Scouting for Everyone
1st Newtownards Scout Group

1st Newtownards Scout Group 'Scouting for Everyone' Fund

Purpose

1st Ards (Newtownards) Scout Group is committed to providing opportunities for all young people to engage with scouting & associated activities. To this end, from 2024, we will be providing the Scouting for Everyone Fund (SfE Fund) to enable those for whom financial hardship may be a barrier to full participation.

The 1st Ards SfE Fund will be administered in accordance with the guidelines set out below.

Scope

The Trustees will decide annually upon an amount of money to be set aside for SfE. Total awards cannot be made in excess of this amount. At the end of the Financial Year any unspent money will be returned to The Group Accounts and will not be carried over to the next year.

The SfE fund may be available to:

- Assist with the cost of termly subscriptions (subs). Please note this will be to a per centage of subs & not the full cost
- Assist with the purchase of uniform upon joining a section if no suitable preloved items are available within the group (note if approved, the group will purchase uniform directly on behalf of the young person)
- Assist with the cost of attending an event / camp or with items required for an event (which are not available to borrow from the group)

How is this funded?

Each year the Trustee Committee will set aside a sum (subject to available income) to be used as for the SfE Fund. This amount may change year on year.

Eligibility

Any member of 1st Ards Scout Group with a particular financial* need can apply.

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Priority will be given to individuals who fulfil one or more of the criteria below:

- Young Carers
- Child/ Young Person in care
- Recent life event that impacts finances
- Convalescence after illness
- In receipt of Free School Meals
- Physical/mental health issues (applicants' own)
- Recent redundancy (of parent/carer, within 12 months)
- Parent/Carer in receipt of state pension
- In receipt of benefits
- The young person is in Part-Time work (less time to fundraise)
- The young person is in need of additional support in the form of a carer whilst participating.
- The young person comes from a family with multiple young persons within the Scout Group.

Proof of any of the above criteria will be asked for as evidence when an application to the SfE is made.

*Financial need is defined as the difference between what it costs to attend/purchase and what the applicant can afford to pay.

How much will be awarded?

Amounts awarded may vary, dependent on funds available. Any awards will be made as a percentage of the costs. Should your application be successful you will be notified of the award made and any outstanding amount you will need to pay.

Any remaining funds required OR all funds required (if not subsidised), can be paid in instalments over a set period of time, as long as this is agreed in advance with the section leaders and the payment schedule is adhered to.

How to apply?

Applications should be made via the Scouting for Everyone Fund application form which is submitted to the Group Lead Volunteer & Treasurer.

All applications will be reviewed by Group Lead Volunteer, Group Treasurer & one other trustee. The outcome will be notified to you in a timely way.

Applications can be made at any time of year, awards are subject to there being funds available.

All applications will be treated confidentially, and the information provided in the application will not be disclosed, except as necessary, to administer the SfE Fund in accordance with the guidelines and the Policy, Organisation and Rules of the Scout Association.

Applications can be made online on this link.

Terms of the SfE Fund will be reviewed annually by the Trustees to ensure that it is run within the operating parameters of the group.

April 2024
Review date: April 2025