2. Decision Making: The key decision making bodies of the County Scout Network are: -

- a) County Scout Network Conference
- b) County Scout Network Committee

ARTICLE 2 - Purposes and Principles

Purposes and Principles: The purpose of the County Scout Network is to provide a balanced Scout programme for 18 to 25 year-olds in the County.

The principles of the County Scout Network are those of The Scout Association

ARTICLE 3 - County Scout Network Conference

1. Functions: The functions of the County Scout Network Conference are: -

- a) To adopt the Annual Report of the County Scout Network Committee, including annual statements of accounts for recommendation to the County Executive Committee for approval and inclusion in the County's Annual Report and Accounts.
- b) To elect 7 members of the County Scout Network as Elected Members to the County Scout Network Committee.
- c) To contribute to planning for the development of Scout Network in the County.
- d) To help to ensure the proper implementation and policies of the Scout Association.
- e) To advise the County Scout Network Commissioner on the management of the County Scout Network provision in the County.

2. Composition: The County Scout Network Conference shall consist of: -

Ex officio members (voting)

- . The County Commissioner
- . The Deputy County Commissioner (Programme)
- . The County Chairperson
- . The County Scout Network Commissioner
- . County Scout Network Leaders
- . Scout Network Co-ordinators
- . All full members of the Scout Association aged 18-28 and registered with the County Scout Network

Co-opted members (voting)

The County Scout Network Conference may co-opt members for a fixed period of up to a year. Such co-opted members may include representatives of organisations with whom it is desired to maintain co-operation.

The number of co-opted members must not exceed the total of *ex officio* members. Co-opted members shall have the right of voting if they are otherwise members of The Scout Association or if they have been nominated and elected as co-opted members at the previous Annual Conference.

Invited members (non-voting)

The County Scout Network Administrator

3. Rules of Procedure

a) There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the County Scout Network Conference at least once per year at such time and place as the County Scout Network Committee decides and additional meetings as called by them, for which a simple majority motion of their total membership shall constitute a motion to call any such meeting. In the event of a failure by the County Scout Network Committee to call an Annual General Meeting of Conference, then the County Scout Network Commissioner or the County Commissioner may call that meeting.

b) The notice required for a meeting of the County Scout Network Conference shall be a minimum of 14 days and notice shall be deemed to have been given by notice on the County Network website Notice Board, and shall be supplemented where possible by email and postal notification where email addresses are not known. Failure to notify change of address or email address by members shall not constitute failure to notify.

c) 10 members of the County Scout Network shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the County Scout Network Conference and that shall include any of the *ex officio* members and any other voting members.

d) All voting members shall have one vote and resolutions shall be carried by a simple majority of members present and voting. In the event of a tie, the status quo shall be maintained.

- e) The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the County Scout Network Conference shall be appointed by the County Scout Network Committee and will usually be the same as the Committee Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson.
- f) During the election of members to the County Scout Network Committee, the County Scout Network Commissioner shall invite a member present, who is not currently serving or known to be nominated to be on the Committee, to take the chair which shall be approved by a simple majority of members present and voting.
- g) The County Scout Network Conference may adopt its own additional rules of procedure from time to time with approval from the County Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 4 - County Scout Network Committee

1. Functions: The County Scout Network Committee exists to advise and support the County Scout Network Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and to provide guidance and support to local Scout Networks in the County.

The specific functions of the County Scout Network Committee are:

- a) To produce the County Scout Network Annual Report including the statement of accounts in conjunction with the County Treasurer, to be adopted by the County Scout Network Conference and recommend them to the County Executive committee in time for approval and inclusion in the County's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.
- b) To exercise such functions as are provided for in the present Constitution.
- c) To agree the County Scout Network programme and communicate it to all County Scout Network members and to regularly review this programme
- d) To put into effect, the resolutions of the County Scout Network Conference and to fulfil any duty that the County Scout Network Conference may assign to it.
- e) To contribute to planning for the development of Scout Network in the County whilst supporting Local Scout Networks.
- f) To act as an advisory and support body to Local Scout Networks
- g) To act as an advisory body to the County Scout Network Commissioner, County Commissioner and County Executive Committee on relevant matters

2. Composition:

- a) The County Scout Network Committee shall consist of 7 elected members who shall consider the interests of the County Scout Network as a whole and shall neither consider themselves nor be considered as representing any particular group. The County Commissioner, Deputy County Commissioner (Programme), County Chairman and County Scout Network Commissioner are *ex officio* members.
- b) At any Annual General Meeting of the County Scout Network Conference, the members shall be elected for a period of one year and may serve a maximum of three years on the County Scout Network Committee.

c) The County Scout Network Committee may accept resignations to fill vacancies in its membership and may co-opt additional members to fill such vacancies up to the next Annual General Meeting of the County Scout Network Conference.

3. Organisation of the Committee

a) The County Scout Network Committee shall elect its own Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from within its number. The County Scout Network Committee Chairperson is an ex officio member of the County Executive Committee and County Explorer Scout Meeting. The County Scout Network Committee may invite any person whom it may deem useful in accomplishing its tasks as a consultant without vote.

b) The County Scout Network Committee shall elect from its number, a person to fulfil the role of Treasurer, and they shall approve his/her job description.

c) The County Scout Network Committee shall elect from its number, a person to fulfil the role of Secretary and they shall approve his/her job description, but shall include therein responsibility for taking and keeping a record of all meetings of the The County Scout Network Committee and the County Scout Network Conference.

d) The County Scout Network Committee shall meet at such times and places as it may decide by simple majority of its membership. It is the Chairperson's responsibility to ensure that all members of the County Scout Network Committee are informed of the date, time and venue of all meetings. The presence of 50% of members + 1 shall constitute a quorum. Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of voting members present. In the event of a tie, the status quo shall be maintained.

e) The County Scout Network Committee may establish working groups relevant to the County Scout Network Committee's functions and shall approve membership and remits of such groups.

ARTICLE 5 - Financial Provisions

1. Annual Budget: All funds of the County Scout Network Committee shall be deposited to the credit of an account designated for the purposes of the County Scout Network and shall be disbursed by the Treasurer of the County Scout Network Committee in accordance with a budget approved by the County Scout Network Committee in consultation with the County Scout Network Commissioner.

2. Financial Statement:

a) The Treasurer of the County Scout Network Committee shall present the Annual Statement of Accounts to members of the County Scout Network Annual Conference for adoption and recommendation to the County Executive Committee. The Treasurer of the County Scout Network Committee shall then submit to the County Executive Committee for approval, the audited Annual Statement of Accounts in time for inclusion in the County's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

b) Local Scout Networks holding financial accounts shall provide regular reports to the County Scout Network Committee on these accounts. Accounts held by Local Networks shall be incorporated into the County Scout Network Annual Statement of Accounts.

ARTICLE 6 - Other Provisions

1. Amendments: Proposed amendments to this Constitution may be put to the County Scout Network Conference at any of its meetings. Texts of the proposed amendments shall be presented to the County Scout Network Committee before the County Scout Network Conference in writing with the same notice as the notice of that meeting. If the vote is carried by a simple majority of members present and voting, the County Scout Network Committee will recommend to the County Executive Committee the proposed amendments to the County Scout Network Constitution for their approval.

This Constitution was adopted by the County Scout Network Conference at

On

*Signed:
County Scout Network Committee Chairperson*