

Transforming our Volunteer Experience

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We want to make volunteering with Scouts easier and more fun...

...so that we can attract more volunteers and our current volunteers want to stay



Making volunteering easier and more fun is how we reach our North star...

More young people gaining skills for life

Consistently and safely deliver a great programme

Recruit more volunteers and retain current ones





2019 – 2023: Intensive Consultation and Volunteer Involvement

All volunteers invited to have their say

Over 5,000 so far

Members of the public

Volunteers who've left us

Early adopter counties

All UK nations

Those we want to welcome into scouting

Process pilots

Other volunteering organisations

Young People

Wide range of backgrounds and communities

Groups and sections

Volunteer managers

System Testers

Key Insights



Many people who want to help their communities don't think about volunteering with Scouts

New volunteers find our onboarding frustrating, time consuming and intimidating

Learning at the Scouts can be seen as a chore not a choice, at times adding little value.

Many volunteers feel overloaded... and many of them leave

Volunteers find it hard to get things done and find the help they need

Volunteers are too busy with important day to day tasks to reflect and think further ahead

We don't attract enough volunteers

We don't retain enough volunteers

We need to fix this

What's changing?



Listening to our volunteers, young people and more we've identified three key areas for change:



Delivering a more engaging learning experience



All of which will be supported by easy-to-use digital tools







Getting the benefit in Maidenhead



Implementing the new national roles, structures and tools that volunteers have requested and developed

Focusing on the problems and opportunities in Scouting locally that they can help you address

What we heard	The actions we're taking
Many people who want to help their communities don't think about Scout	Scouting is visible locally and people know what we do Scouting is visibly and locally inclusive: welcoming to all
volunteering	Its easy to advertise opportunities where people will see them
New volunteers find our onboarding frustrating, time consuming and intimidating	Local welcome conversations and buddies Quality automated processes in line with NSPCC A shared Volunteering Culture to set expectations both ways
Learning at the Scouts can be seen as a chore not a choice, at times adding little value	Easy to access core learning for all roles Optional Wood badge, driven by the learner
Many volunteers feel overloaded and many of them leave	Tasks sit with teams with clear focus Clear task lists help share work around Systems let you direct tasks to the experts
Volunteers find it hard to get things done and find the help they need	Scouts.org.uk: the one stop shop Automating processes like permits and nights away Easier to find people to help
Volunteers are too busy with important day to day tasks to reflect and think further ahead	Trustee Boards focused on strategy, risks, compliance and the long term Operational issues handled elsewhere

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