



District Lead Volunteer

**Information for anyone considering
the role of District Lead Volunteer for
King Alfred's District, Oxfordshire**

scouts.org.uk/join
[#SkillsForLife](https://twitter.com/SkillsForLife)



Please note that we have used the term 'Scout County' throughout this pack: in Wales and Northern Ireland these are known as Areas, and as Regions in Scotland.

About us

Overview of Scouting

We are the UK's biggest mixed youth organisation. We change lives by offering 4 to 25 year olds, fun and challenging activities, unique experiences, everyday adventure and the chance to help others so that we make a positive impact in communities.

Scouts helps children and young adults reach their full potential. Our members gain valuable skills for life including teamwork, time management, leadership, initiative, planning, communication, self-motivation, cultural awareness and commitment. We help young people to get jobs, save lives and even change the world.



What do Scouts do?

Scouts take part in a wide range of activities as diverse as kayaking, abseiling, expeditions overseas, photography, climbing and zorbing. As a Scout you can learn survival skills, first aid, computer programming or even how to fly a plane. There's something for everyone. It's a great way to have fun, make friends, get outdoors, express your creativity, and experience the wider world.

What do volunteers do?

This everyday adventure is only possible thanks to our team of adult volunteers, who support Scouts in a wide range of roles from working directly with young people, to helping manage a local community-based Group, to being a charity Trustee. We help volunteers get the most out of their experiences at Scouts by providing opportunities for adventure, training, fun and friendship.

Our award-winning training scheme for volunteers means that adults get as much from Scouts as young people. Our approach focuses on what you want to get out of volunteering with Scouts, while respecting how much time you can offer. Over 90% of Scout volunteers say that their skills and experiences have been useful in their work or personal life.

Key facts and figures

The Scout Association is a UK charity founded in 1907 and now boasts a membership of over 620,000 young people and adult leaders. We are the largest mixed youth movement in the UK. Scouting activity is delivered through 7,000-plus community-based Scout Groups nationwide.

Scouting is widely recognised and is one of the most trusted charities in the UK, giving it a significant level of influence and responsibility. Scouting's greatest strength lies in its grass roots. It is locally that Scouting is best able to identify and work directly with young people most in need.

We believe that through the everyday adventure of Scouting, young people and adult volunteers regularly experience new challenges that enrich and change their lives.

The current focus for the Trustees and those in Scouting in the UK is delivering our strategic vision.

Our strategy

A new strategic plan for Scouting across the UK is currently nearing completion to secure a strategic direction through to 2025 and to grow on the success of the current plan. Team UK (the team of commissioners that leads Scouting across the UK) will play a key part in leading the delivery of this strategy. More details on the work towards our new plan are available [online](#).



By 2025 we will have prepared more young people with skills for life, supported by amazing leaders delivering an inspiring programme. We will be growing, more inclusive, shaped by young people and making a bigger impact in our communities.

Scouting's fundamentals

Our mission

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society.



Our values

As Scouts, we are guided by these values:

Integrity

Respect

Care

Belief

Co-operation

[Further information on our fundamentals, including details of our values, are provided on our website.](#)

Scouting's key policies

In common with all members in Scouting, District Lead Volunteers are required to promote and follow our key policies. The policies cover:

Development Policy

Equal Opportunities

Privacy and Data Protection

Religion

Safety

Safeguarding

Vetting

Youth Member Anti-Bullying Policy

[These policies are fully explained on the Scouts website](#)

King Alfred's Scouts

- King Alfred's is located within Oxfordshire County and is made up of 7 Groups, covering Faringdon, Grove, Wantage, Stanford-in-the-Vale, Watchfield and Shrivenham and the surrounding area. King Alfred's Scouts total membership is currently 746, which includes:
- 22 Squirrels (4 – 6 year olds) within 1 Dreys
- 205 Beaver Scouts (6 - 8 year olds) within 12 Colonies
- 254 Cub Scouts (8 - 10 ½ year olds) within 12 Packs
- 219 Scouts (10 ½ - 14 year olds) within 10 Troops
- 46 Explorer Scouts (14 – 18 year olds) within 5 Units
- 97 Adults (18+ year olds)

