
The Scout Association

**Impact Assessment
Evaluation of
The Scout Association**

Final Report

A report by

PACEC

for

The Scout Association

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Executive Summary

X1 Introduction

"Scouting represents all that is great about life - opportunity, adventure and camaraderie. That is why I so encourage young people and adults from all walks of life to get involved and join in the adventure." - Bear Grylls (Chief Scout)

X1.1 The body of evidence the evaluation of The Scout Association draws on is substantial. Consultation and survey research has engaged with some 260 Scouting volunteers, almost eight hundred Scouts from the different age ranges (with a further 75 or so in focus groups), over six hundred former Scouts, over one hundred young people not in the Scouts and with over eight hundred organisations in the wider community from voluntary and neighbourhood groups, public sector organisations and the corporate business sector. In total some two and a half thousand people have shared their views and experiences of Scouting.

Key messages to stakeholders, potential donors, employers, volunteers and potential Scouts

X1.2 Overall, the survey results of the research show that the vast majority of Scouts and volunteers said that Scouting activities had been useful to them. There was a wide ranging package of interrelated benefits including opportunities to make friends, taking part in a range of outdoor and indoor activities, gaining skills and confidence, with Scouts improving their understanding of their core values, the need for respect for others and their community. Over a third of youth members and adult volunteers stated that it was unlikely or impossible that they would have had the opportunity to gain these benefits in the absence of Scouting.

X1.3 The focus group discussions with young people and volunteers reflect the survey results above and provide deeper insights into further benefits derived from Scouting. The findings demonstrate that Scouting has specific benefits including emotional development and the ability for members to bond through the development of friendships and social networks. In addition to this there are benefits in relation to physical health, and that moreover Scouting (based on the views of Scouts and volunteers) is seen as a diversionary activity, potentially reducing negative activities, eg crime, drinking alcohol, or excessive and over-involvement in video games and watching TV etc... When compared to other young people of the same age group not in Scouting. Scouts are much more likely to participate in physical activity, community service and helping others.

X1.4 The qualitative research found that Scouting helps young people to alleviate potential social and physical problems which in its absence may have costs for individuals, communities and public services (eg social, health and education services).

X1.5 The impacts which Scouting has on the wider community can not be undervalued. Overall, 80% of respondents from public, private and voluntary sector organisations

said that involvement with Scouting benefitted their organisation to either some or to a great extent. These benefits were realised through the sharing of premises and people resources; financial benefits; educational activity; youth diversion activity; engagement in community and civic activities and support at events. The users and clients of these organisations also benefited from the involvement of the Scouts.

X1.6 Scouting impacts on young people's life chances and employment opportunities too in a positive way, with many respondents from public, private and voluntary sector organisations saying that Scouting influences their decisions in terms of recruitment. The focus groups participants echoed this with many of those who were employed i.e. the Network Scouts and volunteers, noting that being a Scout helped them to get the job they wanted.

X1.7 The panels below show in more detail the nature and scale of Scouting, why people participate, and the benefits that result for those in the Scouting movement and in the wider community.

Panel X1	The Nature and Scale of Scouting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2010 over 400 thousand of the 15 million young people between the ages of 6 and 24 in the UK were involved in Scouting. There were also 94,000 adult volunteers, 72,000 of which worked at Scout Group level. • 15,000 extra people (as Scouts and volunteers) joined the Scout Movement in 2007, the largest increase in membership for 22 years. • Girls account for 15% of all youth members of the Scout Movement. This proportion is rising. In 2009, almost as many girls as boys signed up to Scouting. • 5% of youth members come from black, Asian, or other minority ethnic backgrounds. 1.3% are disabled. 	

Panel X2	The aims / objectives of Scouting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The top four objectives for being in Scouting are to have fun, build good friendships, to be active, and to take part in adventurous activities: Each of these four objectives was an important goal for around three quarters of youth members and volunteers and can be seen as a "bundle" of interrelated aims. • Taking part in activities organised through Scouting and making good friendships were particularly important to the older Explorer and Network Scouts. • Friends and family play an important role in getting youth members involved with Scouting, especially at a younger age. Over half of youth members aged 14-18 identified the importance of a family history of involvement in Scouting as a reason for them joining the Movement. • The concept of gaining recognition for achievement by obtaining badges for activities was highlighted as a reason for joining the Scouts by almost a third of young people aged 10¹/₂-14. • The focus group findings with Scouts show that the main motivations for participating are about having fun, personal development, social network development, making a contribution to activities, showing commitment, seeking to achieve and accomplish things, and feeling empowered 	

- The sheer variety and scale of activity on offer makes Scouting unique in that young people can't access this array of opportunities elsewhere and moreover at a relatively low cost to them

Panel X3 Scouting Activities

- 9 out of 10 Scouts, aged 10¹/₂ to 25 will undertake at least one camping and/or hiking expedition each year alongside other outdoor activities, such as orienteering exercises, adventure sports, and team problem-solving activities.
- Overall, for Scout members, the most commonly undertaken activities are team and problem solving based, with half of youth members and volunteers participating in this type of activity on at least ten occasions per year.
- The vast majority of Scouts and Volunteers will participate within community service at least once per year through Scouting. The focus groups showed that community activity was a key component of what Scouting is about
- Around three quarters (74%) of Scout members undertake team games/problem solving activities on four or more occasions per year.
- Over half of Scout members (53%) take part in at least four camping and/or hiking expeditions each year.
- The group work also found that through social bonds and networks that emotional development was a key outcome of Scouting
- Scouting encouraged young people to be physically active rather than inactive. Therefore, Scouting has some real health benefits for those who participate.

Panel X4 Benefits to young people and volunteers

- The vast majority of Scouts and volunteers said that almost all Scouting activities had been useful to them. In particular, over 70% of youth members and volunteers said the outdoor activities had been particularly useful.
- The three activities most frequently undertaken (camping and hiking expeditions, other outdoor activities, and team games/problem solving) are also most likely to be thought of as the most useful activities.
- In addition to the above, team games, problem solving, and first aid were important to Explorers; and creative, cultural, scientific, and spiritual activities were important to Network Scouts as well as older members of the Scouts.
- Scouting provides a package of interrelated benefits for participants. The great majority of youth members and adult volunteers involved in Scouting consider it to be beneficial in a wide, varied and interrelated manner of ways. The major benefits were said to be having fun, forming good friendships, gaining skills and fitness that arise through taking part in a range of activities (including adventure activities).
- Over a third of youth members and adult volunteers said that it was unlikely or impossible that they would have had the opportunity to gain these benefits in the absence of Scouting ie from elsewhere.
- A matched sample of youth members and young people not involved in Scouting showed that Scouts were significantly more likely to have participated in outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, and other outdoor activities than non-Scouts. Team games, crafts, conservation activities, community service, first aid, and worship and reflection were also activities that Scouts were more likely to do than people not involved in Scouting.

- Scouts were also more likely to have volunteered for groups outside of Scouting (55% of Scouts against 36% of other young people).
- The matched sample also showed that Scouts were more likely than other young people to view themselves as having above average levels of community involvement, physical capabilities, outdoor survival skills, teamwork and leadership skills, and community understanding.
- Over three quarters of Scout members stated they were quite satisfied with the opportunities and benefits provided by Scouting, with almost half (49%) stating that they were very satisfied.
- The focus groups showed that there were a range of softer benefits which includes:
 - Developing a sense of citizenship, improving life chances in terms of education and employment, confidence building and commitment towards others and the Scout movement itself.
 - More specific benefits were mentioned in relation to health and fitness whereby the physical activities are less likely to be available elsewhere at the cost and to the extent as they are at the Scouts
 - The building of social bonds and networks was a key benefit for Scouts in that the activities engaged in developed these positively
 - Community activities helped Scouts to be more altruistic and gave them a stronger sense of community.
 - Satisfaction gained through civic activities was also a key benefit whereby the vast majority of Scouts engaged in community activities to some extent, from which they benefited as well as the local community

Panel X5 Benefits to disadvantaged groups

- In the focus groups it was mentioned that Scouting has helped to divert some young people from crime and has enhanced their life chances in terms of employment and education
- It was also the general view that the members from the more disadvantaged locations and groups were provided with opportunities for self development, community engagement and access to activities that would not have been provided to the same degree through traditional channels such as schools

Panel X6 Benefits to the wider community groups, ie voluntary groups, businesses and public sector bodies

Past and Present Involvement with the Scouts for Community Groups

- The main activities were sharing premises and resources (facilities and people) with other groups and resources and general collaborative activity such as community projects and service provision for other people in the community. Most activities were one off and annual. There was less frequent activity with the private sector.
- 80% of community organisations said that their overall involvement with Scouting benefitted their organisation to either some or to a great extent

Benefits of Scouting for Community Groups

- Benefits are wide ranging, from financial and resource benefits to wider community benefits and include mutual / shared training, the sharing of expertise, knowledge exchange, educational benefits, engagement in community and civic activities and greater support at events.

- 80% said that the benefits which their organisation derived from Scouting would not have occurred at all or only partially in the absence of Scouts participating
- Two thirds of organisations said benefits also accrued to their clients / service users, ie the volunteering activity worked well for clients
- A third of the community groups said that their clients and service users would not have derived the benefits at all if they hadn't engaged with Scouting activity; 45% said that some of the benefits would have occurred anyway through other means.
- Over half, 54% of organisations said that they had achieved their aims of engaging in activities with Scouting.
- Young Scouts typically contributed 10 days a year for each community organisation and volunteers and older Scouts 2 days.

Likely future engagement with Scouting – by Community Groups

- The private sector was most likely to say that they were less likely to engage in Scouting activity in the future or they would but less frequently. The sector was faced with other priorities and business aims
- There was a perception that Scouting was not relevant to all businesses, especially in the current economic climate, they had other priorities and Scouting needed to communicate more clearly the benefits of collaborative activities. There was greater scope for future sponsorship activity where time may not be available for employees to become involved in Scouting.
- Community groups considered that future engagement with Scouts, cooperation and training/ sharing expertise would bring benefits to them and their clients / service users.

Panel X7 Benefits to the wider community (cont)

Future engagement with Scouting

- The key barriers to involvement with Scouting were that Scouting was not seen as relevant to what the organisations do and there was a lack of communication about mutual benefits and Scouting contacts. This was particularly the case amongst civil society organisations. A quarter of all organisations said that there were no barriers to future engagement.
- Two thirds of organisations would like information on potential collaboration opportunities and almost a half wanted contact details for Scouting organisers in their areas.
- 40% said that if Scouting activity didn't occur with them that it would not be undertaken by them on their own or with other organisations.

Benefits of Scouting for volunteers and employers

- Community organisations said that many of the key Scouting attributes such as respect for others, building friendships, teamwork, character building and personal development were very important for their employees/volunteers. The least important ones were physical fitness, outdoor skills and pursuits. Private sector organisations attached the least importance to community related activity compared to the community groups and the public sector
- 41% of wider community organisations said that a job applicant's involvement in Scouting would be a positive influence on their appointment.
- Organisations said that employees who had been involved in Scouting were above average across a range of relevant key attributes reflecting key Scouting

qualities. These matched the attributes that they considered to be of most importance for their employees.

- 50% of the wider community organisations said that they were very positive towards Scouting in terms of their volunteering skills and a further 30% generally positive, ie some 80% overall.

Panel X8 The Social Value of Scouting

The key impacts on individuals involved in Scouting were:

- **PHYSICAL**
 - 79% have improved fitness
 - 79% have improved expertise in physical pursuits
 - 78% have improved their ability to cope in outdoor conditions
- **INTELLECTUAL**
 - 75% have improved skills
 - 68% have improved skills for volunteering
 - 67% have improved CV
 - 66% have improved skills for employment
- **SOCIAL**
 - 78% have improved social skills
 - 78% have improved teamwork ability
 - 76% have improved confidence
 - 75% have improved leadership ability
- **SPIRITUAL**
 - 75% have improved self-understanding
 - 70% have improved their understanding of their own values
 - 68% have improved the ability to reflect on life
- **COMMUNITY**
 - 78% have improved respect for others
 - 76% have improved understanding of community
 - 71% have improved understanding of the world
- The benefits of community involvement were:
- Contribution to community (87%)
- Improved social skills (83%)
- Improved character / personal development (84%)
- Improved leadership ability (82%)
- Improved confidence, teamwork ability, outdoor skills, self-understanding (all 79-81%)

Panel X9 Scouting Going Forward

- The consultations resulted in some improvements being suggested for Scouting.
- The most frequently cited area for improvement mentioned by 39% of Scout members (and 57% of volunteers) was more opportunities for camping and hiking and essential activities that stimulated character building, self reliance and group working.

- A third of respondents, overall, said they would like to see a greater variety of outdoor activities.
- Around a quarter of respondents identified the arts and crafts and science and technology as areas where improvements could be made and more activities organised
- Training in leadership and personal development was also mentioned as an increasingly important activity
- Improved communications to convey the benefits of Scouting and activities to the wide range of audiences and age groups could be strengthened with key messages.
- There was a need to strengthen and maintain good partnership relationships and improve communications, particularly at the local level.

1 Evaluation aims and methodology

1.1.1 Arising from its commencement in 1907, The Scout Association has developed into a significant movement for young people and volunteers with strong links to the wider community at local and national levels. It now provides adventurous activities and personal development opportunities for 400,000 children and young people aged 6-25 in the UK, and is a growing, co-educational movement, delivered by 100,000 volunteers with support from around 250 paid staff. The core purpose as a charitable organisation is:

“To help young people achieve their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.”

1.1.2 Scouting plays a significant role in developing the culture of volunteering and citizenship to help improve society, which is a critical new policy theme of the current Coalition Government around the Big Society agenda.

1.1.3 Against this background, in 2010, The Scout Association commissioned PACEC to carry out a robust and independent evaluation of the Scouting movement. The key research objectives were to capture evidence of Scouting’s impact on today’s society including:

- The life of children and young people who currently take part in Scouting
- The life of adult volunteers who deliver Scouting
- Other people who have taken part in Scouting
- The communities in which Scouting operates

1.1.4 The outcomes of the evaluation were intended to better equip the movement to:

- Foster local and national stakeholders’ understanding of the value Scouting brings to today’s society
- **Communicate to potential donors** the worth of Scouting, providing independent evidence of its return on investment
- **Illustrate to employers** how Scouting can contribute to their Corporate Social Responsibility and HR objectives
- Illustrate to potential volunteers and beneficiaries Scouting’s value and relevance

1.1.5 The evaluation is not seeking to carry out an in-depth “compare and contrast” analysis of Scouting with regard to other youth development organisations and initiatives or provide an in-depth assessment of how well Scouting is delivering against its mission statement or aims. However, the evidence gathered will shed some light on these issues through the views of those involved in The Scout Association and members of the wider community who have been consulted as part of the evaluation which comprised a national survey and some local focus groups.

