

1st Market Bosworth Scout Group

Charity No. 516422

**Hardship Fund Policy**

**Purpose**

A Hardship Fund has been developed to enable young people to access Scouting, and its associated activities where financial hardship would otherwise be a barrier.

**Scope[[1]](#endnote-1)**

The Executive Committee will decide annually upon an amount of money to be set aside for The Fund. Total awards cannot be made in excess of this amount. At the end of the Financial Year any unspent money will be returned to The Group Accounts and will not be carried over to the next year.

The Hardship Fund will be available to assist with the cost of termly subscriptions and the purchase of uniform upon joining a section.

**Application**

All applications must be submitted using the application form and submitted to The Group Treasurer. Applications will be considered by The Hardship Fund Committee, comprising The Group Treasurer and two other members of The Executive Committee.

**Awards**

Evidence of Hardship will need to be provided to support an application. In making awards priority will be given to those young people in receipt of free school meals. Awards will be made on a case by case basis, where there are sufficient funds available.

Awards towards subscription costs will be made in part, with some match funding being required from parents and carers.

The Group Treasurer will be responsible for the administering of awards, which will be uploaded against subscription charges. Where an award covers the purchase of new uniform, items will be ordered and paid for by the Scout Group directly.

**Confidentiality**

Applications will be processed in line with our GDPR policy and in recognition of the sensitive nature of the information being collected.

1. Updated September 2021 [↑](#endnote-ref-1)