

<b>Designated Fund</b>	<b>NEW SECTION FUND</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>To support the growth of Scouting in Berkshire through opening new sections, whether as part of an existing Scout Group or as part of a new Scout Group.</p> <p>The Fund is to recognise that making a generous amount of funding available for new sections can be encouraging to local teams who will need to support a new section.</p>
<b>CEC Approval/Update</b>	March 2018
<b>History</b>	<p>Scout HQ used to give £100 to each new section opened, which the County matched with a further £100, and many Districts also contributed £100 towards. HQ replaced this with a £1,000 grant for sections opened in deprived communities and continued with £100 for non-deprived communities, and the County continued with £100 for all sections. HQ now only award £1,000 for new sections in deprived areas, and no funding is provided to new sections in non-deprived areas.</p> <p>The new Fund recognises, through experience of supporting over 10 years of growth across Berkshire, that in many cases additional funding is extremely helpful to open a new section – whether as a new Scout Group, or as part of an existing Scout Group.</p>
<b>Funding</b>	<p>An initial £15,000 was set aside for the fund, with the intention to top back up to this amount at the end of each financial year.</p> <p>Any additional funds could be allocated at the discretion of the CEC on an ad hoc basis.</p>
<b>Managers of Fund</b>	Berkshire Local Development Officer, Pete Jeffreys, County Treasurer (any two to agree funding)
<b>Details</b>	<p>The choice about what to spend money on is best made locally – in some cases activity equipment is needed, in other places it is best put towards venue hire, and elsewhere to support uniform for new adults and young people.</p> <p>Experiences in a number of other parts of England have demonstrated that sometimes providing funding to support temporary staff support to enable the new section to operate for an initial period of 20 weeks, or alternatively a shorter period of 10 weeks.</p>
<b>Funding Criteria</b>	<p>The County will provide a £1,000 grant to support every new section opening.</p> <p>The grant of £1,000 can be given in one of the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bank transfer to a Scout Group account, or Scout District account if a Scout Group account does not yet exist. This transfer would</li> </ul>

	<p>normally be after the new section is registered with HQ, but can be made earlier by agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding a self-employed Project Supporter, at £50 for 4-5 hours per week over 20 weeks. This would be paid from the County to the individual on production of an invoice after agreement of the role description.</li> <li>• Bank transfer of £500 as above, and funding a Project Support for 10 weeks, as above.</li> </ul>
<b>Restrictions</b>	An overview of how the New Section Grant will be spent will need to be sent to the LDO. These costs will not need to be exact, and receipts are not required, but indicative costs will provide reassurance that thought has been given to how the grant will be used to support the growth of Scouting.
<b>Funding decision</b>	At the discretion of the Fund Managers, based on the criteria above
<b>Application process</b>	To apply for the New Section Grant, the Local Development Officer (LDO) will need to be engaged with the project, and the grant will then be agreed by the LDO. This can be by the LDO supporting it directly, or if the Scout Group or District can support, then the LDO will have been engaged in a discussion about the new section opening to provide advice and guidance.
<b>Other information</b>	For a new Scout Group, the grant will be sent by the District Chair or the District Commissioner. For an existing Scout Group, it will be sent to the Group Chair or the Group Scout Leader.