



West Devon District Scout Council Constitution

THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

“The District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and to provide support for Scout Groups, Explorer and Network Scouts in the District.”

25th June 2020

Introduction

A Scout District comprises several Scout Groups and one or more Explorer Scout and Network Units. Additionally, the District may have one or more District Scout Active Support and Special Group Units. Every Scout District is an autonomous organisation holding its own property and equipment and admitting people to membership of The Scout District subject to the policy and rules of The Scout Association.

Composition of the Scout District

The Scout District is led by the District Commissioner and managed by the District Executive Committee. They are accountable to the District Scout Council for the satisfactory running of the District.

The District Commissioner is assisted and supported by:

- the District Team, comprising, the District Youth Commissioner, the District Explorer Scout Commissioner, the District Network Commissioner, and all Assistant District Commissioners and District Scouters.
- District Administrators and Advisers;
- the District Scout Council;
- the District Executive Committee;
- the District Scout Active Support Units.

The District Constitution

The following represents the established Constitution for the West Devon Scout District in the County of Devon following the ideal constitution given in POR Rule 4.25.

The District Scout Council

The District Scout Council is the electoral body which supports Scouting in the District. It is the body to which the District Executive Committee is accountable.

Quorums:

The quorum for District Council meetings should be 20 members and that District Executive Meetings follow the Charity Commission recommendation of one third of members plus 1.

Membership of West Devon District Scout Council is open to:

- Commissioners
- Scouters
- Section Assistants
- Administrators
- Helpers
- Skills Instructors
- Advisers
- All Explorer Scouts
- All Network Scouts
- Chair's of Troop Leadership Forums in the District
- Members and Associate members of the Movement registered in the District including members of District Scout Active Support Units
- All parents of Explorer Scouts
- Persons elected or re-selected annually by the District Scout Council on the recommendation of the District Commissioner and the District Executive Committee

Ex officio members:

- The County Commissioner
- The County Chair

Membership of West Devon District Scout Council ceases on:

- the resignation of the member; or
- the termination of membership by headquarters; or
- the dissolution of the Council.

West Devon District Scout Council must hold an Annual General Meeting within six months of the financial year-end to:

- Receive and consider the annual Report of the District Executive Committee, including the annual statement of accounts;
- approve or otherwise the District Commissioner's nomination of the District Chair and nominated members of the District Executive Committee;
- elect a District Secretary and a District Treasurer;
- elect certain members of the District Executive Committee;
- elect Group Scouters to represent the District on the County Scout Council; and
- appoint an auditor or independent examiner or scrutineer as required.

West Devon District Executive Committee

The District Executive Committee exists to support the District Commissioner in meeting the responsibilities of the appointment and to provide support for Scout Groups and Explorer Scout Units and any Scout Network Provision in the District.

Members of the District Executive Committee are the 'Charity Trustees' of the Scout District. Certain people are disqualified from being charity trustees by virtue of the Charities Acts. Charity trustees are responsible for complying with all the legislation applicable to charities.

Ex officio members:

The appointment of The District Secretary and District Treasurer may not be held by a Scouter. No individual may hold more than one of the appointments of District Chair, Secretary or Treasurer.

The District Chair	Bob Stride
The District Commissioner	Ben de Carteret
The District Secretary	Anne Hine
The District Treasurer	Colin Piper
The Deputy District Commissioner	Nicki Allott
The District Scout Network Leader	Vacant
The District Explorer Scout Commissioner	Abi de Carteret
The District Youth Commissioner	Vacant
President	Peter Challiss
Appointment Secretary	Rob Wiggins
Local Training Manager	Linda Davies

Nominated Members:

Persons nominated annually by the District Commissioner and confirmed or otherwise at the District Annual General Meeting. These need not be Members of the District Scout Council and their number must not exceed that of the elected members.

- [Ben Watson](#)
- [David Pestridge](#)
- [Rob Weston](#)
- [Victoria Mitchell](#)

Elected Members

There should be four to six Members of the District Scout Council who are elected annually by the District Scout Council at their Annual General meeting.

- [Liz Cole](#)
- [Charlotte Hammond](#)
- [Simon Miles](#)
- [James Romanel](#)
- [John Whitehead](#)
- [David Symons](#)

Young Person Representative:

All elected and constitutional bodies of The Scout Association at HQ, County and District should have as full voting members, at least two young people between the ages of 18 – 25 years old. Members under the age of 18 cannot vote but may participate in discussions and their views will be taken into account.

- [Bryn Bourton \(Network\)](#)
- [Jess Crease \(Network\)](#)
- Anya Taylor (Explorers)

Co-opted members:

Persons co-opted annually by the District Executive Committee. The number of co-opted members must not exceed the total of elected members.

- [None](#)

Right of Attendance:

The County Commissioner [Steve Donohue](#)

The County Chairman [Andrew Leadbitter](#)

The District Executive Committee is responsible for:

- promoting the development of Scouting in the District;
- arranging for harmonious co-operation with other organisations;
- acting with the District Commissioner in all matters relating to finance and property, including Explorer Scout Units and District Scout Network;
- appointing a District Appointments Advisory Committee and a Chair of such a sub-Committee;
- appointing any other sub-Committees and their chairs as the Committee may require;
- supervising the administration of Scout Groups particularly in relation to finance and the trusteeship of property;
- attending to District Administration particularly matters relating to Leader, Manager and Supporter appointments and the appointment of Section Assistants, Skills Instructors, Administrators and Advisers;
- registrations, membership of the Movement, appointing an assistant secretary as Badge Secretary for the District;
- presenting an Annual Report and annual statement of accounts to the Annual General Meeting of the District Scout Council.

A Scout District is an educational charity. Members of the District Executive Committee are the charity trustees of the Scout District.

Only persons aged 18 and over may be full voting members of the District Executive Committee because of their status as charity trustees.

Conduct of Meetings in the Scout District:

- i. In meetings of the District Scout Council and the District Executive Committee only members specified **in blue** above may vote.
- ii. Decisions are made by a majority of votes of those present at the meeting. In the event of an equal number of votes being cast on either side in any issue the chair does not have a casting vote and the matter is taken not to have been carried.
- iii. The quorum defined for meetings of West Devon District Executive Meetings follow the Charity Commission recommendation of one third of members plus 1.

SUB COMMITTEES OF THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE:

The District Executive Committee may establish any sub-Committees that it deems necessary. Sub-Committees consist of members nominated by the Committee. The District Commissioner and the District Chair will be ex officio members of any sub-Committee of the District Executive Committee.

Any fund raising committee must include at least two members of the District Executive Committee, in addition to the ex officio members. No Section Leader or Assistant Leader should serve on such a fund raising sub-Committee.

The District Appointments Advisory Committee:

This is a mandatory sub-Committee of every District Executive Committee.

The responsibilities of the District Appointments Advisory Committee are:

- to interview and approve appointments both new and 'change of role';
- with the District Commissioner, to review appointments;

- following the suspension of an adult within the District, to provide advice on continuation of suspension, re-instatement, or modification or cancellation of appointment; and
- to discuss/advise of action needed in event of adverse CRB report.

Membership of West Devon Appointments Advisory Committee:

The Chair of the Appointments Advisory Committee is appointed by the District Executive. The District Chair cannot be the Appointments Chair. The total number of the interview panel must not exceed three. All members of the Appointments Advisory Committee are required to have completed Module 37 Training for Appointment Committees.

Chair	Vacant
Secretary	Rob Wiggins
LTM	Linda Davies
Members	Sue Dawe
	Anne Hine
	Peter Challiss
	David Symons
	Rosalind Wiggins
	Nicki Allott
	Ann Ward