1.1.6 The evaluation did not cover the Beaver or Cub Scouts or the impact on parents and families, which was the subject of additional research carried out by The Scout Association.

1.2 An Evaluation Framework and Logic Chain

1.2.1 To guide the research, and reflecting best practice¹, an evaluation framework and logic chain was developed for The Scout Association as part of the research programme. This shows what the evaluation will seek to assess and cover and in particular the illustrative benefits of Scouting for the young people, the volunteers and the wider community. These benefits flow from the objectives and aims of The Scout Association, the resourcing through expenditure and voluntary contributions, and the Scouting activities that are organised for participants. Hence the framework represents a causal or logic chain commencing with the aims and objectives and culminating in the benefits. This is illustrated below in Figure 1.1.

¹ Scout Association, Briefing on Evaluation (Ipsos MORI, 2010), the IEF (BIS 2010 Revised), Magenta Book (Cabinet Office), amongst others

Figure 1.1 Scout Association Evaluation Framework and Logic Chain

1: The Objectives and Aims of The Scout Association	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help young people achieve their full potential: Physical (body); Intellectual (mind); Spiritual and faith; Social and community; and Environmental. Assist young people to be more self-reliant, caring, responsible, and committed. To strengthen young people as individuals and citizens 	
2: The Inputs and Expenditure for The Scout Association	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership subscriptions, charitable activities, investment income, and donations etc Leverage (in kind) from the volunteers and partners 	
3: Scouting Activities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scout Troops, Explorer Scouts, Scout Network, Districts, Counties, Areas and national events The organisation of indoor/outdoor learning, activities, team working and recognition for achievements 	
4: Potential Benefits for Young People	
For example	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge / information Educational outcomes Problem solving Group participation / team skills Achievement of full potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community work/volunteering Employability skills Continuing education/ skills development Character building Positive contribution to society
5: Benefits to Volunteers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteering skills Community skills Self development 	
6: Wider Spillover Community and Societal Effects	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family / parents and the wider community Community and social groups Public sector activities Employers: labour and skills 	
7: The Effectiveness and Efficiency of Scouting	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness and efficiency (Value for Money) Lessons learnt 	

1.2.2 The evaluation framework also takes account of the additional benefits of Scouting for participants and the wider community over and above what may have happened to participants anyway, and the benefits that could have occurred, if they had not been part of Scouting.

1.3 The Research Tasks

1.3.1 To carry out the evaluation there have been a series of integrated research tasks which were developed with the Steering Group set up for the evaluation. These were as follows:

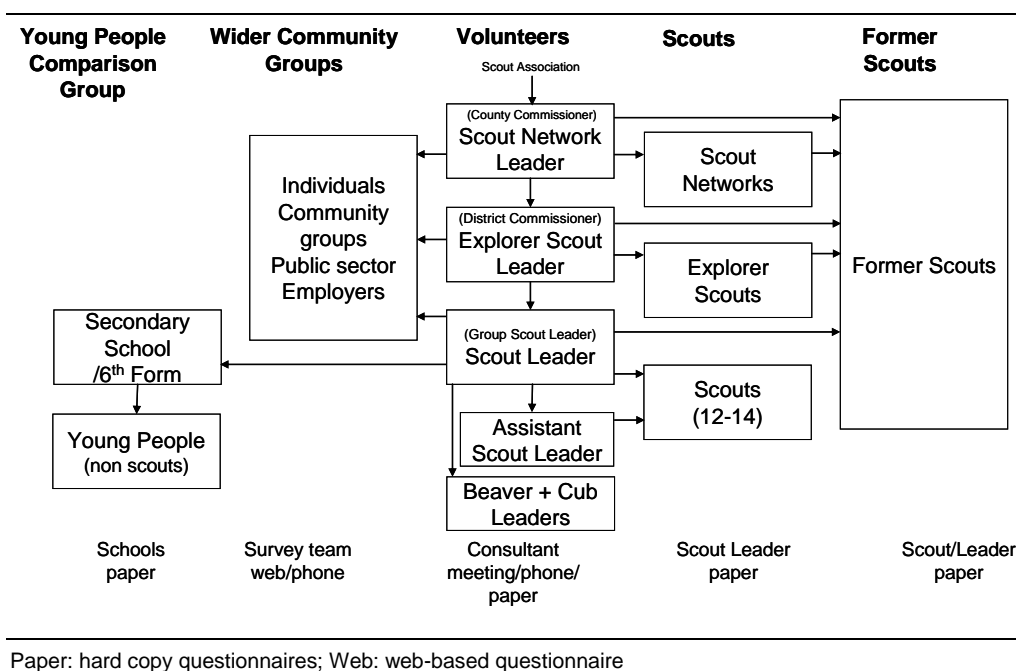
- The inception meeting. This was held with the Steering Group to develop the aims and objectives of the evaluation, the research programme and methodology and the outputs required. At the meeting the relevant sources of information were identified including background reports on the aims of Scouting and its operation, previous research and Scouting management information on the scale, nature and organisation of activities, and participation in Scouting by young people and volunteers (ie the Scout Census).
- A desk study. This focused on the background information on Scouting and a literature review of other relevant research and evaluations of community groups (to assist with the design of the research tasks). It also covered an analysis of the Scouting activities, organisation and contacts for Scouting volunteers for the different levels of Scouting nationally, regionally and at county and district levels (eg County and District Commissioners, Scout Network leaders, Explorer Scout leaders, and Group Scout leaders).
- Case Studies of Scouting Activities. The case study approach was designed in conjunction with the Steering Group. The case studies provided the main focus of the research conducted at a “local” level and primarily “where Scouting happens”. A representative sample of thirty case study areas was selected at a “local” level reflecting the nature of Scouting nationally, regionally and locally and information provided by the Steering Group. The Scout Association management information was used to characterise areas and Scouting activities by their age, size and location. The case studies selected also covered rural, sub-urban, urban and metropolitan locations. For each case study contact was made with the Scouting volunteers to agree the practicalities of conducting the research and the suitability of the case study areas. The fieldwork was organised with the cooperation of the Scouting volunteers in each location who assisted with the surveys of volunteers, young people as Scouts and former Scouts. They also provided contacts for local community groups, schools, public sector organisations and employers in their areas. For all the research the aim was to obtain responses from a reasonably representative group of participants in each location. The case study research in thirty locations comprised:
 - Survey research with Scouting volunteers at the County, Network, Explorer, and Scout Troop levels. Interviews were held and questionnaires distributed. This resulted in 260 responses.
 - Survey research with young people in Scouting through the distribution of a questionnaire to a representative group of Scouts. This was completed during attendance at Scouting premises. This resulted in responses from 218 Network Scouts, 283 Explorer Scouts and 275 Scouts in Troops.
 - Focus groups with young people. These were held in locations around the UK to obtain qualitative information and draw out some of the issues that arose from the survey research above. Some qualitative interviews were also held with Scouts.
 - Survey research with former Scouts. Contact information was provided by Scout volunteers and young Scouts to allow questionnaires to be distributed to former Scouts. This resulted in 621 responses.
 - Survey research with the wider community. In each case study area a telephone survey was carried out with community and public sector organisations (including schools) and employers who had a knowledge of Scouting. The results were combined with a national survey shown below.
 - Survey research with a young people's comparison group. Working with schools a survey was carried out with young people who were not in the Scouts. This resulted in 114 responses.

- A national survey. To complete the research a national survey was carried out to provide a wider perspective of the views on Scouting to complement the case study approach above. It focused on community groups, public organisations and employers. Contact information was sourced from The Scout Association and national databases and directories for the different types of organisations. This research combined a web based survey (utilising the PACEC and The Scout Association websites) and a telephone survey. The national survey and case study research above resulted in 828 responses from 546 community groups 90 public organisations and 192 employers.

1.3.2 The research comprised quantitative and qualitative information for the case study areas. It was combined with visits to some of the locations and an overview of the social and economic characteristics of the areas to provide some context for the case studies².

1.3.3 The case study process, contacts and research methods are shown below in Figure 1.2.

Figure 1.2 Case Study process: contacts, and research methods



1.3.4 The survey analysis was carried out primarily using SPSS. It was ex-post weighted to reflect the known populations of the different survey groups of young people in Scouting, the volunteers and the wider community groups. Overall the results resulted in 1,386 responses from young people, 260 from volunteers and 828 from the wider community groups. The analysis sought to achieve an appropriate balance between qualitative and quantitative information. In the analysis which follows, the information in the tables shows the results for youth members (Scouts) and

² This was carried out using the PACEC Local Economic Profiling System which is a computer based analysis tool comprising some 200 social and economic indicators based on the ONS and other data which is enhanced and used for local area analysis by PACEC.

volunteers combined and disaggregated for youth members as current Scouts, former Scouts, and volunteers and amongst current youth members – the Scouts, Explorers and Network Scouts.

1.4 The Structure of the Report

1.4.1 Following this introduction, chapter 2 covers the evaluation aims and methodology. This is followed by chapter 3 on the nature and scale of Scouting, chapter 4 on the aims and objectives of Scouting, chapter 5 on Scouting activities, chapter 6 on the benefits to young people and volunteers, chapter 7 on the benefits to the wider community, chapter 8 on the social value analysis and chapter 9 on The Scout Association going forward. Each chapter has a bullet point summary of key findings at the end of it. The final chapter draws together the results in terms of the aims of Scouting and the key lessons.

2 Nature and scale of Scouting

2.1 Nature of Scouting

2.1.1 The Scout Association identifies “focus towards personal development of each Scout at every level” as a key aspect of its programme – while the activities are geared towards enjoyment; encouragement of the Scouts to learn from what they have been doing, and work in teams and independently to achieve real results, are cornerstones of the ideals of the Movement.

2.1.2 Scouting is open to all young people aged 6 to 25 of every faith and background. Scouting is split into the following age groups with progression through them relating to a youth member’s age, with overlap during transitional years.

- Cub Scouts, 8 to 10¹/₂ years
- Scouts, 10¹/₂ to 14 years (including: Air Scouts and Sea Scouts)
- Explorer Scouts, 14 to 18 years (including: Air Explorers, Sea Explorers, and Young Leaders)
- Scout Network (18 up to 25)
- Adult Leaders (18+)

2.1.3 In 2010 over 400 thousand of the 15 million young people between the ages of 6 and 24 in the UK were involved in Scouting. The Movement has been gaining in popularity in recent years with Scout membership in 2007 reported to have seen the biggest increase in membership for 22 years, with some 15,000 extra people joining the 100-year-old organisation³.

2.1.4 Table 2.1 shows that Beaver Scouts make up over a quarter of the total number of Scouts within the Movement. This number is then swelled further when progression is made to Cub Scout level. However, when members progress into Scout level there is a decrease in overall numbers. Further drops are seen in participation figures when progression is made through to Explorer level and then again at progression to Network level.

Table 2.1 Youth members of Scouting as % of Population

	Age	Youth Members	Population	Youth Members (% of population)
Beaver Scouts	6-8	110,000	1.4m	7.9%
Cub Scouts	8-10½	140,000	1.7m	8.2%
Scouts Troops	10½ -14	120,000	2.6m	4.6%
Explorer Scouting	14-18	35,000	3.1m	1.1%
Scout Network	18-24	2,200	5.9m	0.4%
<i>Scouting Total</i>	<i>6-24</i>	<i>400,000</i>	<i>15m</i>	<i>2.8%</i>

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

³ <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/this-britain/Scout-numbers-see-biggest-rise-in-20-years-812647.html>

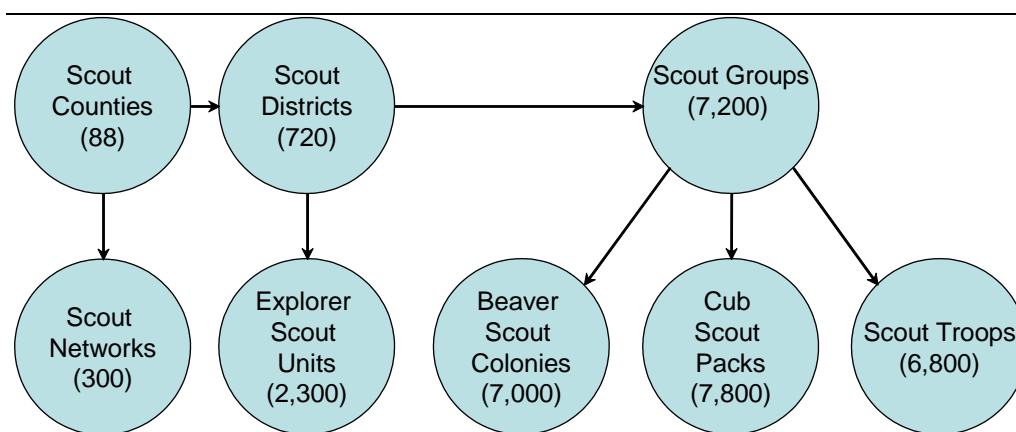
2.1.5 Despite the increase in overall potential Scouts aged 10½ -18 these latter decreases in membership are not unexpected as the pressures on an individual’s time and commitments outside of Scouting rise with age, including activities such as school work, employment, and family responsibility as young adults, and development of interests/leisure activities outside of Scouting.

2.1.6 However, in recent years a push to revitalise the image of Scouts in the eyes of teenagers has led to an increase in attendance within this demographic.

2.1.7 Scouting in the UK is managed by The Scout Association which has its headquarters at Gilwell Park near London.

2.1.8 The Scout Organisation Chart below shows how the tiers of Scouting are aligned.

Figure 2.1 Scout Organisational Chart



Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

Table 2.2 Scouting Sections

	Youth Members	Sections	Youth members per section
Beaver Scouts	110,000	7,000	15
Cub Scouts	140,000	7,800	18
Scouts Troops	120,000	6,800	17
Explorer Scouting	35,000	2,300	15
Scout Network	2,200	300	7
Scouting Total	400,000	24,000	17

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures

Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.1.9 Girls have been part of the Scout Movement since 1976. During 2009 female membership increased to 56,470 and has continued to grow, now accounting for over 60,000 Scouts within all tiers of Scouting from Beaver colonies to Network Scouts.

