



Scouts

6th Dagenham (St Mary's)

Policy Name:	International Fund
Governance Lead:	Stuart Bailey
Review Process:	Annually
Date of Last Review:	November 2025
Date of Next Review:	November 2026



Approved by Trustee Board:

1 Purpose

The International Fund exists to ensure that all members of the 6th Dagenham Scout Group, both youth members and adult volunteers, have the opportunity to participate in UK-based national or international camps, jamborees, or activities, regardless of financial circumstances. The fund provides:

- Financial support to cover travel, accommodation, and event-related costs.
- Guidance and assistance in fundraising.
- Encouragement of participation in Scouting experiences while promoting personal development, teamwork, and representation of the group in a positive manner.

This policy is implemented in accordance with The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR), including:

- Section 2: Inclusivity and equality in Scouting opportunities.
- Section 5: Finance, including restricted funds, fundraising, and accountability.
- Section 7: Adult support for youth events.

2 Scope

This policy applies to:

- Youth members of the 6th Dagenham Scout Group selected for national or international camps, jamborees, or activities.
- Adult volunteers who attend such events in an official capacity, whether as leaders, helpers, or support staff.

The fund supports participation in events that align with the principles and values of The Scout Association and enhances the skills, knowledge, and experiences of members and volunteers.

3 Fund Structure and Management

The International Fund is a restricted fund held in the group's accounts and administered by the Group Executive Committee (GEC).

All income raised specifically for this fund must be used solely to support eligible participants.

The fund will operate in line with the group's existing Fundraising Policy and POR 5.7, ensuring all fundraising activities are appropriate, lawful, and documented.

- Financial transactions from the fund will require the approval of the GEC and will be recorded in the group's accounts.

4 Eligibility and Discretion

Applicants must be registered members or adult volunteers of the 6th Dagenham Scout Group. Support is completely discretionary; no member or volunteer has an automatic right to funding.

5 Allocation of funds will consider:

- Commitment to fundraising for the event.
- Ongoing engagement in group activities.
- Positive representation of the group and Scouting at all times.
- The GEC may also consider first-time participants, financial need, and equitable distribution across members and volunteers.

6 Application Process

- Applicants must submit a written application to the Group Treasurer or appointed fund administrator, including:
 - Event details (location, dates, and nature of activity).
 - Estimated costs and budget.
 - Details of fundraising activities undertaken or planned.
 - Evidence of commitment and contribution to the group.
- Applications will be reviewed by the GEC, who will consider available funds, fairness, and alignment with the principles of Scouting.
- The GEC's decision is final. All decisions will be documented, including reasons for the level of support awarded.

7 Fundraising Guidance and Expectations

Applicants are encouraged to undertake fundraising to contribute toward their participation costs.

The group will provide guidance on suitable fundraising activities and support members in line with POR 5.7.

Fundraising must be conducted ethically, safely, and in accordance with Scout Association guidance.

Members and volunteers receiving support are expected to:

- Participate actively in fundraising efforts.
- Promote the group positively.
- Uphold Scout values and rules while attending events.

8 Allocation and Payment

Approved funds may be paid directly to the event organiser or reimbursed to the participant upon submission of receipts.

Payments cover only costs directly associated with the approved event (e.g., travel, accommodation, activity fees).

Receipts and proof of payment must be submitted to the GEC for record-keeping.

No funds will be released for personal or unrelated expenses.

9 Monitoring, Reporting, and Accountability

The GEC will maintain records of all applications, allocations, and disbursements.

An annual report on the International Fund will be presented to the group, detailing:

- Total funds available and raised.
- Number of participants supported.
- Summary of allocation criteria and decision-making process.

The policy and fund allocations will be reviewed annually to ensure fairness, transparency, and sustainability. Adjustments may be made based on experience, fundraising outcomes, and the group's financial position.

10 Compliance with POR

The International Fund operates under the requirements of POR Section 5 (Finance), including restricted fund management, accounting, and reporting.

All fundraising and allocation decisions comply with POR Section 5.7, which outlines guidance on group fundraising activities.

The fund supports participation in line with POR Section 7, which governs adult volunteers attending youth events.

The fund promotes inclusivity, equality, and accessibility, in line with POR Section 2.4.

11 Review and Amendment

This policy will be reviewed annually by the GEC or sooner if required by changes in POR or the group's financial position.

Any amendments to the policy must be approved by the GEC and documented.

Full records of applications, allocations, and payments will be maintained for at least 7 years, in line with POR accounting requirements.