In this document you’ll find:

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**TIMELINES FOR PLANNING AND PREPARING YOUR AGM**

Here’s a suggested timeline to help you plan and prepare for your [AGM](https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-things-locally/trustee-boards/annual-general-meetings/):

**During the final quarter of the financial year:**

* Agree the date for the AGM. The AGM must be scheduled for no later than six months after the end of the financial year.
* Share the AGM date with members of the Scout Council, your community and any other relevant volunteers.
* Start planning how the Treasurer will complete the [annual statement of accounts](https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-things-locally/finances-and-insurance/accounting-and-reporting/) and when they need to share it with a Scrutineer/Independent Examiner/Auditor.

**Three to four months prior to the AGM:**

* Review Trustee Board memberships to identify if any appointment periods are coming to an end, if any Trustee needs (and wants) to be re-appointed, and if there are any vacancies.
* Agree on how the Trustee Board will conduct an [open selection process for appointing Trustees](https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/volunteer-experience/volunteering-together/what-this-means-for-you/moving-to-trustee-boards/open-selection-process-for-appointing-trustees/).

Please note: appointed and co-opted Trustees (including the Chair and Treasurer) may only be in the same Trustee role on the specific Trustee Board for no more than nine years. You’ll find more information on [terms of appointment on POR 5.3](https://www.scouts.org.uk/por/5-local-governance-and-finance-of-groups-districts-counties/rule-53-constitution-requirement-sv).

**Two months prior to the AGM:**

* Make arrangements for the open selection process for appointing Trustees, such as advertising vacancies, running elections, undertaking a search group, or receiving applications.
* Start preparing the [Trustees’ annual report](https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-things-locally/finances-and-insurance/accounting-and-reporting/).
* Receive the annual statement of accounts from the Scrutineer/Independent Examiner/Auditor and approve it.

**One month prior to the AGM:**

* Send the formal invitation for the AGM to all members of the Scout Council, together with the agenda, the minutes of the previous AGM, a link to the POR model constitution, and a copy of the Trustee Annual Report and Accounts.
* Finalise any required arrangements for the open selection process for appointing Trustees.

**After the AGM:**

* Within 14 days following from the AGM, send signed copies of the Trustees’ approved annual report and accounts to Country and UK Headquarters, including the ‘audit’ report.
* If the County is a registered charity, within 10 months of the end of your financial year, send a copy of the annual report and accounts to the appropriate charity regulator, if required.
* Inform The Scout Association Board of Trustees who are your County representatives to the Council of The Scout Association.
* Verify the drafted AGM minutes at the next Trustee Board meeting.

[Edit NAME OF COUNTY] SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

[Edit date and time]

[Edit Venue]

# AGENDA

1. **Introduction and welcome**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Governance topics**
4. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on [Edit DD/MM/YYYY]
5. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)
6. Note the County’s financial year
7. Approve appointed and community members of the County Scout Council
8. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board
9. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the County Scout Council (excluding this AGM)
10. **Review of the previous year**
11. The County Lead Volunteer’s review of Scouts in the [Edit name of County]
12. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the County Trustee Board, including the annual Statement of the Accounts
13. **Making appointments**
14. [If required] Appoint the County Chair, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board
15. [If required] Appoint the County Treasurer, following recommendation from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board
16. [If required] Appoint members of the County Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board
17. [If required] (Re-)appoint County President and/or Vice Presidents
18. Appoint the Scrutineer / Independent Examiner / Auditor [Delete as appropriate]
19. Elect representatives of the County Scout Council to represent the County on the Council of The Scout Association
20. **Closing remarks**

[Edit NAME OF COUNTY] SCOUT COUNCIL

Annual General Meeting

**Outline / Script for the [Edit YYYY] AGM**

**Chair** makes Health & Safety and domestic announcements**.**

1. **Introduction and welcome**

**Chair**

Makes opening remarks.

Thank the venue for the use of their facilities.

Welcome members of the County Scout Council and guests [If not included here, have a separate list available on the day.]

1. **Apologies for absence**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

We’ve received apologies from [Edit number] persons for their absence today, and their names will be included in the minutes of this meeting.

1. **Governance topics**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

We'll use this part of the meeting to make sure the charity's foundations are in good order

**3a. Approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on [Edit DD/MM/YYYY]**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

The County Trustee Board have reviewed the minutes of the previous AGM at their meeting held on [Edit DD/MM/YYYY]. I put forward these minutes are taken as read and ask the County Scout Council to agree they’re a true record of that meeting.

Seconder please…………………………. / Please show your hands to approve***.***

**3b. Adopt the model constitution from Policy, Organisation and Rules (POR)**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

In line with the recommendation from Scout Headquarters, the County Trustee Board proposes we adopt the model constitution from Chapter 5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules. A copy of this was available for review and inspection prior to this meeting, and copies are also available at this meeting.

Seconder please ……………………. / Please show your hands to approve.

**3c. Note the County’s financial year**

[Suggested script]

**Chair**:

Can the County Scout Council members please note our charity’s financial year is [1 April to 31 March].

**3d. Approve appointed and community members of the County Scout Council**

**Chair** notes the County Scout Council can admit other people to membership. Chair advises that [Edit name(s)] are nominated as County Scout Council members.

These are to be admitted as members of the County Scout Council as well as the ex officio list in POR Rule 5.6.4

Please show your hands to approve.