2.1.10 In 2009 The Scout Association reported that female youth membership was up by 11% across the UK compared to 2008 figures. This dramatic increase of over 5,500 new girl Scouts meant that during 2008/09 almost as many girls as boys signed up to the adventure of Scouting.

2.1.11 Overall, this increase means that girls now account for 15% of all youth members of the Scout Movement, with this proportion increasing as Scouts progress through the age groups from Beavers through to Network.

Table 2.3 Girls in Scouting

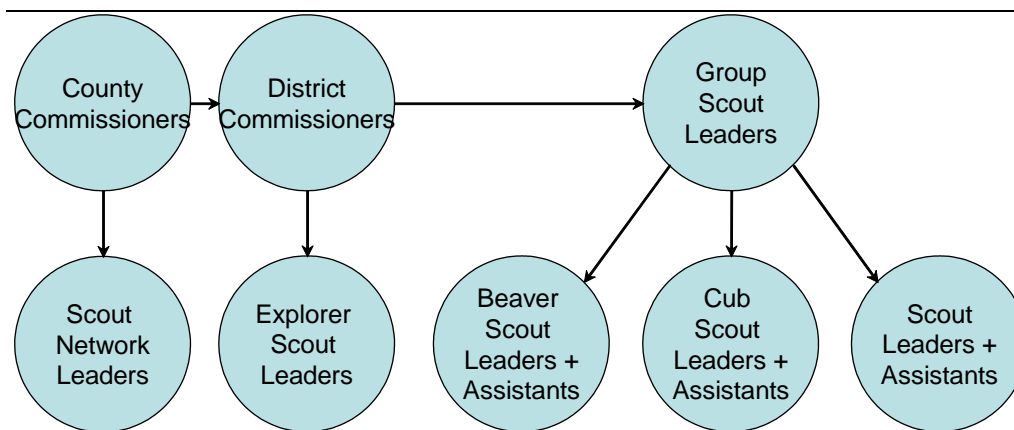
	Youth Members	Girls	Girls (%)
Beaver Scouts	110,000	13,000	12%
Cub Scouts	140,000	18,000	13%
Scouts Troops	120,000	21,000	18%
Explorer Scouting	35,000	9,500	27%
Scout Network	2,200	750	35%
<i>Scouting Total</i>	<i>400,000</i>	<i>62,000</i>	<i>15%</i>

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
 Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.2 Staffing

2.2.1 The leader of the Scout Group is known as the Group Scout Leader. There is a leader in charge of each section and one or more assistant leaders. Explorer Scouts are administered at a District Level with overall authority lying with the District Commissioner. Network Scouts caters for adults aged 18-25 and as such the groups have further autonomy and are organised in a different manner to Scout and Explorer troops.

Figure 2.2 Scouting Volunteers (simplified)



Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.2.2 Local Network Troops can be based at County or District level and some may be focused around a specific activity or location, e.g. Gang Show⁴, Activity Centre, climbing or canoeing etc. How they are organised and what they do is decided by the members. The Scout Network is guided by Volunteer Leaders with members playing

⁴ A Gang Show is an amateur theatrical performance where the cast is made up of youth members of Scouts and often Guides too, by invitation. Adult leaders assist, often backstage rather than on stage. The aim of the shows is to give young people in Scouting and Guiding the opportunity to develop performance skills and perform in a close to professional theatrical environment.

an active role in activity selection and planning and organising activities and events, with discretion lying with the County/District Network Commissioner.

2.2.3 In 2010 The Scout Association launched an appeal for volunteer leaders in the wake of growth in youth membership leaving the Association short of adults to run local groups. Waiting lists have been increasing over the past few years because of a shortage of older people volunteering to help.

2.2.4 In 2009 The Scout Association reported that for every new adult who volunteers, five more young people will have the chance to participate in Scouting. It is calculated that an increase of 6,600 adult volunteers, approximately 0.01% of the UK's adult population, would provide adequate support to relieve the current waiting list.

2.2.5 In October 2010, Children & Young People Now (<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/AboutUs/>) reported⁵ that as part of the YOU campaign the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, called for a further 3,000 residents in the capital to give up their time and become adult volunteers so thousands of young people can join uniformed youth groups, including the Scout Movement.

Mayor Johnson stated that: "Uniformed groups are a fantastic way for youngsters to have fun, make friends and learn new skills. It's also a great opportunity for volunteers to get involved with their local community and really make a difference to the lives of young people.

"The wonderful people who give up their time to become leaders are the lifeblood of these groups and we desperately need more volunteers to enable thousands more youngsters to fulfil their dreams of becoming a Scout, guide, cadet or brownie."

2.2.6 While The Scout Association's primary purpose is the development of young people, it also seeks to offer personal development opportunities to adults, both within their Scouting role and as individuals. The Adult Training Scheme is one means by which adults in Scouting can be supported in their chosen role.

2.2.7 Training for new adult volunteers is undertaken through a modular scheme built around a number of key objectives which have been generated by taking into account the views of Counties, the requirements of the World Scout Bureau and the needs of The Scout Association.

2.2.8 As well as gaining adult volunteers externally to the Movement, Scouts are encouraged to undertake volunteering roles later on as Explorer Scouts and as Network Scouts. The Young Leaders development programme is in place to assist Explorer Scouts in becoming volunteer leaders in this way within the Beaver, Cub, and Scout stages. Alongside the natural loss of Scouts to changes in interest, logistical feasibility through work or education, and other external time constraints the progression into Leadership roles is having a noticeable impact on the numbers of Scouts that are subsequently moving into Network Units.

⁵ <http://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/1037400/Boris-Johnson-urges-Londoners-volunteer-Scouts-Guides/>

2.2.9 Within Network Scouts there is recognition of this shortfall in membership progression and positive steps are being implemented in order to strengthen the links between Network and Explorer units and to better advertise the possibilities that are available to youth members.

2.2.10 Within the administration and staffing of Scouting in the UK female leadership accounts for a sizable proportion of volunteers within the Movement overall, with women now making up around 43% of all adult volunteers. At a Scout Group level, including Beaver Colonies, Cub Packs, and Scout Troops, female volunteers account for 45% of volunteers.

Table 2.4 Administration and staffing of Scouting in the UK

	Areas	Volunteers	Female volunteers	Female volunteers
Scout Group	7,227	72,000	33,000	45%
Scout District	716	19,000	6,900	36%
Scout County	88	3,400	1,000	30%
<i>Total</i>		94,000	40,000	43%

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.3 Geographic breakdown

2.3.1 The number of youth members within each region is shown in Table 2.5 below alongside the numbers of adult volunteers within that region. Total figures are shown in the bottom 5 rows. Whilst the number of Scouts within each region, and overall within each country, varies there is a consistent ratio of slightly over 4 youth members per adult volunteer.

2.3.2 When taken as a proportion of young people within a country overall, participation percentages range from 0.6% to 1.0%. Within the South East and the East of England 1.3% of young people are Scout youth members. These are the highest proportions seen within England by region, accounting for 79,000 and 51,000 youth members respectively.

2.3.3 The Scout Movement within Scotland is seen to have the highest proportion of male youth members, at 89%, whilst Wales is seen to have the highest proportion of female volunteers, at 48%.

Table 2.5 Youth members and volunteers by Region

English Region / Country	Youth Members	Youth Members (% of population)	Girls (% youth members)	Volunteers	Female volunteers
South East	79,000	1.3%	15%	18,000	43%
East of England	51,000	1.3%	16%	12,000	43%
Greater London	35,000	0.7%	19%	8,300	42%
South West	41,000	1.1%	16%	9,100	43%
West Midlands	32,000	0.8%	16%	7,900	43%
East Midlands	30,000	1.0%	16%	7,500	45%
Yorkshire/Humber	28,000	0.7%	15%	6,600	43%
North West	44,000	0.9%	14%	11,000	43%
North East	11,000	0.6%	16%	2,600	42%
England	350,000	1.0%	16%	83,000	43%
Wales	12,000	0.6%	16%	3,000	48%
Scotland	32,000	0.9%	11%	6,600	41%
Northern Ireland	7,700	0.6%	12%	1,800	42%
<i>UK</i>	<i>400,000</i>	<i>0.9%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>94,000</i>	<i>43%</i>

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.3.4 The Scout Association is a UK-wide organisation. Our research shows that, when compared across density type, areas of very low, low, and high population density have an even spread of youth members as percent of population. In contrast, areas of very high population density are seen to have a lower youth member take up as a percentage of population, at 0.7% on average.

2.3.5 The distribution of youth members when analysed against population density sees a very even proportional distribution of youth members per volunteer, as seen within the regional breakdown.

Table 2.6 Youth members and volunteers by Population density

Population per hectare	Youth Members	Youth Members (% of population)	Girls (% youth members)	Volunteers	Female volunteers
V Low (<2)	93,000	1.0%	15%	20,000	45%
Low (2-9)	160,000	0.9%	15%	37,000	42%
High (10-29)	93,000	1.0%	14%	22,000	42%
V High (30+)	62,000	0.7%	18%	15,000	43%
<i>All areas</i>	<i>400,000</i>	<i>0.9%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>94,000</i>	<i>43%</i>

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.3.6 However, when analysed by unemployment rate the rates of involvement as a percentage of population are seen to be affected, being only 0.5% when compared to the overall average of 0.9%. It is also the case that the number of youth members

per adult volunteer is also decreased in high unemployment areas at approximately 3.8 compared to 4.6 in areas of lower unemployment.

Table 2.7 Youth members and volunteers by unemployment rate

Unemployment rate (June 2010)	Youth Members	Youth Members (% of population)	Girls (% youth members)	Volunteers	Female volunteers
Low (<3%)	200,000	1.4%	15%	43,000	43%
Medium (3.0-4.9%)	170,000	0.8%	16%	41,000	43%
High (5%+)	38,000	0.5%	19%	9,800	44%
<i>All areas</i>	400,000	0.9%	15%	94,000	43%

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.3.7 Within the Scout Movement approximately 110,000 youth members come from areas within the UK where ethnic minorities constitute over 10% of the population, accounting for 0.7% of youth members. Of these youth members from within these areas female membership accounts for 17%, slightly above the overall average of 15%.

Table 2.8 Youth members and volunteers by ethnic minorities

Ethnic minorities as % of population	Youth Members	Youth Members (% of population)	Girls (% youth members)	Volunteers	Female volunteers
High (10% or more)	110,000	0.7%	17%	26,000	42%
Low (<10%)	300,000	1.0%	15%	68,000	43%
<i>All areas</i>	400,000	0.9%	15%	94,000	43%

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.3.8 In areas of the country where there is a higher proportion of professionals, Youth membership is higher (1.2%) than in areas where there is a lower proportion of professionals (0.7%).

Table 2.9 Youth members and volunteers by professional occupations

Professional occupations as share of total in 2001	Youth Members	Youth Members (% of population)	Girls (% youth members)	Volunteers	Female volunteers
Low (<33%)	50,000	0.7%	17%	12,000	45%
Medium (33-44%)	260,000	0.9%	15%	60,000	43%
High (45%+)	99,000	1.2%	14%	22,000	41%
<i>All areas</i>	400,000	0.9%	15%	94,000	43%

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

2.4 Disability and ethnic minorities

- 2.4.1 Within the Scout Movement across region; levels of youth membership comprising of members from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds stays fairly constant at around 3-4%. Within Greater London this figure increases dramatically to 18% of youth members.
- 2.4.2 The Scout Movement believes in equality and opportunity for involvement within Scouting for all young people, and tries to engage on a personal level with the needs of Scout members and those wanting to join their local group. Prior to joining, young people with disabilities are visited in their homes so that a truer understanding of their needs is gained to maximise the benefits that they can gain from Scouting alongside those of their fellow Scouts and volunteer leaders.
- 2.4.3 There are also Scout Groups around the country set up specifically to cater for young people with disabilities. The 77th Glasgow (disabled) Scout Group, is an example of one such Group providing adventure and personal development for boys aged 8 to 25 with physical disabilities. The Group have a Scout Troop, Explorer Unit and Scout Network, and in terms of catchment area cater for anyone who can reach them for meetings.

Table 2.10 Members by Region and BAME and Disability

English Region / Country	All Members	BAME	BAME (%)	Disabled	Disabled (%)
South East	97,000	3,500	4%	1,100	1.2%
East of England	63,000	2,700	4%	830	1.3%
Greater London	44,000	7,900	18%	630	1.4%
South West	50,000	1,600	3%	730	1.5%
West Midlands	40,000	2,000	5%	540	1.4%
East Midlands	38,000	1,200	3%	510	1.3%
Yorkshire/Humber	35,000	1,100	3%	420	1.2%
North West	55,000	1,300	2%	790	1.4%
North East	14,000	230	2%	240	1.7%
England	440,000	21,000	5%	5,800	1.3%
Wales	15,000	650	4%	270	1.7%
Scotland	38,000	850	2%	380	1.0%
Northern Ireland	9,500	100	1%	97	1.0%
UK	500,000	23,000	5%	6,500	1.3%

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding of figures to 2 significant figures
Source: 2010 Scout Census, PACEC analysis

Panel 2.1 The Nature and Scale of Scouting

- In 2010 over 400 thousand of the 15 million young people between the ages of 6 and 24 in the UK were involved in Scouting. There were also 94,000 adult volunteers, 72,000 of which worked at Scout Group level.

- 15,000 extra people (as Scouts and volunteers) joined the Scout Movement in 2007, the largest increase in membership for 22 years.
- Girls account for 15% of all youth members of the Scout Movement. This proportion is rising. In 2009, almost as many girls as boys signed up to Scouting.
- 5% of youth members come from black, Asian, or other minority ethnic backgrounds. 1.3% are disabled.

3 The aims / objectives of Scouting

3.1 Aim of Scouting

The Aim of Scouting is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The Method of achieving the Aim is through the provision of exciting and adventurous activities with progressive training based on The Scout Promise and Law guided by adult leadership.

