



The ScoutsCymru and UK Headquarters (UKHQ) membership fee is calculated based on the number of Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and Explorer Scouts shown in the annual census.

### **What is the membership fee process?**

The census of all adult and youth members takes place in January using the same online system that has been used for over a decade. The fees payable will be calculated on only the number of young people aged under 18 in each Area.

***The 2022/23 membership fee for all members in Wales under 18 will be £49.50 per person (this figure already includes the assumed 50p prompt payment discount).***

The amount above includes both the ScoutsCymru and the UKHQ element of the membership fee, which will be paid onwards to UKHQ by ScoutsCymru. Once UKHQ has been paid its share, the amount retained in Wales goes towards funding the work of ScoutsCymru to deliver the Skills For Life Strategy to support all our members across Wales.

The fee collection process is that Groups will pay their census fees to Districts, Districts to Areas, and Areas to ScoutsCymru. ScoutsCymru will issue an invoice to Areas in February/March 2022 and payments need to be received by no later than 15 April 2022. If your payment is not received by 15 April, then you will be billed an additional 50p per person on top of the amount above.

Arrangements for paying Districts and Areas will be communicated separately by the respective Districts and Areas. It remains up to each Group or District how to best fund the membership fee, whether by weekly/termly/annual subscription etc.

### **How is the membership fee set?**

As highlighted above there are two elements of the £49.50 per person membership fee:

1. **UKHQ fee** – this has been set at £34.50 per person for 2022/23. The fee remains the same figure as the previous year (but 2021/22 also included an additional £1.50 per person ring-fenced for hardship funding separate from the core fee).

There is an arrangement between UKHQ and ScoutsCymru (mirroring

arrangements with Scotland and Northern Ireland) that of the UKHQ fee ScoutsCymru keeps 57% of this figure. The % figure is decreasing by 1.5% every year (subject to the UKHQ fee increasing by at least £1 each year) until we reach 50%.

2. **ScoutsCymru fee** – this has been set at £15.00 per person for 2022/23. Taking into account the financial pressures currently being felt by Groups, Districts and Areas arising from the pandemic, similarly to UKHQ we've taken the decision to freeze the fee, so it remains the same figure as the previous year. We will continue to meet any deficit that may arise in 2022/23 from our reserves while our membership numbers continue to recover.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Why is a membership fee paid to ScoutsCymru and UKHQ?

The ScoutsCymru & UKHQ membership fee is paid annually to contribute to the costs of supporting Scouting in Wales and UK-wide.

### 2. Financial detail around paying membership fees

#### How do we raise funds to cover costs of the membership fee?

Areas/Districts/Groups will continue to make decisions on how they want to collect and pay their membership fees locally. The most common method is youth members make donations to their Scout Groups and Districts to attend Scouting activities and events and the amount to be donated as subscriptions is calculated based on the cost of running Scouting locally, inclusive of the HQ membership fee. Many will not require a change to their membership fee process if they already operate in this way.

In some areas, local Scouting operates a strong fundraising programme to help raise money to cover the costs of running Scouting and all membership fees in order to charge their young people as little as possible. This will continue to be an option.

Gift Aid rules also apply to membership subscriptions received by local Scouting, and so for every £1 your Group/District receives, you can claim an extra 25p from HMRC. This includes any donations received in the last four years and any future donations received, helping donations to go further.

Note that you can only claim Gift Aid on membership subscriptions and money donated for sponsored events. You cannot claim Gift Aid on Camp or Jamboree fees, or donations made through online giving platforms (as the websites normally process Gift Aid automatically). [Further guidance](#) is available online.

### Fundraising

If you are a Group, District or Area that needs to increase your income take a look at the guidance on local fundraising [available online](#).

## What does the membership fee pay for?

Membership fees help us deliver a wide range of services and support for our volunteers and young people. From vital safeguarding advice to a reassuring voice on the end of the phone at ScoutsCymru HQ, we are committed to ensuring the services we provide is of the highest quality.

In particular, membership fees contribute towards:

- Programme support through the development of the youth programme, the provision of programme ideas (including Digital provision), support for the adventurous activities enjoyed by Scouts and providing international opportunities for Scouts to travel.
- Programme support for new and existing Wales specific awards
- Providing administrative support for International Events – World Scout Jamboree
- ScoutsCymru Scouting Support Service working in partnership with local Scouting to enable young people across Wales to have the opportunity to access Scouting in this ever-changing landscape
- The ScoutsCymru Grants fund which supports applications from Groups/Districts/Areas within Wales. There is a total of five grants available New Section Fund; Inclusive Scouting Fund; Capital & Equipment Fund; Adult Support Fund & Small Grants Fund – more details are available [online](#).
- Communication support for Group/Districts/Areas to shout about their local stories and raising the profile.
- Vacancies Portal for local Scouting to advertise volunteer vacancies which are promoted across various social platforms and includes an introduction service for new volunteer referrals through the ScoutsCymru Scouting Support Service.
- All Wales Events including Cub Fun Day, All Wales Scout Camp and Awesome.
- Providing governance expertise, guidance, and support
- Celebration of Scouting Awards to recognise the outstanding achievements of our members throughout Wales
- Engage with Welsh Government, Local Authorities and other National bodies to promote ScoutsCymru and the impact it has on communities across Wales.
- Development of partnerships with a diverse range of partners to develop resources to support our leaders to provide an exciting balanced programme.
- Support for the recruitment, retention and training of adult leaders, through recruitment initiatives, provision of training material and resources and direct support to local volunteers.
- Development grants to support the provision of Scouting in areas where it does not exist, or where additional support is required by existing groups
- Safeguarding advice and support, as well as the disclosure checking service
- Insurance for all members (public liability: personal accident and trustees indemnity)

- Membership and customer services, such as recording appointments and roles and the administration of Scout awards
- Legal services
- Information Centre service at HQ to answer member questions
- Tailored emails and postal communications to members with news and information
- National Activity Centre provision
- Archive services for the preservation of national Scouting heritage
- Supporting the public campaigns and media work nationally to promote and enhance the public perception of Scouting.