



HQ Circulation list
Region/County/Area Commissioners
ACC Sections, Activities and International

11th February 2011

Dear Colleague,

SUPPORTING AND DEVELOPING THE UK 6 – 25 PROGRAMME

You may be aware that there has been a gradual reorganisation of how UK Headquarters supports and develops the 6 – 25 Programme and Activities. I can now confirm that the UK Advisers for Sections and Activities will formally stand down on the 31st March 2011. The formal thanks have been given by Wayne Bulpitt to Karen Jameson (BS), Graeme Hamilton (CS), Alasdair McBay (S), Adrian Wray (S Net) and Linda Thelwell (Activities) and we wish them all the very best for the future. Two Deputy UK Commissioners for Programme have been appointed to take forward our programme and activities development and support work:

Deputy UK Commissioner for Programme (6 - 25). This role will help develop and support the Balanced Programme, our educational objectives, awards and badges and resources to support young people and adults. Graeme Hamilton will take on this role. He is an experienced Group, District and Area Scouter who was the UK Adviser for Cubs Scouts. As well as being an active GSL, he then became the Scottish HQ Commissioner for Cub Scouts for a number of years. By profession, Graeme is a Business Improvement Manager for a large Housing Association in Glasgow.

Deputy UK Commissioner for Programme (Activities). This role is to help develop and provide safe guidance and support to the Movement on the large range of adventurous, outdoor and creative activities in Scouting. Tim Pike who is currently ACC (Adult Support) for Hampshire, has been appointed to this role and held a variety of roles in the County and in Greater London North. He has also worked at Gilwell Park on Programme and Activities issues between 1993 and 2003. His professional experience includes leadership of the business management function for a large education non-departmental public body and he now runs his own business. His role at UK HQ will be to lead projects related to Activities, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and support the team of UK Technical Advisers for specific Activities.

My sincere thanks to them both for agreeing to undertake these two roles. It is worth me pointing out that Counties and Areas are not expected to mirror this new UKHQ volunteer structure – it has been designed specifically to handle the complex task of managing projects at a UK level. Communications and support to ACCs/AACs will continue and questions about UKHQ work should be directed to me, the Deputies or the staff at Gilwell Park. I will be exploring specific ways of involving more volunteers in providing direct support to local Scouting and I will be writing to you about this in due course.

The two Deputies and I will contribute to the development and implementation of the work plan for Programme delivery through the **Programme Core Team** (see below) and offer leadership and support to an increasing number of programme volunteers working for UKHQ through project teams.

The Programme Core Team

To ensure the work of the Programme team is joined up and working towards the strategic priorities of The Scout Association, I will head up the Core Team made up of the following members:

- UK Commissioner for Programme (Chair);
- Two Deputy UK Commissioners for Programme;
- Assistant Director for Programme (Greg Stewart);
- Head of Activities and International Affairs (Andy Lannin) and
- Head of 6-25 Programme (Rosie Shepherd).

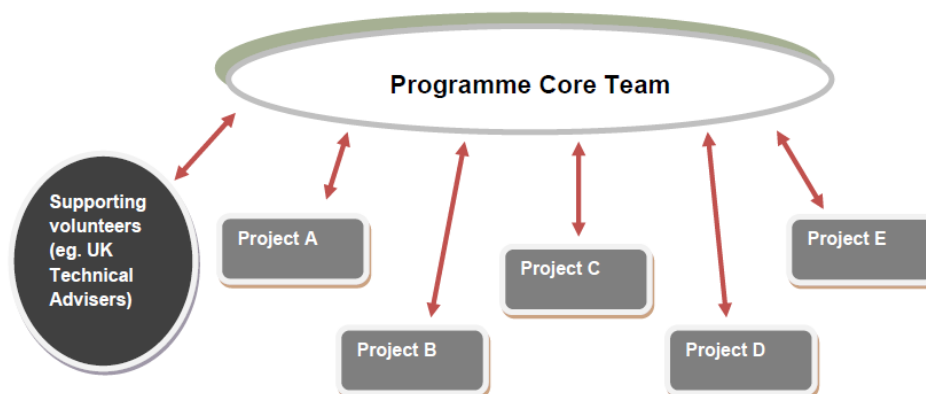
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The Scout Association