- The Scout Association

- 3.1.1 This chapter covers the aims and objectives of participation in Scouting of current and former youth members, and adult volunteers. Our research was designed to uncover the reasons for joining Scouting in the first place, and the facets of Scouting which are most important to participants.
- 3.1.2 Our research shows that participants in Scouting had a strong view on why they wanted to be involved in the Movement. The top four objectives for being in Scouting are to have fun, build good friendships, to be active, and to take part in adventurous activities: Each of these four objectives was an important goal for around three quarters of youth members and volunteers. Taking part in activities and making good friendships were particularly important to Explorer and Network Scouts. The qualitative focus group findings reflected these results. The following section reviews other research in relation to why young people, primarily, and adults volunteer and is followed by the findings from our fieldwork.
- 3.1.3 The reasons why adults and young people participate in volunteering activity has been widely researched in the UK. Scouting isn't strictly volunteering where young people are concerned, though they do engage in wider community volunteering activities as part of, and as a result of, Scouting. There are a range of reasons why adult volunteers get involved in Scouting as well and our research conveys this below.
- 3.1.4 Scouting is a developmental activity for young people which benefits them and others in many ways and particularly in relation to the six personal development areas which are core to the Scouting movement. The literature shows that through young people's motivations, reasons for and impacts of engaging in volunteering activity, their activity brings some significant benefits to the community, community organisations and young people themselves.
- 3.1.5 The Helping Out study carried out by National Centre for Social Research and the Institute for Volunteering (IVR)⁶ found that there is a positive picture in terms of both young people and adults engagement in volunteering and giving. A pathway of young

⁶ Helping Out study carried out by National Centre for Social Research and the Institute for Volunteering (IVR)⁶ Research, on behalf of the Office of the Third Sector within the Cabinet Office 2007

people's engagement in volunteering activity was identified which suggested that young people want to help out for both "outward" reasons (a desire to help people or to contribute to an important cause) and "inward" reasons (to learn new skills or to feel good and build confidence). The latter is more evident for young people and the former for adults. Furthermore, it found that the voluntary and community sector is the main context for young people's volunteering, which takes place within education, sports/exercise and religious organisations.

3.1.6 Further research which explored the skills, knowledge and attitudinal development that young people derive from volunteering was undertaken in 2006 and this was commissioned by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) and undertaken by The National Youth Agency (NYA).⁷ The overall findings showed that young people can and do increase their self-confidence and self-esteem, develop a range of communication skills and improve their ability to work with other people through volunteering. More specifically, the research found that

- Young people identify a wide range of personal and social skills as a result of volunteering
- Young people increase their self-confidence and self-esteem, develop a range of communication skills and improve their ability to work with other people through volunteering.
- Volunteering can act as a catalyst for young people to engage more effectively with other learning or re-engage with formal learning or training
- Many young people also develop practical skills related to their specific experiences of volunteering

3.1.7 Another key finding was that volunteering enabled experiential learning to take place which was more favourable to young people compared to other forms of learning. Our research on Scouting also supports this with incidences of learning by doing evident throughout the qualitative and survey research.

3.1.8 Other literature based on evaluations of young people's volunteering including research on specific programmes such as Millennium Volunteers (MV)⁸ the Young Volunteer Challenge (YVC)⁹ Active Citizens in Schools (ACiS)¹⁰ and the Prince's Trust Volunteer programme¹¹ and research related to citizenship education and community involvement have concluded that there are benefits and positive impacts on young people, and those working with them through volunteering activity.

⁷ 2006 and was commissioned by the Department for Education and Skills and undertaken by The National Youth Agency (NYA)

⁸ Institute for Volunteering Research, *UK-wide evaluation of the Millennium Volunteers programme*. DfES,

⁹ GHK Consulting, *Evaluation of the Young Volunteer Challenge Pilot Programme*. DfES, 2006. YVC

¹⁰ Ellis, A, *Active Citizens in School: evaluation of the DfES Pilot Programme*. DfES, 2005. AcIS built on MV by seeking to engage 11-15 year olds in sustained volunteering activities through school.

¹¹ MORI, *A personal development programme for 16-25s, follow up survey of participants*. The Prince's Trust., 1999

Research undertaken¹² also demonstrates these benefits and impacts elsewhere in the UK. The main impacts identified were increases self-confidence, teamwork skills, having fun, cooperation, compromise, listening to others, communication, meeting people and making friends

- 3.1.9 A report focusing on Post-16 Citizenship pilots found that both young people and adults involved in the project highlighted the improvements in young people's confidence and communication skills, coupled with a greater knowledge and awareness of social issues.¹³ An evaluation of young people led action groups identified three main areas of impact resulting from their involvement in social action: confidence and self-worth, a strong sense of personal identity, and the development of skills and abilities, including employment related skills such as ICT, organisational skills, team-working, negotiation and conflict resolution.¹⁴
- 3.1.10 In addition to the development of these personal and social skills, the literature highlights some less tangible aspects such as being treated with respect, feeling more engaged with others, and a sense of achievement, which in turn affect young people's behaviour and willingness to engage in learning.¹⁵
- 3.1.11 A recurring theme in the evaluation of specific volunteering programmes is the lack of mechanisms for assessing volunteers' learning outcomes and enabling them to reflect on their experiences and the impact of these experiences. This was identified as a weakness in several programmes, including ACIS, the post-16 citizenship pilots and MV. In contrast, Student Volunteering England's 'No Substitute for Experience' project provides a framework for student volunteers to identify and articulate the skills they have developed through volunteering and relate them to employers' needs.¹⁶
- 3.1.12 Accredited training opportunities linked to specific volunteering activities appear to be popular with young people. The evaluation of the Community Merits Awards highlights the importance of certificates and qualifications for disengaged young people, for whom these were often the first evidence of achievement.¹⁷ The YVC evaluation found that training was most popular, and potentially most effective, when it linked to vocational aspects of volunteering placements, such as coaching awards, first aid or youth leadership.¹⁸
- 3.1.13 There is also evidence which points to volunteering assisting in skills development and employability. Student Volunteering England, for instance, claims that

¹² Ellis, P, Third Sector Research Solutions - Review of supported volunteering projects in Hert's 2009, Impact of volunteering in Essex Volunteer Centres and Essex Volunteer Centre impact evaluation 2010.

¹³ UK-wide evaluation of the Millennium Volunteers programme, Active Citizens in School, p. 41

¹⁴ Roker, D and Eden, K, *A Longitudinal Study of young people's involvement in social action: end of award report to the ESRC*. Trust for the Study of Adolescence (unpublished report) 2002, p. 17.

¹⁵ Craig, R et al, *Taking Post-16 Citizenship Forward: learning from the post-16 development projects*. DfES, 2004, 6.3.

¹⁶ Student Volunteering England, *No Substitute for Experience: PDP and volunteering toolkit*. SVE, 2006.

¹⁷ Youth Justice Board, *Community Merit Awards: an evaluation*. YJB, 2005, p. 4.

¹⁸ *Evaluation of the Young Volunteer Challenge Pilot Programme*, p. 45.

volunteering provides an ideal base for developing the skills and competences identified by the Association of Graduate Recruiters in 'Skills for Graduates in the 21st Century'. These include self-awareness, communication, flexibility, negotiation, networking, team working and action planning.¹⁹

- 3.1.14 Overall these studies illustrate that there is an evidence base which demonstrates that volunteering activity has beneficial impacts for both young people and adults. The findings from our research broadly reflect this and the main findings are presented below.
- 3.1.15 Within current youth members aged 10¹/₂ to 25, 4 out of 5 Scouts identified the ability to undertake activities and the ability to take part in adventure activities as the main reasons for being Scouts.
- 3.1.16 The research shows that 9 out of 10 volunteers within Scouting state that having fun is a main objective of being involved in Scouting.
- 3.1.17 Being engaged as an adult volunteer within Scouting at all stages is identified as being a great way to contribute to the community; this was the second most common objective, identified by over two thirds of volunteers.
- 3.1.18 Improving team working and leadership abilities, alongside building confidence, are important objectives for over half of young people involved in Scouting.
- 3.1.19 As Scouts become older they begin to identify the core ideals of character improvement and personal development to a greater extent, with almost two thirds of Network Scouts identifying these as objectives for being in Scouting; a significant proportion when compared to the overall youth member average.
- 3.1.20 The development and continuity of good friendships made within Scouting is extremely important and prominent at all stages of Scouting, and within both the youth members and adult volunteers. The social and engaging nature of Scouting affords many young people the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals and to develop lasting friendships into adult life. This is evidenced by the significantly high proportions of Explorer and Network Scouts (85%) that identified the building of good friendships as a main objective of being in Scouting.
- 3.1.21 Within the Explorer and Network Scouts, achievement of the Queen's Badge and the Explorer Belt are difficult and celebrated achievements. Within these, the abilities of leadership and teamwork are key attributes required for individual achievement. The objective of improvement in these areas was identified by approximately two thirds of Network members, a significantly high proportion when compared to the overall average within Scouts.
- 3.1.22 The research investigated 24 of the key objectives for participation in Scouting, which can be grouped into 9 summary objectives (if a recipient stated that they had at least

¹⁹ CSV, *The Value of Volunteering – developing 'soft skills' through volunteering*. CSV 2006.

one of the objectives in a summary group, they are included in the statistics as having had the summary objective). Table 3.1 below shows the most common of the 9 summary objectives as reported by youth members and volunteers. The most common objectives fall under the headings of relationships (92% of youth members and volunteers), and activities (88%), with key skills (79%) and having fun (74%) also common.

Table 3.1 The objectives of being in Scouting: summary points

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Key Skills	79	81	75	75	78	87	90
Character and confidence	67	69	68	63	66	75	76
Volunteering	69	61	61	86	60	63	67
Relationships	92	92	91	93	90	95	95
Physical and Skills	70	78	68	53	76	85	82
Understanding	56	55	50	57	56	55	54
Employment & school work	46	53	41	29	48	63	59
Activities	88	91	90	81	89	94	93
Have fun	74	66	42	90	68	76	29

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q2A)

- 3.1.23 Under the heading of **Relationships**, the main objective was **to have good friendships**, which was picked by 77% of all members and volunteers. Friendship was particularly important to Explorer and Network members; 86% of respondents from each group picked this as an objective of being in Scouting.
- 3.1.24 Under the heading of **Activities**, the main objectives were **to take part in activities**, which was picked by 83% of youth members (though only 65% of adult volunteers) and, more specifically, **to take part in adventurous activities**, which was picked by 78% of youth members (including 87% of Explorers and 84% of Network Scouts), and 54% of adult volunteers.
- 3.1.25 Under the heading of **Key Skills**, the main objectives were as follows:
- Improve character, personal development
 - Improve confidence
 - Improve social skills
 - Improve teamwork ability
 - Improve leadership ability

Each of the above objectives was mentioned by around half of all youth members and volunteers. Character, personal development, and leadership ability were more important to members in the later stages of Scouting (Explorers and Network).

- 3.1.26 **Having fun** was a key objective of 66% of youth members, 42% of former members, and 90% of adult volunteers.
- 3.1.27 As a comparative aspect of this study a survey of young people was conducted in parallel to the survey of current Scout youth members. The research shows that the activities that young people wish to participate in correlated strongly with those that Scout members wish to undertake through Scouting. However, the frequency of responses within each activity category was lower. This may be a reflection on the ambition of young people within the scope of the opportunities that they perceive are open to them.
- 3.1.28 Friends and family play a strong role in getting youth members involved with Scouting, especially at a younger age. Over half of youth members aged 14-18 identified the importance of a family history of involvement in Scouting as a reason for them joining the Movement. For younger Scouts, aged 10¹/₂ to 14, over half of current members noted the encouragement of parents and family members identifying Scouting as being a good activity to be involved with.
- 3.1.29 Similarly, in the focus groups most of the participants mentioned that that they had family members who had been involved in Scouting or Girl Guiding, and this was mainly immediate family members. We asked whether they thought that this influence was a key factor in joining the Scouts in the first place, and many concurred that this was indeed the case. When we asked them if they thought they would have joined anyway, overall they doubted that they would.
- 'I doubt it, but its not that easy to say, I suppose if my dad wasn't a Scout when he was younger then I wouldn't have known that much about it, so maybe it did influence me' (Explorer Scout)*
- 'All my friends were Scouts – their parents were and mine too – it's like it's in my blood' (Network Scout)*
- 3.1.30 Friends and peers also play a key role in influencing involvement in Scouting.
- 'There have been recent fluctuations in membership as many kids have been coming along on the recommendation from others. The Unit has seen a 28% increase in attendance on last year' (GSL)*
- 3.1.31 Within Network Scouts over half of respondents identified the exciting nature of Scouting as something that they felt would interest them and got them into Scouting.
- 3.1.32 The concept of gaining recognition for achievement through the gaining of badges was highlighted as a reason for joining by almost a third of Scouts aged 10¹/₂-14. The significance attached to recognition for achievement diminishes with age as a reason for joining Scouts, however, through anecdotal evidence it is still perceived as an important part of the enjoyment and personal achievement within Scouting within both Explorer and Network units.

Table 3.2 Other reasons for joining Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM			YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
		YM All	Former	Vol's			
Friends/ family were in Scouting	30	43	32	0	41	56	22
Parents/ family said it was a good idea	32	47	46	0	52	41	51
Teachers said it was a good idea	1	2	1	0	2	1	2
Wanted to be with my friends	27	39	40	0	40	37	40
Wanted to get badges for achievements	17	25	21	0	30	18	21
Good for my street credibility/ image	4	6	0	0	7	5	3
Scouts sounded exciting/interesting	30	44	42	0	43	45	55
Other	3	4	0	0	5	4	2
None of the above	42	15	19	100	17	10	9

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q3A)

3.1.33 The focus groups explored the reasons why people engage in Scouting in more detail and sought to understand the motivations in addition to understanding more about their specific experiences. It also focused on how it has helped them in their learning, and access to educational, volunteering and employment opportunities where a range of interrelated factors were mentioned.

3.1.34 Overall the range of factors mentioned can be grouped as follows:

- Fun, i.e. enjoyment by engaging in the activities and having the opportunity to travel.
- Personal development i.e. experience, knowledge and lifelong learning such as discovering new ways of doing things, learning new skills, sharing experiences and transferring knowledge, and learning by doing
- Social networks i.e. the sense of belonging to a group, being interdependent and maintaining friendships and making new ones
- Contribution and commitment – i.e. giving something to the community, valuing others and being part of the development of the Movement and its overarching objectives. This is realised through fundraising, campaigning and promotional activity
- Accomplishment, achievement and feeling empowered i.e. completing tasks and realising goals, the acquisition of badges and awards

3.1.35 Participants were asked what their top three main reasons were for joining Scouting. Across all Scout groups and ages the main three were having fun, engaging in activities which they couldn't engage in elsewhere and making and maintaining friendships. We explored why these things were important to them and there were a number of reasons given.

