 **Derby East District Scouts**

**A FRAMEWORK FOR SCOUTING FOR THE 14 TO 24 TEAM IN DERBY EAST DISTRICT**

(Policy, Organisation & Rules 4.5.3 Autumn 2024)

* 1. **14 to 24 SCOUTING** is a District provision managed by the District Trustee Board

1.1 The appointment of a 14 to 24 Lead Volunteer is recommended by the District Lead Volunteer to the District Trustee Board

1.2 14 to 24 Scouting is available to all young people who wish to take part

1.2.1 Explorer Units are opened, merged or closed as advised to the District Trustee Board by the District Lead Volunteer

1.2.2 Each District has one Scout Network Unit

1.4 The District must ensure that a balanced programme of activities is available to every 14 to 24 young person. All Programme Zones should be covered in each year.

1.5 Ensure an Explorer Scout Unit specifically for Young Leaders is in place

2 EXPLORER SCOUT UNITS

2.1 A Scout Group can, with the approval of the District Trustee Board host an Explorer Unit for which a Partnership Agreement must be in place (para 5). The Explorer Scout Unit is not a member of the Scout Group

2.2 The District Trustee Board will ensure accommodation and other resources for an Explorer Unit that does not wish to be hosted by a Scout Group

* 1. A leadership team; a Team Lead Volunteer and a minimum of 2 other Team Members should be in place before an Explorer Scout Unit is opened. It is good practise to have a mixed leadership team.

3 MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members wear the approved Scout uniform with relevant badges and a scarf

3.1.1 Explorer Scouts can choose 1 of 3 options; A District scarf, a scarf of the host group or a scarf of their own choice

3.1.2 Network can choose between a District scarf or a scarf of their own choice

3.2 Explorer Scouts: The age range is from 14 years to 18 years old.

3.2.1 The age for moving from the Scout Section is between 13½ and 14½ years

3.2.2 The age for moving to the Scout Network at 18 years.

3.2.3 The age of leaving Scout Network is upon reaching the 25th birthday.

Under no circumstances can anyone aged 18 years or over, regardless of ability remain in Squirrels, Beaver, Cubs, Scouts or Explorers unless taking on an adult role.

 NOTE: A young person who turns 18 during an event or residential activity (of no more than one month’s duration) shall be treated as under 18, and be subject to all rules applicable to under 18-year-olds, for the duration of that event.

**4. PROGRAMME**

4.1 All Units should have opportunities for the members to take part in the decision-making process. Any forum or committee should have Explorer Scouts and Leaders or Network and Leaders working together.

4.2 Explorer Scout representatives from all Units are expected to attend District Forums, at least twice a calendar year, which encourage the sharing of ideas and general co-operation and communication between units.

4.3 The Team Leader Explorers, along with their Team members are expected to attend District Explorer leader’s meetings that are held at least twice a calendar year.

4.4 The District 14 to 24 Lead Volunteer will ensure regular liaison with all Scout sections by:

4.4.1 Involving a representative Scout section Team Leader Volunteers at least once a year in District Explorer Leaders meetings

4.4.2 Maintain a link programme between Scout sections and Explorer Units

4.5 All Explorer Scout Units will engage in a link agreement with the District Scout Network

4.6 Scout Network members will make decisions affecting their Unit. Advice is available from Leaders

4.7 The following minimum standards are laid down for 14 to 24 Scout Units

* + The delivery of a high-quality balanced Programme run in accordance with the Association's official publications for the Section.
	+ Opportunities for the members to take part in the decision-making process.
	+ The opportunity for every 14 to 24 Scout to attend at least one nights away experience every year.

4.8 If all the above criteria are not being followed the District Programme Team will offer additional support to that unit soonest.

4.9 If after all reasonable measurers have been taken to provide additional support the unit is still not operating within the Derby East District Framework the DLV will, after consultation with the District Trustee Board close/merge the unit.

4.10 For all Scouting activities a risk assessment should be carried out as stated in P.O.R [Rule 9.](https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/9-activities/rule-94-risk-assessment/)1 This risk assessment cannot override the minimum requirements stated or those required by the activity rules in P.O.R [chapter 9](https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/9-activities/).

4.11 If a Unit opens with less than 10 members then participation in joint and or District activities is recommended.

**5 Finance**

5.1 No membership fee and levies are paid for Network Scouts

5.2 Membership fees for Explorer Scouts will be paid by the Explorer Scout Unit to District in accordance with District procedure and timescale.

5.3 Membership fees for an Explorer Scout, who as a Young Leader is not a member of a Unit partnered unit, will be paid for by the group they are a Young Leader with. The District Treasurer will invoice the group accordingly.

5.4 If the District Trustee Board agrees, an Explorer Unit and Network Unit can open a bank account and there should be at least 3 signatories; one of those should be the District Treasurer.

5.5 All Units will keep receipt and payments accounts and will submit annually with receipts, vouchers, cheque book and statements, to the District Treasurer for audit and consolidation into the District Accounts. The District Treasurer will notify of the timescale.

5.6 Explorer Unit accounts must not, under any circumstances, be part of host Group accounts.

5.7 All Units must keep a register of valued assets owned by the Unit and submit annually to the District Treasurer for consolidation into the District Accounts

5.8 All Explorer Units must ensure adequate insurance cover for any assets owned.

5.9 In the event of an Explorer or Network Unit closing the assets belong to Derby East District Scout Council; this is after any money owed to a group for premises, use or equipment has been paid.

5.10 Derby East District Scout Council will hold these assets for the benefit of scouting

**6. PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS**

6.1 Derby East District supports Explorer Scout Units being hosted by a group.

6.2 The Unit must enter into a Partnership Agreement that is approved by the District Trustee Board and signed by the Group Lead Volunteer and The District Trustee Board

6.3 The Partnership Agreement should be in line with **the Scout Association’s ‘Running an Explorer Unit’** and reviewed when a change of Unit leadership and the GLV or at least every two years.

6.4 The Partnership Agreement should be in place before the Unit is opened.

6.5 The Partnership Agreement should state that Unit finances are independent of the host Group

6.6 The GLV of the host group will support the Unit by entering into a Partnership Agreement that includes the provision of premises

REVIEWED & APPROVED by the DISTRICT TRUSTEE BOARD ON ……………………………. (date)

Signed by the District Chair …………………………………………………..

**Review date:** xxx **February 2025**