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| Please note: These nominations are to the County Scout Council (the people attending this AGM). They aren’t members of the County Trustee Board. Please also note, these nominations can be by name or role.  |

**3e. Agree the number of members that may be appointed to the Trustee Board**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

Following good practice recommendations from the Charity Governance Code, POR states Trustee Boards should have a minimum of 5, and no more than 12, Trustees in total. This includes ex officio and co-opted Trustees.

The County Scout Council must agree the number of people to be appointed to the Trustee Board. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends that [Edit number] people are appointed. I propose the County Scout Council approves that recommendation.

Seconder please ……………………. / Please show your hands to approve.

**3f. Agree the quorum for future meetings of the County Scout Council (excluding this AGM)**

[Suggested script]

**Chair**:

The County Scout Council must agree its quorum – the minimum number of County Scout Council members that must be present at County Scout Council meetings. The outgoing Trustee Board recommends the quorum should be set at [Edit number] people. Does the County Scout Council approve that recommendation?

Seconder please ……………………. / Please show your hands to approve.

1. **Review of the previous year**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

We’ll now use this part of the meeting to reflect on the activities of the past year.

**4a. The County Lead Volunteer’s review of Scouts in the [Edit name of County]**

**Chair** asks the County Lead Volunteerto present their Annual Review.

**County Lead Volunteer** gives their review.

**Chair** thanks County Lead Volunteer for their review.

**4b. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the County Trustee Board including the annual Statement of Accounts**

**Chair** notes the County Trustee Board has approved the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts, and has received the report on the accounts from the [Edit Scrutineer / Independent Examiner].

**Chair** asks the County Treasurer to give their explanation of the Statement of Accounts.

**Treasurer** explains the Statement of Accounts.

**Chair** invites questions from the floor regarding the Trustee Annual Report, and the Annual Accounts.

**Chair** thanks the Treasurer[Edit name]

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| Please note: No vote is required, the County Scout Council only ‘receives and considers’ the report. |

1. **Making appointments**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

We’ll use this part of the meeting to organise the set up of the charity until the next AGM. We'll appoint a Trustee Board to oversee good governance for the charity over the next year.

**5a. [If required] Appoint the County Chair, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board**

**Chair** hands the chairmanship of this meeting over to the County Lead Volunteer.

**County Lead Volunteer** explains the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the County Scout Council is that [Edit name] should be appointed as County Chair. Please show your hands as approval.

**County Lead Volunteer** hands the chairmanship of this meeting back to County Chair.

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| Please note: If appointing a new Chair, you should agree **prior** to the AGM whether the outgoing Chair will continue to lead this meeting, or whether the new Chair should take over immediately during the meeting. It’s strongly encouraged the new County Chair takes over after the AGM’s finished – perhaps from midnight following the AGM.  |

**5b. [If required] Appoint the County Treasurer, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board**

**Chair** explains the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the County Scout Council is that [Edit name] should be appointed as County Treasurer. Please show your hands as approval.

**5c. [If required] Appoint members of the County Trustee Board, following recommendations from the open selection process initiated by the County Trustee Board**

**Chair** explains the open selection process agreed by the Trustee Board. The recommendation to the County Scout Council is that [Edits names] should be appointed as members of the County Trustee Board.

Please show your hands as approval.

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| Please note:* There can’t be more names appointed than were approved at agenda item 3d. There can be fewer than agreed at 3d, but not more. Remember, agenda item 3d is the total number of agreed ex officio, appointed and co-opted members.
* It’s very important to arrange the open selection process and its recommendations **before** the AGM. Recruitment needs to be open, organised and in advance, so it’s a thoughtful process. It shouldn’t be taking place last minute during the AGM.
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**Chair** thanks the Trustees for their work during the year and, in particular, those members who are standing down – [Edit names].

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| Please note: Co-opted members (if any) of the County Trustee Board are appointed by the County Trustee Board themselves at one of their meetings, and not at the AGM. |

**5d. [If required] (Re-)appoint County President and/or Vice Presidents**

**Chair** notes the County Scout Council appoints the County President and/or Vice President.

Chair advises that [Edit name] is proposed as President and/or [Edit name] as Vice President. Please show your hands to (re-)approve.

**5e. Appoint the Scrutineer / Independent Examiner / Auditor [delete as appropriate]**

**Treasurer** proposes [Edit name]

**Chair** confirms that [Edit name] has been proposed, seconded and is qualified for the role, and asks for a show of hands to approve [Edit Name’s] nomination.

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| Please note:* Please find the requirements for whether to appoint a Scrutineer, Independent Examiner or Auditor on: [Accounting & Audit Requirements for Group Countys, Counties/Areas & Scottish Regions](https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-things-locally/finances-and-insurance/accounting-and-reporting/independent-examination-of-accounts/accounting-audit-requirements-for-group-districts-countiesareas-scottish-regions/)
* Please find the template for a Scrutineer or an Independent Examiner to use to report back to the Trustee Board on: [Accounting and Reporting](https://www.scouts.org.uk/volunteers/running-things-locally/finances-and-insurance/accounting-and-reporting/)
 |

**5f. Elect representatives of the County Scout Council to represent the County on the Council of The Scout Association**

[Suggested script]

**Chair:**

Under rule 6.5 of Policy, Organisation and Rules, we need to elect County representatives to the Council of The Scout Association.

We need to elect [Edit number] members and [Edit number] 18-24 members to the Council of The Scout Association. [Edit name(s)] have been nominated and seconded. Please can I have a show of hands for their election.

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| Please note: Check beforehand to see how many representatives are required. If unsure, please contact UKHQ. |

1. **Closing remarks**

**Chair** closes the AGM, thanking everyone for attending and outlines any arrangements for the rest of the event.