3.1.36 Overall having fun meant a variety of things across the different Scout groups. For the younger Scouts it meant

'we have fun at Scouts because we can go camping and this is what I like most...we also play sports games and this is a good laugh as

well... when we go camping it really is like going on holiday with friends, and we feel that have more responsibility too' (Young Scout)

'I think what's best is that we can have some fun and forget about school work, when we do activities we all join in and it is really fun when an adult joins in sometimes and it makes us laugh...it helps us to have a better relationships with our leaders' (Young Scout)

- 3.1.37 Where older Scouts were concerned fun was still an important element of participating in Scouting though more importance was attached to social networks through travelling and meeting new people from different cultures

'one of the best things about coming is that we get the opportunity to travel around the world for the jamboree which is loads of fun...it's a bargain, we get to spend 2 weeks in another country, with 1000s of people from different cultures and we would never have the chance to do this if we weren't in the Scouts' (Explorer Scout)

- 3.1.38 For Explorers and particularly Network Scouts, friendships were seen as key to ensuring developing networks. We asked if they were not involved in Scouting did they think they would have same group of friends and social networks. Overall, the bonds which had been developed over their duration in Scouting had developed into strong ones and for one participant Scouting was a diversionary activity which for him there may have had a different outcome.

'If I hadn't kept doing it I doubt that I would have the kind of friendships which I have today. When I was younger I almost got into a life of crime and was hanging around with the wrong crowd. Coming to Scouts at night and learning from the others and having their support meant that I moved away from what would have probably meant me ending up in prison (laughs)' (Network Scout)

'We had someone in our Cub pack a few years ago who had been excluded from every school activity, when he came here we helped him to focus and kept him busy with the activities and he turned out fine with the extra support we gave him...he now gives similar support to others as he is now an older explorer' (Network Scout)

'being in the Scouts makes you loyal to others, and I don't think many other things can do that' (Explorer Scout)

- 3.1.39 A further comment made by a Network Leader emphasises this bond and loyalty further

'They have bonds of friendship with like minded individuals through Scouting. Network Scouts do undertake activities outside of Scouting to pursue their own particular interests, however, the Scout Unit provides a platform through which they can undertake group activities with friends.' (Scout leader)

- 3.1.40 Another key factor why some participants engaged in Scouting was because it empowered them, and gave them a sense of achievement and the focus groups explored this in more detail. It was mentioned by some that by being involved in Scouting that it made them feel more responsible for themselves and others. They felt that the discipline involved in Scouting gave them this sense of responsibility which empowered them to become 'better citizens' and helped them to 'take control' of situations with more confidence.

'when we go out and do something which means we have to work as a team and we have to rely on each other otherwise it goes wrong. Like when we go orienteering, we need to be confident in ourselves and each other that we know what we're doing, it's like kayaking too...Scouting has helped me to take responsibility for teams and for myself, it's made me feel more empowered' (Network Scout – Female)

3.1.41 This sense of accomplishment and achievement was a key theme throughout the discussions, particularly in relation to the acquisition of awards and badges and the progressive award scheme. Most participants cited this as a key motivating factor particularly activity badges for cubs and challenge awards for Scouts. For explorers and Network Scouts progression towards to the Duke of Edinburgh award was a key motivator.

3.1.42 Another main factor which was mentioned in the focus groups was around personal development and confidence building. This wasn't confined to education and learning but wider objectives such as the satisfaction gained from conveying what they have learned to others and sharing expertise and helping others.

'one thing which is good about it is that we help each other when we are doing things, it's like we learn from each other especially more complicated things, we're kind of learning all the time when we're doing it' (Scout)

'when we work in a team it helps because when we have a problem we can't solve then someone comes up with an answer and this helps us all and makes us feel more confident about other things we have to do to get our badges' (Scout)

'some skills we learn are about just being able to work together and not really about stuff like we do at school...these (softer) skills we use in our lives and at school, they help us to be more confident (Explorer Scout)

3.1.43 Personal development in terms of the acquisition of skills and learning which may enhance employment and educational opportunities were mentioned by some of the participants as a key motivating factor. It was felt that some of the key attributes which are formed through Scouting are a significant positive factor in their life chances.

'I have learnt so much since I started about 8 years ago, it's amazing the things I can do which I wouldn't be able to if I wasn't a Scout. It has helped at school, I am good at sports and take part in most things and I'm not too bad either, I made the regional team (athletics) through being a Scout' (Explorer Scout)

'when I was taking my GCSEs I was more confident and I think this is because I had the right sort of discipline, it made more prepared in a way' (Explorer Scout)

3.1.44 The final key reason for taking part in Scouting which was explored through the focus groups was that it gave them a sense of commitment and belonging. They felt that they were contributing something to the Scouting movement and to the wider community overall through the array of activities which they undertake.

'we do a lot in the local community to help get money for good causes and so we can pay for trips and stuff that we do in the Scouts. It kind of makes you feel good when we see how much money we have at the end of the day and then we can start to think of how to spend it on things which are fun and useful'

- 3.1.45 Overall the focus group findings in relation to exploring the motivations behind why the participants engaged in Scouting reflected somewhat those of the survey findings, though further insights into the dynamics of these motivations have been identified. It is clear that the activities offered in Scouting are key to both the personal, emotional and physical development of young people and that moreover the activities help to build social networks and these bonds lead to a sense of commitment to oneself, the Movement and the wider community. Finally, Scouting helps young people to achieve their goals and aspirations in life and to progress across a range of interrelated activities which leads to employment and educational opportunities.

Panel 3.1 The aims / objectives of Scouting

- The top four objectives for being in Scouting are to have fun, build good friendships, to be active, and to take part in adventurous activities: Each of these four objectives was an important goal for around three quarters of youth members and volunteers and can be seen as a “bundle” of interrelated aims.
- Taking part in activities organised through Scouting and making good friendships were particularly important to the older Explorer and Network Scouts.
- Friends and family play an important role in getting youth members involved with Scouting, especially at a younger age. Over half of youth members aged 14-18 identified the importance of a family history of involvement in Scouting as a reason for them joining the Movement.
- The concept of gaining recognition for achievement by obtaining badges for activities was highlighted as a reason for joining the Scouts by almost a third of young people aged 10¹/₂-14.
- The focus group findings with Scouts show that the main motivations for participating are about having fun, personal development, social network development, making a contribution to activities, showing commitment, seeking to achieve and accomplish things, and feeling empowered
- The sheer variety and scale of activity on offer makes Scouting unique in that young people can't access this array of opportunities elsewhere and moreover at a relatively low cost to them

4 Scouting activities

4.1 Opportunities to be Active

4.1.1 This chapter covers our research into the activities undertaken by volunteers and members of Scouting, including camping and other outdoor activities, games, community service, and a range of other endeavours.

4.1.2 The research shows that 9 out of 10 Scouts aged 10¹/₂ to 25 will undertake at least one camping and/or hiking expedition each year alongside other outdoor activities, such as orienteering exercises, adventure sports, and other team problem solving activities.

4.1.3 Scouting works well when young people enjoy learning by working in partnership with adults. Scouting provides the opportunity for young people to engage in a myriad of activities and new experiences, exploring the outdoors, participating in teams, and taking responsibility around the activities undertaken and their participation within them.

'there is such a wide variety of things to do and you don't really get the options anywhere else unless you've got the money to pay so much ... we do things through fundraising and getting them subsidised, like its cheaper as a group, so we are not paying full whack ... you just don't get the opportunity to do things elsewhere at a reasonable rate, it's good value for money' (Network Scout)

'If you're not involved in Scouting at all it's hard to look inside and see what we actually do' (Explorer Scout)

4.1.4 The Group Leaders and other adult volunteers have responsibility within Scout and Explorer tiers for organising the programmes of activities and ensuring that they are safe and enjoyable. Adult volunteers within the Scout Movement are actively engaged in organising, running, and taking part in the activities undertaken within Scout units.

4.1.5 Engagement in activities can often be limited within Scout Sections due to the availability of sufficient numbers of volunteers with specific skills to cater for the number of youth members that wish to undertake outdoor and adventure activities. For this reason Scout Activity Centres have been developed with the specific aim of providing resources to enable Scouts to take part in residential and outdoor activities.

4.1.6 There are 6 within the UK²⁰: located at Downe, Ferny Crofts, Gilwell Park, Hawkthirst, Youlbury, and Baden Powell House.

4.1.7 Staff at Scout Activity Centres assist Scout Leaders and youth members in organising their activity experiences. The experienced teams help plan visits and once on site will provide the support and activities that may be needed to provide Sections with any assistance needed in order to fully engage as many Scout members as possible

²⁰ <http://www.Scouts.org.uk/sac/home.php?pageid=2063>

and to maximise the enjoyment for everyone involved. These centres provide a huge variety of activities for all Scout members; including activities as diverse as shooting and archery, survival crafts, to radio orienteering, rocket building, sphering and quad biking, go-carting to rock climbing and abseiling.

4.2 Survey results

- 4.2.1 The research shows that 9 out of 10 Scouts aged 10¹/₂ to 25 will undertake at least one camping and/or hiking expedition each year alongside other outdoor activities, such as orienteering exercises, adventure sports, and other team problem-solving activities.
- 4.2.2 The vast majority of Scouts and Volunteers will participate within community service at least once per year through Scouting. Community service through volunteering constitutes a large part of the advanced badge awards (as reflected in the significant engagement levels seen within Explorer and Network Scouts, at 89% and 90% respectively) as well as being a key part of Scout unit engagement with the community at annual events, such as Guy Fawkes Night and summer fêtes.
- 4.2.3 Knowledge of First Aid is an important part of every Scout's education. Within the badge system there is specific focus towards its learning; however, it is built into the activities that are undertaken through health and safety understanding, and as relevant to adventure activities that are undertaken. The parallel survey of young people reveals much higher levels of exposure to first aid involvement is provided within the Scout Movement than is available to be accessed externally to it by young people.
- 4.2.4 In comparison to these findings young people who are not engaged within Scouting tend to participate across all activities at a lower frequency than those within Scouting, with, on average, each respondent participating in fewer activities.
- 4.2.5 Involvement with indoor recreational activities is the most frequently cited activity with over two thirds of respondents identifying this category. In contrast to the above proportion of those active within outdoor and adventure activities the proportion is seen to decrease notably, falling to around half of respondents. Along side this it is also shown that Scouts are far more likely to participate within team games and undertake problem solving activities than those who are not involved within Scouting.
- 4.2.6 The Scout Association has a strong ethos of involving young people within their local community through volunteering and other activities. Voluntary activities constitute a very large proportion of the achievements necessary to gain the two highest Scout Honours and is also included within the achievement structure of Scouting from an early age. The research shows that a substantially higher proportion of Scout members are engaging in voluntary activities than is seen within the parallel sample of young people who are not engaged within Scouting. In this way The Scout Association is providing the opportunities for young people to engage with their

communities in a productive manner through routes that might otherwise be difficult to either identify and/or access by those outside of Scouting.

4.2.7 The focus groups also found that community activity was a key interest amongst the participants, and particularly for the older Scouts and volunteer leaders. The activities were explored further and comprised amongst other key Scouting activities,

- a Rough sleeping events to raise money for homeless people
- b Volunteering in schools, churches and charity shops
- c General fundraising in the community for good causes
- d World Jamborees
- e National remembrance day and St Georges day
- f Eurojams
- g Local challenges related to the environment

4.2.8 The participants felt that these community activities helped them to be more benevolent and gave them a stronger sense of community.

'giving our time to raise money for good causes is an important part of what we do here; helping the community makes me feel that I have achieved something and helped people who are not as privileged as others... when we did a sleep-out to raise money on World Homeless Day we met homeless people and this made us see for ourselves the problems they face' (Explorer Scout)

'Volunteer work is a large component of Network Scout badge attainment and as such is widely undertaken. The experience gained within Scouting plays a large role in facilitating volunteer work outside of Scouting as it allows Scouts to gain experience and confidence in it. Some Network Scouts joined at a later stage through their desire to be involved with volunteer work within the community and saw the Scout movement as a great platform within which to achieve this.'
(Network Scout)

4.2.9 Network Scouts are adults who operate within units of an autonomous nature, with fewer members attending weekly meetings relative to lower tiers within Scouting. Activities to be undertaken at meetings are chosen dependent upon which members of the unit will be able to be present, whilst taking into consideration any specific talents and interests that individuals have. This is reflected in the increased levels of participation in arts, music, and film related activities, science based activities and learning, and technology/IT based activities, with approximately two thirds of Network Scouts engaging in these activities at least once per year.

Table 4.1 Scouting activities: Participated in at least once

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	YM Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	92	92	92	93	88	98	98
Other outdoor activities	92	92	89	94	89	97	98
Indoor recreational activities	77	76	74	80	68	87	94
Team games / problem solving	95	95	96	94	95	97	96
Crafts, woodwork, making models	83	81	83	87	81	81	84
Fine Arts, music, film	54	51	52	61	48	52	68
Science	55	48	55	71	48	44	66
Technology / IT	47	40	41	63	38	39	67
Conservation and environment	77	74	77	84	73	74	85
Community Service & helping others	84	82	87	90	77	89	92
First Aid	85	82	84	91	79	90	69
Prayer, worship and reflection	68	61	74	82	63	54	54
Other	6	5	1	7	7	3	2
None of the above	1	1	0	1	1	0	0

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q4one)

- 4.2.10 Around three quarters (74%) of Scout members undertake team games/problem solving activities on four or more occasions per year. Over half of Scout members (53%) take part in at least four camping and/or hiking expeditions each year. Alongside organised camps and hikes Scouts also undertake other types of outdoor activities, with 56% undertaking these numerous times per year.
- 4.2.11 Instances of participation within camping/hiking activities are shown to increase with age and progression through the Scout stages. This is shown in the research by significantly greater proportions of youth members within Explorer and Network units (at 62% and 73% respectively) identifying having undertaken these activities four or more times per year when compared to the overall youth membership average.
- 4.2.12 Two fifths of Scout members (41%) will undertake crafts, woodwork, model making on four or more occasions throughout the year. This proportion rises to over half for adult volunteers.

