

3rd Hayling Scout Group

Subscriptions



September 2018

Email: gsl@haylingscouts.org.uk

Web: www.haylingscouts.org.uk

Introduction

The purpose of this information leaflet is to explain what happens to the Subs you pay and explain how we determine if it is necessary to increase these.

How much are Subscriptions?

Our subs are currently £108 per year and were last increased in 2018, following a period of 6 years without changing. Whilst our costs increased each year, the expansion of the group and increased income from our book sales have enabled us to maintain Subs for this period.

Our review in November 2017 concluded that we would need to increase our subscriptions in 2018, the main factors being:-

- The annual membership fee paid to Scouting Headquarters for every member of the group has increased from £34 in 2012 to £47 in 2018
- Each badge awarded now costs between 80p and £1.20, an increase of 50% since 2012.
- As with all of us, the utility costs have increased significantly since 2012

We expect to be able to maintain them at this level for a 3 year period.

This is still below the average subs in Hampshire (£132) and the cost of most other activities (e.g. martial arts, sport, dance, music etc) and if you consider the wide range of opportunities that Scouting provides, I hope you will agree it remains great value for money

Payment Options

- Standing Orders at £9 per month (our preferred approach)
- Termly payment of £36

The majority of families now pay by Standing Order and this is our preferred option as it helps our Leaders by reducing the time taken at the beginning of each term to collect and record the subs and also our Group Treasurer from an administration perspective. It also means that for you it is one less thing to worry about at the beginning of each term.

Please consider paying subscriptions in this way if you can.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid represents a significant income to the Group. As a charity, we are able to reclaim basic rate tax on contributions made to the Group, including Subs. The only condition is that the payee must pay Income Tax in the UK.

Forms for Standing Order and Gift Aid are included in "A Parents' Guide to our Pathway to Adventure" and are also available at our web site by visiting the "Information for Parents" section and selecting "Subs".

What are Subs used for?

The subs paid are used for 5 areas of cost:-

1. Scouting National Membership Fee (£47 in 2018)
 - A fee is payable to National HQ each March for every member of the Group. The cost for the youth membership is paid from their subscriptions, while the cost for other members (Leaders, Helpers, Executive Committee) is covered by our fund-raising.
 - The Membership fee covers the insurance premium for every member, provides for a range of services from National HQ for the Leaders and also National and County facilities.
2. Section Running Costs
 - A portion of subs paid is returned as a float to the Leaders to cover the cost of consumables and section specific activities. (e.g. cooking evenings and to subsidise visits) .
 - The amount returned is based on the youth membership number for the section.
3. Books & Badges
 - The cost of progress books, section training books and the badges gained by our members.
 - Each badge costs between 80p and £1.20p.
4. Leader Training, Specialist Skills and Specialist Equipment
 - The cost of mandatory training such as “First Aid” and “Safeguarding” and also the cost of special skills such as Archery, Climbing and Rifle Shooting.
 - The ongoing cost of equipment and maintenance used in providing the specialist based activities.
5. Contribution to HQ running costs.
 - A proportion of the ongoing costs for our Headquarters which includes insurance, utilities and maintenance.
 - This also includes the ongoing maintenance of some of our important assets such as our trailers.
 - Our financial plans assume 70% of the ongoing HQ costs are covered by subscriptions.

All other expenditure within the Group, for example the remaining HQ running costs, Camping Equipment and other projects are covered by our Fundraising.

Items 1,2 and 3 above are influenced primarily by our youth membership, item 4 by our adult membership, whereas the cost of the HQ item 5, is fixed, independent of numbers.

One of the reasons we have been able to maintain our subs at the 2012 level is due to the increase in numbers of those taking part in Scouting activities each week. This has a positive impact for the sharing of the HQ running costs and also our income from Gift Aid.



When do we Increase Subs

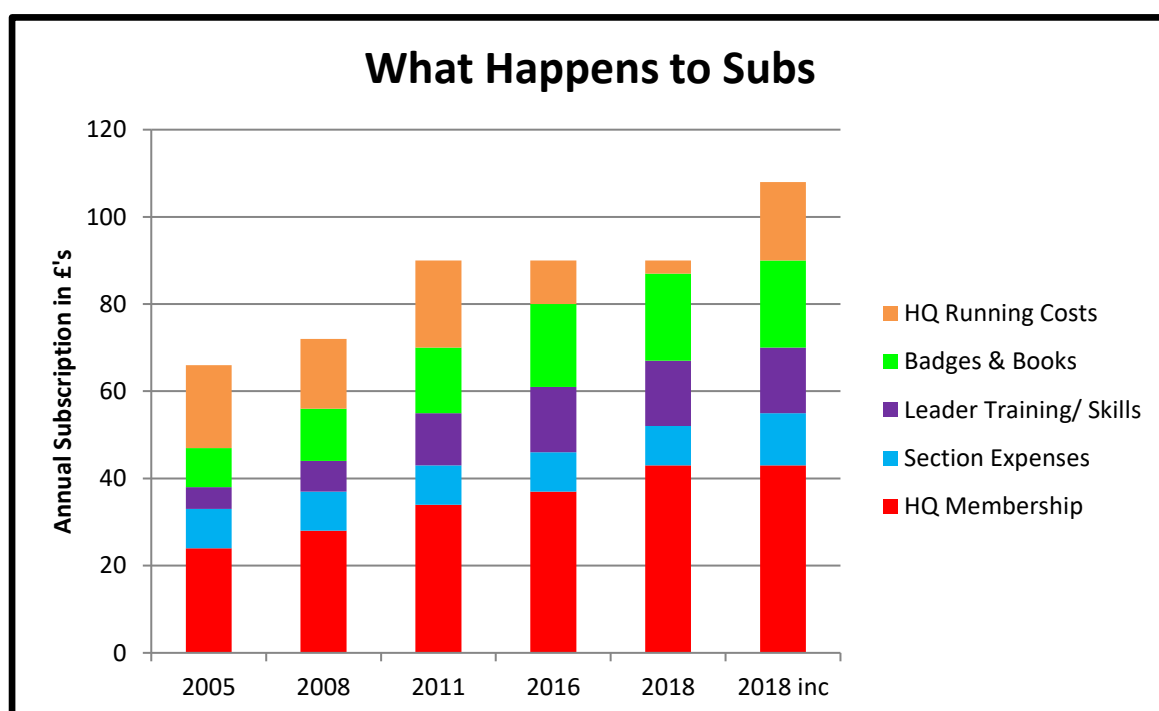
Our target is for Subscriptions to cover the cost of the national membership subscription, badges, books, the training provided to our leaders, the specialist equipment required to support our activities and about 70% of the HQ costs.

Our review takes place in November each year with increases if required being implemented in the following April.

The chart below shows how the subs are distributed across the 5 elements.

In 2012, the basic HQ costs (insurance, utilities and maintenance) totalled just over £7,000 whereas by 2017 they had increased to nearly £11,000. The proportion of these costs covered by a contribution from Subscriptions reduced from 70% to under 50% placing a significant additional requirement on fundraising.

The increase in subs from 2018, in addition to the growth in our membership during the past 12 months, will return the contribution to our HQ costs to 65%, with the remaining 35% of the HQ running costs plus the cost of equipment we purchase (e.g. tents) covered by our fundraising teams.



Finally, our objective is to provide the fun and adventure of Scouting to all who want to take part and that no one should be excluded for financial reasons. If you wish to discuss this aspect, or require any other information, please contact your leader, or Ian Hawke. (email: gsl@haylingscouts.org.uk).