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Patron: HM The Queen **President:** HRH The Duke of Kent **Founder:** Robert Baden-Powell OM **Chief Scout:** Lt Cdr (Hon) Bear Grylls RN
Registered Charity Numbers 306101 (England and Wales) and SC038437 (Scotland) Incorporated by Royal Charter

Between us there should be a good working knowledge of the areas of work. We will meet roughly four times a year with telephone conferencing in between, to identify key priorities, develop future plans, direct strategy, discuss work, authorise and sign off projects. Major areas of new work will be agreed by this group before formal approval by the Operations sub-Committee.

My key priority is to also enlarge the number of volunteers working actively at UK level through contributing directly to projects and identifying future priorities. To this end, during the spring we will be holding a recruitment process to find approximately 100 volunteers to work on time limited projects in the current work plan. The diagram below provides more detail on the new structure for project work within the Programme team.



“Projects” can range from rewriting fact sheets or a young person’s handbook to reviewing the entire programme or developing a new adventurous permit system. They could be involved from one month to three years work.

Our Projects for 2011/2012

Our agreed projects for the coming year will include work on:

Project	Broad outline	Approx No. Vols needed
Explorer and Network Leader Training	To improve the quality and relevance of the Section Leader training material for Explorer and Scout Network Leaders.	10
Explorer Scout Empowerment	To identify and implement how we can support Explorer Scouts in leading themselves and to research how we can support wider youth leadership within Scouting.	5 + 3 young people
Employability skills	To develop resources to help young people translate their Scouting skills into employability skills.	3
Life issues	To provide adults with basic information and signposting to experts on a variety of issues faced by young people.	5
Practical skills in the programme	To deliver a strategy to increase support to adults with delivering ‘Scouting Skills’	9
Programme Development		
(a) Sections, Programme and Awards	To consult the Movement (including young people) on the Programme and then provide recommendations on any key changes needed to sections, programme zones and Awards.	4
(b) Retention of Cub Scouts	To identify causes of and actions to address the drop in young people in Cub Scouts at around age 9.	5
(c) Top Award consistency	To improve the quality and consistency in delivery of the Queen’s Scout and Explorer Belt Awards.	4
(d) 18 – 25 Provision	To consult how the Programme for 18 – 25 years olds could be enhanced and make recommendations.	5

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(e) Promotion of Young Leader scheme	To promote the Young Leaders' Scheme to both current youth members and young people externally.	3
Quality of Programme delivery	To define a benchmark for a "quality" programme and the reasons this is not delivered consistently and put into place a series of practical measures to support leaders in meeting the benchmark of quality.	5
Beaver Scout residential experiences	To provide support and guidance for Leaders, line managers and Activity Centres about running Beaver Scout residential experiences.	4
Support roles (support for ACCs)	To ensure the role of ACC (Sections) is understood, supported communicated with by HQ and to support them in providing effective support to adults working in the Sections.	2
HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee 2012	In partnership with Girl Guiding UK, create and support this national celebration through a special badge and relevant programme support.	4
Activity Opportunities	To provide members with easy access to activity provision and training and assessment opportunities.	7
Activities – communication and web development	To provide members with easy access to the information they need to run activities in Scouting.	0
Creative Activities development	To increase support and facilitate innovation in the area of creative activities.	5
DofE – operational development	To increase participation and completion of the DofE programme by our members and increase support for the DofE programme.	4
DofE training	To increase training provision for the DofE.	1
Supporting Activity Assessors	To ensure Activities are provided in a safe and fun manner.	7
Swimming rules support	To deliver training to support significant changes in activity requirements	1

To help us with the above work, we shall begin advertising for volunteers from across the UK shortly. I would value the help of Country/Region/County/Area Commissioners in promoting the forthcoming appeal which will be on www.scouts.org.uk/volunteervacancies in due course and to encourage people who you feel may be interested and suitable to get involved.

Finally, thank you for your ongoing support to ensure our programme and activities remain relevant and vibrant for our young people and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or the other members of the Core Team on programme@scouts.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Alex Minajew
UK Commissioner for Programme