Table 4.2 Scouting activities: Participated in at least 4 times a year

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	53	52	51	53	46	62	73
Other outdoor activities	56	55	46	59	49	65	73
Indoor recreational activities	29	29	28	27	24	39	51
Team games / problem solving	74	73	75	75	74	74	75
Crafts, woodwork, making models	41	36	43	53	38	35	37
Fine Arts, music, film	11	12	11	9	13	10	21
Science	14	13	13	16	15	10	18
Technology / IT	13	12	10	13	15	7	22
Conservation and environment	30	30	34	29	29	31	36
Community Service & helping others	40	42	47	36	41	43	55
First Aid	30	32	30	25	31	37	30
Prayer, worship and reflection	28	26	35	32	29	18	25
Other	2	3	0	2	4	2	1
None of the above	11	10	11	11	12	6	6

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (q4four)

- 4.2.13 Overall, for Scout members, the most commonly undertaken activities are team and problem solving based, with half of youth members and volunteers participating in this type of activity on at least ten occasions per year. The structure of a Scout troop lends itself towards healthy competition between Scouts in the form of games and activities based around the Patrol formations.
- 4.2.14 The research shows that approximately a quarter of Scouts and volunteers (26%) participate in outdoor activities, other than camping/hiking, at least 10 times per year. Within Network Scouts this proportion significantly increases, to 41%, when compared to the overall average for youth members.
- 4.2.15 When compared to the overall average for youth member participation, Network Scouts are significantly more likely to undertake certain activities more frequently. These include participation in camping and hiking expeditions (33%), other types of outdoor activities (41%), and also within indoor recreational activities (24%), alongside involvement with arts, music, and film, science, and technology, to lesser extents.
- 4.2.16 Interestingly, a third of respondents overall stated that they did not undertake any activity with this level of frequency. It may be the case that there is a high level of variety within the activity programmes undertaken within certain units, which would mean that particular activities were not repeated often. However, the number of yearly meetings and the time constraints within those meetings will also be key constraints when allocating time to activities. Network Scouts may be able to

achieve more due to their small group size providing easier coordination between members, both within and outside of usual Scout meeting times.

Table 4.3 Scouting activities: Participated in 10 or more times a year

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	16	16	17	17	10	27	33
Other outdoor activities	26	26	23	25	23	32	41
Indoor recreational activities	10	11	12	6	10	14	24
Team games / problem solving	49	47	51	54	49	46	49
Crafts, woodwork, making models	14	12	14	17	10	15	16
Fine Arts, music, film	5	6	6	1	7	6	9
Science	4	5	4	1	6	4	7
Technology / IT	6	7	8	4	8	4	11
Conservation and environment	8	8	8	8	9	5	11
Community Service & helping others	15	17	18	9	18	15	24
First Aid	9	10	10	6	10	12	11
Prayer, worship and reflection	15	14	17	18	16	8	12
Other	2	2	0	1	3	1	1
None of the above	34	34	34	34	34	33	26

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (q4ten)

4.2.17 In the focus groups we asked the Scouts about their participation in activities and which activities helped them most achieve their aims. We undertook a ranking exercise and asked about their frequency of involvement in activities. Overall the findings echo those of the survey results whereby the most commonly cited activities (ranked) which Scouts engaged in were

- 1 Indoor recreational activities
- 2 Team games / problem solving
- 3 First Aid
- 4 Community Service & helping others
- 5 Outdoor activities not camping
- 6 Camping
- 7 Conservation and environment

4.2.18 In addition to these we also asked about what other activities they engaged and again there were a wide range of activities mentioned ranging from football to astronomy. What was clear was that the range and variety of activities offered in Scouting was a key factor in ensuring that Scouting was fun and active and ensured high retention of Scouts throughout all stages.

4.2.19 In the focus groups we asked the participants what kind of activities they thought they would be doing if they weren't involved in Scouting and a wide range were mentioned. Overall, almost all the participants in the younger age ranges noted that they would in all probability be doing something less beneficial such as watching TV, Playing video etc... on the other hand beneficial activities were also mentioned such as homework, revision, reading, sports etc... For the older Scouts the following things were mentioned

- Going to the pub
- Watching TV
- Going to the cinema
- Hanging around on the streets
- Nothing
- Visiting friends
- Video games
- Sports activities / fitness

4.2.20 Though sports activities were mentioned overall, what was clear was that in the absence of Scouting and the wide range of activities offered was that generally speaking people would engage in less physical related activity which is clearly negative in relation health and wellbeing. One of the benefits of Scouting was put forward by a participant and was echoed within the group

'just because I come to Scouts it doesn't mean that I don't do other physical activities to keep fit, Scouting is part of that, in fact it makes up most of it, I think that it's an excellent way to keep your mind and body healthy' (Network Leader)

Panel 4.1	Scouting Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9 out of 10 Scouts, aged 10¹/₂ to 25 will undertake at least one camping and/or hiking expedition each year alongside other outdoor activities, such as orienteering exercises, adventure sports, and team problem-solving activities. ● Overall, for Scout members, the most commonly undertaken activities are team and problem solving based, with half of youth members and volunteers participating in this type of activity on at least ten occasions per year. ● The vast majority of Scouts and Volunteers will participate within community service at least once per year through Scouting. The focus groups showed that community activity was a key component of what Scouting is about ● Around three quarters (74%) of Scout members undertake team games/problem solving activities on four or more occasions per year. ● Over half of Scout members (53%) take part in at least four camping and/or hiking expeditions each year. ● The group work also found that through social bonds and networks that emotional development was a key outcome of Scouting ● Scouting encouraged young people to be physically active rather than inactive. Therefore, Scouting has some real health benefits for those who participate. 	

5 Benefits to young people and volunteers

5.1 The perceived usefulness of Scouting activities

- 5.1.1 This chapter deals with the benefits of Scouting activities as reported by current and former youth members, and adult volunteers. The great majority of those youth members and adult volunteers involved in Scouting consider Scouting to be beneficial in a wide and varied manner of ways, from having fun and building friendships to their ability to reflect upon life and improve their understanding of community.
- 5.1.2 Overall, the results of the research show that the vast majority of Scouts and volunteers said that Scouting activities had been useful to them. In particular, over 70% of youth members and volunteers said that outdoor activities had been useful. In addition, team games, problem solving, and first aid were important to Explorers, and creative, cultural, scientific, and spiritual activities were important to Network Scouts.
- 5.1.3 The great majority of those youth members and adult volunteers involved in Scouting consider Scouting to be beneficial in a wide and varied manner of ways. The key benefits were perceived to be having fun, having good friendships, and taking part in activities (including adventure activities). contributing to the community and the Scout Movement through citizenship, improving life chances in terms of education and employment and building confidence and commitment to others through Scouting activity.
- 5.1.4 Over a third of youth members and adult volunteers stated that it was unlikely or impossible that they would have had the opportunity to gain these benefits in the absence of Scouting.
- 5.1.5 Over three quarters of Scout members stated being at least quite satisfied with the opportunities and benefits provided by Scouting, with almost half (49%) stating that they were very satisfied.
- 5.1.6 The three most frequently undertaken activity categories (camping and hiking expeditions, other outdoor activities, and team games/problem solving) are also most likely to be thought of as useful by Scout members.
- 5.1.7 First Aid as a part of Scouting is thought of as being useful by two thirds (66%) of Scout members. Adult volunteers are seen to be significantly more likely (75%) to identify the usefulness of First Aid when compared to the overall Scout member average.
- 5.1.8 The results from the parallel young people survey highlight an increased propensity for Scout youth members to view the activities they undertake as being useful to them.

Table 5.1 Scouting activities which have been useful

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	YM Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	70	67	52	76	63	84	35
Other outdoor activities	72	71	62	76	68	83	42
Indoor recreational activities	60	56	54	70	47	70	63
Team games / problem solving	69	67	55	75	63	81	43
Crafts, woodwork, making models	64	60	55	75	57	67	63
Fine Arts, music, film	43	40	40	50	33	47	62
Science	50	45	45	59	40	50	61
Technology / IT	46	43	41	53	38	47	60
Conservation and environment	61	57	50	71	53	66	56
Community Service & helping others	62	59	48	69	55	72	50
First Aid	66	62	50	75	57	78	44
Prayer, worship and reflection	51	45	52	65	44	40	63
Other	8	8	5	9	8	8	13
None of the above	13	14	15	11	18	5	11

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (q4use)

- 5.1.9 Prayer, worship and reflection are built into the ethos of Scouting and are part of the Scouts Promise with personal reflection being a key part of fulfilling the Scout Promise. Over half of Scout members (51%) identified these as useful pursuits. This was the case for a significantly high number of volunteers (65%) when compared to the overall Scout member average and also for significantly high numbers of Network Scouts (63%) when compared to the overall youth member average.
- 5.1.10 Research shows that Scout members are most likely to identify camping and hiking as activities considered to be 'very useful'. Explorer Scouts are seen to be significantly more likely (53%) than other Scouts to identify this activity as being very useful to them, compared to the overall youth member average of 40%. Former members are seen to be notably less likely, at slightly over a fifth (22%), to identify these activities as being 'very useful' when compared against the youth member average.
- 5.1.11 The second activity most likely to be identified as being very useful by Scout members is First Aid. Again Explorer Scouts are significantly more likely to identify this activity as being very useful to them with almost half (46%) identifying it compared to over a third (36%) of youth members overall.
- 5.1.12 Team games/problem solving activities and other outdoor activities were also seen to be considered very useful by notably large proportions of respondents, with almost a third (31%) indicating so.

Table 5.2 Scouting activities which have been very useful

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	YM Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	40	37	22	47	32	53	19
Other outdoor activities	32	30	19	38	25	43	17
Indoor recreational activities	17	17	14	17	13	25	16
Team games / problem solving	31	29	17	36	28	36	15
Crafts, woodwork, making models	19	18	12	21	16	21	16
Fine Arts, music, film	14	14	16	14	11	16	26
Science	13	13	9	12	11	14	18
Technology / IT	16	18	16	12	17	18	20
Conservation and environment	18	14	8	26	15	14	10
Community Service & helping others	25	22	13	31	21	28	12
First Aid	36	35	20	38	33	46	15
Prayer, worship and reflection	14	13	13	17	13	12	25
Other	4	4	3	3	5	3	6
None of the above	34	36	48	31	41	26	39

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (q4very)

- 5.1.13 The research shows that the great majority of those youth members and adult volunteers involved in Scouting consider Scouting to be beneficial in a wide and varied manner of things, from having fun and building friendships to their ability to reflect upon life and improve their understanding of community. The benefits which youth members and volunteers felt to have been gained to at least some extent are shown, using the same summary headings²¹ as the analysis of objectives in Chapter 3, in Table 5.3 below.

²¹ The statistics for the summary benefits are calculated as follows: if a respondent reports a benefit from any of the sub-benefits in a group, they are recorded in the table as having benefitted from the summary benefit. For example, under "employment and school work", 85% of respondents stated that they benefitted from at least one of the following: improved school work; improved skills for employment; improved CV.

Table 5.3 Benefits gained from Scouting (some): Summary

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Key Skills	89	88	80	91	88	93	65
Character and confidence	84	82	73	88	82	90	55
Volunteering	90	87	81	97	87	93	67
Relationships	94	92	87	97	93	96	68
Physical and Skills	95	95	94	95	94	98	87
Understanding	89	88	86	90	88	90	77
Employment & school work	85	88	88	79	84	94	87
Activities	81	78	61	87	78	87	42
Had fun	78	75	55	83	76	86	35

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (q7some)

- 5.1.14 The most frequently cited activities considered by Scout members to have provided great benefit to them are broadly the same as the most likely objectives of being involved in Scouting (see Table 3.1 above). **Relationships, having fun, key skills, and activities** were the top four groups of objectives²², and made up four of the top five major benefits; they are joined by **physical skills** (chiefly **the improved ability to cope in outdoor conditions**) as major benefits.
- 5.1.15 The focus group discussions also explored which activities were useful and went further by probing in what ways the activities were useful to them including the benefits to themselves and to the wider community
- 5.1.16 The findings broadly mirror the survey results in that most felt that Scouting had impacted upon them beneficially in many ways particularly in relation to the acquisition of skills, confidence gained and contribution to the community. All of these had impacted on their education and employment and life chances.

'I get a sense of achievement (from Scouting) and this has helped with my CV, and has helped when I have applied for certain jobs...at a couple of interviews I was asked about my involvement in Scouting and they were impressed, well they seemed to be! ... I do think that it helped me in the end to get the job I'm in now' (Network Leader)

'I work as a teacher and when I went to university to do the course, the fact I worked with young people and take an interest in their development helped in getting a place, and then when I applied for jobs and became a teacher it definitely helped' (Network Scout)

²² The statistics for the summary benefits are calculated as follows: if a respondent reports a great benefit from any of the sub-benefits in a group, they are recorded in the table as having received a great benefit from the summary benefit. For example, under "volunteering", 46% of respondents stated that they received a great benefit from at least one of: contributed to the community; improved understanding of community; improved skills for volunteering.

'It's (Scouting) helped me and given me some guidance through recognising that I enjoy working with kids and that's actually what I do, it gives me satisfaction knowing that I am giving something which will help younger people in life' (Network Leader)

'My job is working with disadvantaged kids and my employers told me that being a Scout influenced them and was why they took me on' (Network Scout)

- 5.1.17 Benefits in relation to gaining confidence in the world of work was also mentioned by some participants in the focus groups:

'I think working in teams helps you gain confidence and it also makes you have a wider appreciation of the world and other cultures as I have been around the world to Jamborees and done volunteering in Kenya and Chile as a result' ((Network Scout)

- 5.1.18 One of the issues which some older Scouts face is finding the time to engage in Scouting:

'On average we spend 2-3 nights a week and some weekends volunteering within Scouting, we don't have much time to volunteer any where else' (Network Scout)

- 5.1.19 This is one of the barriers which means retention can be difficult and recruitment as well. It is well known that recruiting adult volunteers can be a problematic issue in some areas of Scouting, though from the focus group research it is clear that that this isn't a problem in all areas. As one participant pointed out that this is down to the commitment of the Network volunteer leaders:

'Without their commitment we simply wouldn't be here, we know it's hard work and having a full time job as well makes it more difficult, but being enthusiastic and committed makes it work' (Network Scout)

'some of us have just done our DoE silver which has given us all a sense of achievement and it makes us more determined to get to the next level...we also made some new friends doing it as well...we are lucky to have a strong Explorer group and across the whole district everyone is committed' (Network Scout)

- 5.1.20 We asked the participants in the groups if they thought they would continue Scouting in the future and overall most envisaged that they would play a role in Scouting in some capacity, with becoming a GSL mentioned by a some of the older participants. The younger Scouts felt that they would continue Scouting as long as they were having fun and learning new things.