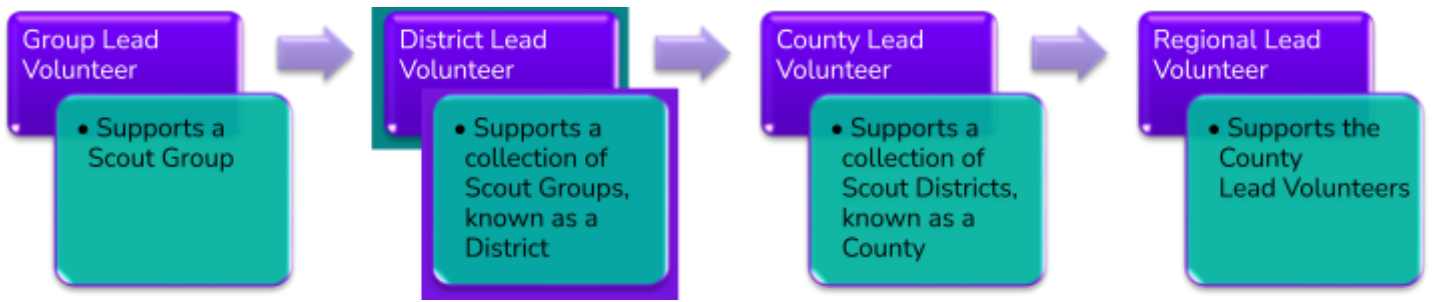
The current vacancy

We're currently looking for a District Lead Volunteer. This is a management role, and we need someone who can provide leadership, motivation and guidance to our adult volunteers.

A large part of this role involves managing and supporting Group Lead Volunteers, who manage local Groups. A key source of support for the District Lead Volunteer is their line manager, who is the County Lead Volunteer

You don't need any prior experience of Scouting to apply for this role, we'll make sure you're fully trained and supported.

The management structure of Scouting is as follows:



In addition to managing Group Lead Volunteers, District Lead Volunteers also ensure that support is available at every level, so that all volunteers feel valued, motivated, inspired and focused on providing first-class Scouting for young people. The most successful District Lead Volunteers recognise the importance of valuing the hard work of volunteers, seeks to ensure that they feel happy and supported, week after week and that they are regularly thanked for what they do. The District Lead Volunteer provides direction for the District and will help others see the bigger Scouting picture through their leadership.

We encourage everyone in management roles within Scouting to adopt an approach that combines the skills of both leadership and management.

Core Skill Areas

We've identified six core skill areas that make a good Scouting manager and leader:



1. Providing direction

A good District Lead Volunteer will create a vision for Scouting in their District and provide clear leadership to implement that vision.

2. Working with people

It is vital that a District Lead Volunteer can create team spirit amongst the other volunteers they work with, and can form effective working relationships based on trust and the fundamental principles of Scouting:

- integrity
- respect
- care
- belief
- cooperation

3. Achieving results

District Lead Volunteers ensure that goals are achieved, plans are seen through to completion, and that good relationships are maintained within and between Scout Groups. Forging links within the local community is also an important aspect of development.

4. Enabling change

It is important for a District Lead Volunteer to encourage volunteers to think of creative ways to improve Scouting across the District. They should then provide the support to implement appropriate changes.

5. Using resources

A District Lead Volunteer will ensure that information and resources are available, helping volunteers across the District to continue to provide excellent Scouting opportunities to young people.

6. Managing time and personal skills

A good District Lead Volunteer should use their time effectively and be willing to continue to learn and improve their skills. Follow this link for more information on [core skills](#) (we are working on getting these videos up to date)

We're looking for someone that can grow into the role

We are looking for an individual or team of people with the above skills to ensure that Scouting in King Alfred thrives. So, if you have some of the skills detailed and the drive and enthusiasm to develop Scouting in King Alfred's, you could be the person we are looking for. You can expect to receive support and training as part of your development within this role.

How to apply

Process

Thank you for your interest in volunteering. You can apply for the role yourself using the application form or nominate someone else using the nomination form. Nominated people are under no commitment to apply unless they wish to.

Shortlisting will be based solely on the information provided by each candidate in their application form. All applications should address the requirements of the role, as laid out in the role description and person specification.

Key dates

The closing date for applications is **23rd January**

Interviews will be held thereafter, in a location suitable to you, hopefully in February. These will be informal and relaxed.

Further information

For more information, or for an informal chat about this vacancy, please contact:

Name: Katy Hadfield

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