

## Financial Assistance Policy

### **Background**

The Group recognises that there are circumstances where members of the (Scout) Association may be unable to meet the financial commitments for key Scouting events, but their participation would be both deserving and of significant benefit. This policy outlines the framework for handling cases of financial hardship related to events. Hardship cases are always considered on a case-by-case basis.

### **Implementation**

- When a young person's parents or carers approach the relevant Section leader, the Section Leader should enter discussions within the constraints of this policy. The Leader(s) then brings the situation to the attention of the Group Scout Leader. Using the Application for Groups Scouts' Financial Assistance Fund form attached to this policy.
- Approval requires the agreement of the Group Scout Leader.
- The Group Executive Committee will then be appraised of the implementation, to ensure that the Group is not being put under any financial difficulty.

The primary consideration must always be the young person: if they are keen and active members then we should be doing everything we can to enable them to come.

### **Payment options**

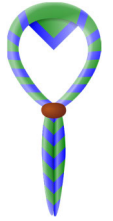
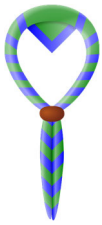
The funding is normally provided on a matched funding basis (i.e. the recipient must usually make a financial contribution alongside the group's payment). In special circumstances, funding may be made without matching funding.

The following are some of the ways the group may be able to help, this is not a definitive list.

- A deferment or reduction of payment of membership subscriptions or activity fees.
- Group contribution towards camp fees.
- Support to purchase uniform

### **Confidentiality**

Information relating to an individual's financial assistance cases is often highly personal and is treated as strictly confidential. Any record of discussion under this policy at the Group Executive Committee will be reported in confidential minutes, separate to the normal minutes.



### Application for Groups Financial Assistance Fund

The Group operates a Financial Assistance fund to support young people who would otherwise not be able to take part in activities provided by the Group. The funds, which come from external benefactors, existing group funds and personal donations, are limited but each request will be considered on its own merits.

Conditions may be imposed on any funds granted. Please complete this form as fully as possible for each request.

Item/Event:
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	From	To
Date of event (if applicable)		

Young person's name:			
Section (Please circle):	BEAVERS	CUBS	SCOUTS

Total cost of event/item:	
Total you can contribute:	
Total requested from fund:	

Reason for request:
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Parent/Guardian name	Signature

Section Leader Signature	Group Scout Leader Signature

Application Reference No	
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