'When you're like Explorer age, it's like you're too young to go to the pub, you don't have any money, and there's nothing to do, with Scouts you get to do exciting things with your mates, basically go on holiday with them and it's just fun' (Young Explorer Scout)

Table 5.4 Benefits gained from Scouting (great): Summary

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Key Skills	56	53	37	60	51	65	26
Character and confidence	42	39	26	48	34	54	21
Volunteering	46	39	28	61	34	52	23
Relationships	70	66	48	79	63	82	31
Physical and Skills	57	60	49	51	58	68	37
Understanding	41	39	29	44	35	51	26
Employment & school work	46	50	52	39	44	60	44
Activities	55	52	34	60	50	67	27
Had fun	60	57	36	68	53	73	28

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (q7a)

- 5.1.21 Every one of the 24 benefits under investigation provided at least 20% of the respondents with great benefit through participation, and the most commonly-cited great benefits were **good friendships** (57% of participants), **activities** (55%), and **adventurous activities** (52%).
- 5.1.22 Overall, on average, Explorer Scouts are shown to be more likely to perceive Scouting as being of great benefit to them, when compared to the overall average responses for all youth members.
- 5.1.23 Significantly high proportions of Explorer Scouts noted great benefits gained from their improvement in physical pursuits (34%), improvements in social skills and character/personal development (43% and 46% respectively).
- 5.1.24 Explorer Scouts were also significantly more likely to note great benefits gained through greater respect for others (43%), their understanding of community (34%), and their improved ability to reflect on life (28%). These are three important areas of development for a Scout in order for them to fulfil their Scout Promise.
- 5.1.25 The benefits gained through Scouting are not only physical or personal, but are also reflected within a Scout's usefulness to society. Notably high proportions of Explorer Scouts, compared to the overall youth member average, identified that their improved skills for employment and volunteering (33%), and improved CV's (44%) had been of great benefit to them.

'The Scouts also realise the benefits afforded to them in terms of enhancements to their CVs. Many ask for references from the Scout leader and a couple have even taken up jobs within outdoor pursuits. The older Scouts and Explorer Scouts often ask for character references from their leaders for various reasons' (Leader)

'it's helped because we have to think about CRB checks and safeguarding issues and obviously knowing these things and putting them on your CV helps when applying for a job'

'being a Scout has enabled me to move forward in my life with confidence and has helped me no end in terms of my day to day job. I can say that without a doubt that I wouldn't have progressed in my career if I hadn't have been Scouting since I was a boy... it helped me to lead teams and take a more balanced view on things and have a better understanding of people' (Network Leader)

- 5.1.26 The Scout Movement offers a range of benefits to its members through participation that may not be available to its members were they not affiliated with the Movement. Over a third of Scouts stated that it was at least unlikely that they would have had the opportunity to gain the benefits they have seen if they were uninvolved with Scouting. Approximately 6 out of 10 Scouts thought that they would have at least possibly have seen the benefits without involvement within Scouting.

Table 5.5 Benefits likely without involvement in Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	YM Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Not at all	8	8	4	7	7	11	5
Unlikely	30	30	25	30	29	36	17
Possibly	40	37	39	46	38	33	34
Probably	18	21	27	13	22	16	34
Definitely	4	4	4	5	4	4	9

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q8A)

- 5.1.27 The Scout Association is in competition with other Youth Groups and also with Schools when it comes to providing activities for young people. Slightly under half of youth members (48%) identified the possibility of undertaking Scouting activities at school. Over a quarter (28%) stated that they would not be able to, and around a quarter of youth members did not know either way.
- 5.1.28 In the focus groups we asked if they could undertake these beneficial activities at school and overall apart from limited range of sports activities on the PE curriculum, and some after school activities and school trips, the participants felt that Scouting offered much more over and above what schools can offer.

'being able to meet mates after school and hang out and do things that we wouldn't normally be able to do, it's like more fun than being at school where we can't do what we want' (Cub)

'Going to Scouts is different to school, when we are at school we have this rigid structure, here we can pick and choose from a lot of activities, It make it more appealing...I heard that Sea Cadets is boring because it's like too regimental, and this is why I prefer Scouts' (Explorer Scout)

Table 5.6 Possible to undertake Scouting Activities at school

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Yes	33	48	44	0	48	53	37
No	19	28	36	0	26	26	48
Don't know	48	24	19	100	26	21	15

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q5A1)

- 5.1.29 When asked if the activities that they undertake through Scouting could be undertaken by them with another local club/group over a third (37%) stated it would be possible. A quarter of current youth members did not think it would be possible and almost two fifths (39%) didn't know either way.

Table 5.7 Possible to undertake Scouting Activities at another local club/group

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Yes	25	37	37	0	36	40	32
No	16	24	29	0	23	22	37
Don't know	58	39	34	100	40	39	31

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q5A2)

- 5.1.30 The following table shows the alternative methods through which those Scouts who stated they could have achieved benefits through the activities if they had not been involved in Scouting believe they could have achieved them.
- 5.1.31 Over half of Scout members (52%) believed they may be able to obtain the benefits through undertaking activities with family and/or friends. When compared to the overall youth member average, Scouts aged 10¹/₂ to 14 were significantly more likely to hold this view, with 6 out of 10 agreeing with this statement.
- 5.1.32 Network Scouts are shown to be much more independently minded, as would be expected, with a notably large proportion (62%) believing that they may be able to achieve the same level of benefit through undertaking activities on their own.

Table 5.8 Probable or possible means of obtaining benefits

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
On my own	41	41	57	41	41	36	62
With family /friends	52	53	41	50	59	48	27
Through work	28	19	19	44	21	19	18
Through school	41	55	50	12	57	56	21
Through another club / group	47	43	33	54	43	47	30

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q8C)

- 5.1.33 The research has highlighted the additionality within Scouting.
- 5.1.34 28% of current youth members would not have been able to undertake the Camping and Hiking expeditions that are available to them within Scouting. This proportion rises to 34% within the Former Scout demographic.
- 5.1.35 Over a fifth of current youth members (21%) would not otherwise have the opportunity to engage in structured outdoor activities, such as abseiling, canoeing, or orienteering.
- 5.1.36 Again, over a fifth of current youth members (22%) identified that Scouting provides them with the unique opportunity to engage in team game/problem solving activities.
- 5.1.37 Notably higher proportions of Network Scouts are seen to consider adventure activities such as outdoor activities (34%) and camping and hiking expeditions (37%) available to them within the Scouts as not being able to be provided to them elsewhere.
- 5.1.38 27% of youth members would not have the opportunity to engage with community service & helping others were it not for their involvement within the Scouting Movement.
- 5.1.39 28% of youth members would not have been able to undertake First Aid related activities had they not been affiliated with Scouts; this activity is seen to be useful to approximately two thirds of Scouts.

Table 5.9 Scouting activities undertaken that could not be provided elsewhere at all

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	19	28	34	0	28	25	37
Other outdoor activities	14	21	26	0	19	20	34
Indoor recreational activities	12	17	21	0	15	18	30
Team games / problem solving	15	22	28	0	21	21	35
Crafts, woodwork, making models	16	24	29	0	22	26	32
Fine Arts, music, film	9	13	16	0	11	15	26
Science	7	10	15	0	10	8	24
Technology / IT	7	10	12	0	10	8	22
Conservation and environment	15	21	27	0	18	24	35
Community Service & helping others	18	27	31	0	24	29	36
First Aid	19	28	32	0	26	30	28
Prayer, worship and reflection	14	20	27	0	20	19	19
Other	1	1	0	0	1	2	1
None of the above	62	44	42	100	44	45	41

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q5Full)

- 5.1.40 To build on the above statistics the research highlights which activities might also have only been available in part when considered externally to Scouting. These figures follow a similar trend to those discussed above with proportions approximately doubling across the range of activity categories.
- 5.1.41 When considering which activities might not be available, but if so then only in part, two thirds of youth members stated that they would not have been able to undertake camping or hiking expeditions.
- 5.1.42 A similar increase is seen regarding the availability of other outdoor activities, with two thirds of youth members stating that these types of activities would either not be available to them, or else not to the extent that they have access to through Scouting.
- 5.1.43 An additional 30% of youth members believed that First Aid activities may be available elsewhere in part; however, this figure is significantly less within Network Scouts at only an additional 19%.

Table 5.10 Scouting activities undertaken that could not be provided elsewhere at all or in part

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	43	63	68	0	61	67	70
Other outdoor activities	43	63	68	0	60	68	73
Indoor recreational activities	35	51	55	0	46	58	63
Team games / problem solving	43	62	70	0	60	66	67
Crafts, woodwork, making models	39	57	62	0	56	62	60
Fine Arts, music, film	22	33	37	0	31	34	49
Science	18	26	36	0	25	24	45
Technology / IT	15	23	26	0	21	20	41
Conservation and environment	36	53	60	0	51	56	61
Community Service & helping others	42	61	68	0	58	66	65
First Aid	40	58	63	0	55	66	47
Prayer, worship and reflection	28	41	51	0	43	36	37
Other	1	2	0	0	2	2	1
None of the above	45	20	16	100	21	16	17

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q5part)

- 5.1.44 The research shows that when asked how satisfied they were overall with the opportunities and benefits provided by Scouting almost 8 out of 10 Scout members (79%) stated being at least quite satisfied, with almost half (49%) stating being very satisfied. Only 1 in 10 Scout members stated that they were dissatisfied with the opportunities available to them.
- 5.1.45 A notably high proportion of Network Scouts (almost two thirds) stated that they are very satisfied with the opportunities and benefits that are available to them within Scouting.
- 5.1.46 Satisfaction with Scouting was briefly explored in the focus group sessions and generally all the participants were satisfied with their respective troops and groups. However, there were some things which some Scouts were dissatisfied with and these were around the uniform, the religious aspect, it's image in the way it is externally perceived and the way Scouting is publicised and communicated
- 'The perception is based on what people see on the news, like the flag waving and national official events. There's not enough publicity around the more fun stuff which The Scout Association should do more of' ((Network Scout)*
- 'They should do television campaigns and something cooler than magazines' (Explorer Scout)*
- 'Scouts are more relaxed and less regimental than air and sea cadets..... you don't have to worry about your shoes being polished..*

I live near the harbour and I see the sea cadets looking so bored' (Explorer Scout)

'They're quite jealous when you tell them, what you do, then when you explain to them and tell them you have been to Canada, gone abseiling, gone windsurfing. They are surprised, and I do I because I put commitment into it, I enjoy it and I've got things out of it and I'm a better person for it (Explorer Scout)

'Some people when I tell them I'm a Scout they ask do they let girls in, and I say yeah, why not!' (Network Scout)

Table 5.11 Overall satisfaction with the opportunities and benefits provided by Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Very dissatisfied	5	6	9	3	8	2	5
Quite dissatisfied	6	6	7	5	6	6	3
Neutral	11	12	13	9	15	9	4
Quite satisfied	30	28	24	33	29	29	23
Very satisfied	49	48	46	50	43	54	65

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q9)

Panel 5.1 Benefits to young people and volunteers

- The vast majority of Scouts and volunteers said that almost all Scouting activities had been useful to them. In particular, over 70% of youth members and volunteers said the outdoor activities had been particularly useful.
- The three activities most frequently undertaken (camping and hiking expeditions, other outdoor activities, and team games/problem solving) are also most likely to be thought of as the most useful activities.
- In addition to the above, team games, problem solving, and first aid were important to Explorers, and creative, cultural, scientific, and spiritual activities were important to Network Scouts as older members of the Scouts.
- Scouting provides a package of interrelated benefits for participants. The great majority of youth members and adult volunteers involved in Scouting consider it to be beneficial in a wide, varied and interrelated manner of ways. The major benefits were said to be having fun, forming good friendships, gaining skills and fitness, that arise through taking part in a range of activities (including adventure activities).
- Over a third of youth members and adult volunteers said that it was unlikely or impossible that they would have had the opportunity to gain these benefits in the absence of Scouting ie from elsewhere.
- A matched sample of youth members and young people not involved in Scouting showed that Scouts were significantly more likely compared to non-Scouts to have participated in outdoor activities, in particular camping, hiking, and other outdoor activities, along with team games, crafts, conservation activities, community service, first aid, and worship and reflection. Scouts were also more likely to have volunteered for groups outside Scouting (55% of Scouts against 36% of other young people). They were however slightly less likely to have been involved with technology or IT activities.

- The matched sample also showed that Scouts were more likely than other young people to view themselves as having above average levels of community involvement, physical capabilities, outdoor survival skills, teamwork and leadership skills, and community understanding.
- Over three quarters of Scout members stated they were quite satisfied with the opportunities and benefits provided by Scouting, with almost half (49%) stating that they were very satisfied.
- The focus groups showed that there were a range of softer benefits which includes:
 - Developing a sense of citizenship, improving life chances in terms of education and employment, confidence building and commitment towards others and the Scout movement itself.
 - More specific benefits were mentioned in relation to health and fitness whereby the physical activities are less likely to be available elsewhere at the cost and to the extent as they are at the Scouts
 - The building of social bonds and networks was a key benefit for Scouts in that the activities engaged in developed these positively
 - community activities helped Scouts to be more altruistic and gave them a stronger sense of community.
 - Satisfaction gained through civic activities was also a key benefit whereby the vast majority of Scouts engaged in community activities to some extent, from which they benefited as well as the local community

Panel 5.2 Benefits to disadvantaged groups

- In the focus groups it was mentioned that Scouting has helped to divert some young people from crime and has enhanced their life chances in terms of employment and education
- It was also the general view that the members from the more disadvantaged locations and groups were provided with opportunities for self development, community engagement and access to activities that would not have been provided through alternative channels

6 Benefits to the wider community

6.1 Views from Scouting

6.1.1 In the Community: Local and national charities frequently request help in various ways for their fund-raising events. Civic leaders also often ask Scouting for assistance or attendance at civic events held during the year. Scout Movement members attending the above events help to promote Scouting to the general public.

6.1.2 The research reveals that some 47% of the Adult Volunteer respondents within the survey data were involved as volunteers with either one or more organisations/community groups outside of Scouting and 38% of young members were. 45% of youth members took part in any volunteering (including volunteering within Scouting), with this proportion increasing to over half of Explorer Scout (54%) and Network Scout (58%) respondents.

Table 6.1 Involvement as a volunteer with any other organisations or community groups outside of Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
All volunteering	63	45	44	100	39	54	58
Volunteering outside Scouting	41	38	37	47	35	42	51
Volunteering with Scouts / Girls Guides	45	19	21	100	14	28	27

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q6A)

6.1.3 The research also shows that when analysed across unemployment ratios volunteers were significantly more likely to be involved as a volunteer with any other organisations or community groups outside of Scouting if they were located within an area with high unemployment ratios. Furthermore, there was evidence that Scouts volunteer for groups outside of Scouting more than young people not involved in Scouting volunteer.²³

6.1.4 Among those individuals who are involved with volunteering external to that undertaken within Scouting, the most cited areas of involvement were in sports/leisure, education, and faith, social and healthcare, and conservation / heritage activities.

²³ In a matched group of young people 55% of those involved in Scouting volunteered for groups outside of Scouting, compared with 36% of those not involved in Scouting.

Table 6.2 Involvement as a volunteer with different organisations

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM			YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
		YM All	Former	Vol's			
Scouts / Girl Guides	46	20	22	100	14	29	27
Education	17	16	18	18	16	16	17
Conservation, heritage	8	6	2	11	6	5	8
Sports, leisure	19	21	15	14	20	24	18
Social care, welfare	6	6	7	6	6	5	7
Health care	4	5	4	3	6	3	4
Faith	13	12	14	14	15	6	12
Other	9	9	6	10	8	10	13
None of the above	38	56	58	0	62	48	43

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q6B)

6.1.5 Table 6.3 shows that the majority of those Scout members who volunteer do so for between 2 and 7 hours a week on average. For adult volunteers their roles as leaders within the Scout groups means that they are significantly more likely to volunteer for 4 or more hours per week, when compared to the overall average for Scout members. However, the research shows that through Scouting 4 out of 10 current youth members volunteer for at least 2 hours per week. This proportion is highest within Network Scouts at over 1 in 2.

Table 6.3 Number of hours spent a week as a volunteer

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM			YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
		YM All	Former	Vol's			
None	40	57	59	2	63	50	45
<2 hrs/wk	3	4	4	0	3	5	3
2,3 hrs/wk	16	14	11	21	12	19	14
4-7 hrs/wk	22	12	11	43	10	13	20
8-11 hrs/wk	10	7	8	16	6	7	7
12-19 hrs/wk	7	5	4	12	3	6	6
20+ hrs/wk	3	2	2	5	3	1	5

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q6HrsGrp)

Table 6.4 Number of full time equivalent weeks as a volunteer

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
None	41	58	59	5	63	51	45
<2 Weeks	2	2	1	1	1	3	1
2-3 weeks	2	2	1	3	2	2	2
1-2 Months	11	12	8	9	9	20	15
3-5 Months	9	7	5	13	8	7	8
6-11 Months	11	8	9	17	9	6	9
12-23 Months	10	5	5	23	4	5	6
2-4 Years	9	6	9	15	3	8	9
5+ Years	5	1	2	14	1	0	6

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q6WeekGp)

- 6.1.6 Scouting plays a different role for each individual involved within external voluntary activities. Overall, the research shows that slightly over a quarter of Scout members (26%) were not influenced by involvement in Scouting in their decision to undertake external voluntary roles. However, it is the case for over a third (35%) that the influence of Scouting was at least very important in their decisions.
- 6.1.7 Adult volunteers within the Scout Movement are least likely to have been influenced by Scouting in their decisions, with 4 out of 10 respondents stating that Scouting did not play a role at all.
- 6.1.8 Former youth members are most likely to have been critically influenced by Scouting in their decision to volunteer outside of Scouting.

Table 6.5 Importance of Scouting in the decision to volunteer

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Not at all	27	18	20	44	17	19	23
Not very	17	16	14	17	15	17	24
Quite	21	23	17	17	22	24	26
Very	22	26	24	15	31	19	16
Critically	13	17	25	7	15	21	10

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q6S)

- 6.1.9 When asked, 55% of Scout members noted that their background and experience gained through involvement within the Scouting Movement had played at least quite an important role in them being appointed in other voluntary roles that they have undertaken. A third of Scout members noted that the influence of their experience

within the Scouting Movement had been at least very important in them being appointed in other voluntary roles.

- 6.1.10 In contrast to this it is seen that Adult Volunteers were again most likely to cite Scouting as having no impact upon their external voluntary activities.

Table 6.6 Importance of Scouting in being a volunteer

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	YM Former	YM Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Not at all	31	20	19	52	19	23	22
Not very	15	15	13	16	13	15	24
Quite	21	26	22	11	31	21	20
Very	17	21	20	11	18	24	19
Critically	15	18	26	10	18	18	15

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q6T)

6.2 Past and Present Involvement with the Scouts

- 6.2.1 As part of the research to establish the impacts and benefits which Scouting activity has on the wider community, a range of businesses, public and civil society organisations were surveyed. Throughout this section where we refer to organisations, this is broadly speaking all of the respondents across all sectors i.e. private, public and civil society, where relevant differences are evident we make the distinction between each type of organisation.
- 6.2.2 The profile of their activities is shown below in Table 6.7. The main activity was general community support (essentially covering many of the specialist areas), especially for the civil society (community and private sectors). The main specialist areas were sport and leisure, social care / welfare, faith, environment / heritage and healthcare.

Table 6.7 Main product or service of organisation

	Percentage of all respondents (by Sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
General community support	20	10	3	29
Specialist areas:				
Sport, leisure	12	21	3	14
Education, Training	11	21	2	13
Social care/welfare	9	12	4	11
Retail	8	1	29	1
Faith	7	0	0	10
Manufacture, construction	6	0	23	0
Council activities	5	27	0	3
Environment, heritage	4	0	2	6
Health care	4	1	4	5
Food/personal services	3	0	9	0
Finance/business services	3	0	12	0
International development	2	0	0	4
Police, armed forces	1	1	1	1
Farm, fish, forestry	1	0	2	2
Transport, wholesale	1	2	4	0
Other	1	2	2	0

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q3)

6.2.3 They were asked about the nature of their involvement with Scouting and overall across all the sectors the main activities were distributed across collaborative projects (28%), sharing of property and resources (25%), provision of training and education and collaborations in relation to promotional work (18%). There was also some level of interaction in relation to sponsorship activity with 17% citing this as a type of involvement. In terms of variations across the sectors it was the private sector which was more likely to engage in collaborative projects and to work collaboratively in service provision and civil society organisations were the most likely to share property and resources. There were some other activities mentioned and these were mainly, around provision of information, grants, and sharing of premises.

Table 6.8 Nature of the involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Collaborative project	28	29	39	26
Property/resource	25	16	6	30
Collaboration in your service provision	21	29	33	17
Collaborative promotion activity?	18	11	11	21
Provision of training / education	18	16	0	21
Sponsorship	17	18	0	19
Other	14	39	33	3

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q7A)

6.2.4 Overall the frequency of involvement with Scouting was either on an annual basis or as a one off activity, with 37% and 22% reporting this respectively. Ten percent noted that their involvement was quarterly, 7% monthly and 18% weekly. The private sector was more likely than the other sectors to be involved on an annual basis with Scouting, civil society organisations as a one off and public sector organisations as a weekly activity.

Table 6.9 Frequency of involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
One off	22	5	20	26
Yearly	37	35	45	36
Quarterly	10	10	10	10
Monthly	7	3	10	8
Weekly	18	30	10	16
Don't know	6	18	5	4

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q8)

6.2.5 The vast majority of involvement was at the local level with 84% of organisations overall reporting this. A further 11% reported that their involvement was at the regional level and 5% at a national level, one percent also noted that they were involved at an international level. Both public sector and civil society organisations were more likely to report that their involvement was at a local level and the private sector was much more likely to be involved with Scouting at the regional and national level. One example of collaboration at the National Level is with the British Red Cross and this activity is presented overleaf as a case study of collaborative activity at the National level.

Table 6.10 Locations of involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Local	84	85	53	87
Regional	11	15	32	7
National	5	0	16	4
International	1	0	0	1

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q9)

Panel 6.1 Case Study – British Red Cross Society (BRCS) – first aid training

- The aims of collaboration were to maximise the ability of BRCS to reach more learners with first aid learning and to pilot a multiplier arrangement with a national partner to cascade first aid learning
- There has been a formal national relationship between The Scouts Association and the BRCS since 2005. It is a reciprocal 'multiplier' arrangement whereby BRCS trains up Scout leaders to be able to deliver Red Cross certificated first aid courses to other Scout leaders and Scout groups. This enables Scouts to provide Red Cross accredited first aid courses themselves and enables the Red Cross to reach more learners through the Scout Movement. BRCS designed and delivered a bespoke training course for adult Scout trainers. The course was traditionally run centrally from Gilwell Park (The Scout Association HQ). The training is a bespoke course for the Scouts, using casualty simulators and includes trainer training as well as first aid to the standard required. Scout leaders who have attended and passed the course are then issued with a Red Cross first aid certificate book and are able to train other Scout leaders who in turn would be able to deliver first aid training to Scouts. BRCS have trained at least 130 Scout volunteers as first aid trainers over this period (the current number of active trainers is 110).
- Many BRCS local area teams also deliver first aid or humanitarian education to individual Scout packs for badges or First Responder awards, this local relationship is unaffected by the above national partnership. This is also sometimes undertaken on a large scale – for example the BRCS South East team provided first aid learning at the World Scout jamboree in 2007. Another example is that in 2011 the BRCS Area team in Surrey are planning to attempt to break the world record for the largest first aid lesson with over 4,000 people learning at the same time in conjunction with Surrey Scouts.

6.2.6 Where involvement with Scouting sections was concerned, overall the main involvement was with the Scouts section with 82% reporting this across all three sectors. A further 45% were involved with Cubs, 34% with Explorers and 33% with Beavers. Only 11% overall reported that they were involved with Network Scouts. There was not much variation in terms of involvement with sections by sector apart from civil society organisation were slightly more likely to be involved with Cubs and Beavers and public sector organisations more likely to be involved with Network Scouts.

Table 6.11 Scouting section involved with the organisation

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Scout	82	83	89	81
Cub	45	30	32	50
Explorer	34	38	37	33
Beaver	33	23	21	37
Network	11	23	5	9
Don't know	5	0	0	7

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test) Source: PACEC Survey (Q10A)

6.2.7 The types of activities which organisations were involved in with Scouting were varied. Overall however, the main type of activities reported were sharing facilities and collaborative activity with a third overall reporting this. A further 27% mentioned Funding/sponsorship/grants, 18% outdoor activities and camping, 16% Gang shows or events and 8% sports activity. Public sector organisations were the most likely to report sharing facilities and collaborative activity and private sector organisations most likely to be involved in Gang shows and events. There was a large proportion of organisations who mentioned other activities and these comprised of mainly of assisting in volunteering activity (including brokerage) such as gardening and environmental work, acquisition of skills; involvement in faith based activities; raising awareness of Scouting; and sleep outs.

Table 6.12 Activity of involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Shared facilities / collaborating	34	57	35	28
Funding/sponsorship/grants	27	35	18	26
Outdoor activity / camping	18	16	24	18
Gang show / event	16	19	35	12
Sport	8	14	6	7
Other	39	19	29	46

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test) Source: PACEC Survey (Q11A)

6.2.8 There was a large proportion of organisations who mentioned other activities and these comprised mainly of assisting in volunteering activity (including brokerage) such as gardening and environmental work, parades, fairs, developmental activities such as the acquisition of skills; involvement in faith based activities; national holidays; awareness of Scouting; and sleep outs.

and knowledge exchange; financial benefits; educational activity; youth diversion activity; engagement in community and civic activities and support at events.

Table 6.14 Benefits to the organisation of involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Shared facilities / property	35	42	36	34
Help from volunteers	32	38	45	29
Training/experience	18	42	45	10
Other	46	31	36	50

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q12B)

6.2.12 A word cloud produced from all the ‘other’ comments made in relation to the benefits to organisations shows the frequencies of the most prevalent words used. Overall, ‘community’ people’ ‘organisations’ ‘young’ and ‘activities’ were cited most. Others words of interest were ‘income and money’ ‘education’ ‘help’ ‘support’ ‘training’ and ‘church’

Figure 6.2 Other comments about the benefits of Scouting to organisations (numbers of comments in brackets)



Source: PACEC Survey (Q12B)

6.2.13 The organisations were asked to what extent the impacts which they mentioned would have occurred if they had not been involved with Scouting. Overall, 37% reported that the impacts would not have occurred at all, a further 43% noted that they would have partially occurred, 12% that they would have largely occurred and 8% that they would have wholly occurred. There was some variation across the sectors, with private sector organisations much more likely to report the impacts not occurring at all and Civil Society organisations least likely to report impacts.

Table 6.15 Extent to which these impacts would have occurred in the absence of involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Not at all	37	48	61	31
Partially	43	40	22	47
Largely	12	10	17	12
Wholly	8	3	0	10

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q12C)

6.2.14 The extent to which the benefits affected the clients and service users through involvement with Scouting was explored and overall 31% reported that their clients had benefitted to a great extent. In addition to this 38% reported that they benefitted to some extent, 13% very little extent and 18% to no extent at all. Public sector organisations were significantly more likely to report that their clients had benefitted to a great extent, private sector organisations to some extent and Civil Society organisations to a very little extent.

Table 6.16 Extent to which involvement with Scouting benefitted the clients / service users of organisations

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Not at all	18	5	21	21
Very little	13	10	5	14
To some extent	38	30	53	39
To a great extent	31	55	21	26

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q13A)

6.2.15 The benefits for clients and service users when explored in more detail were mainly around direct benefits and having fun, with 54% overall reporting this. This was followed by training and experience, 32% and shared facilities and property 27%. The public sector organisations were most likely to report their clients benefitting from training and experience and Civil Societies clients from shared facilities and property. Private sector organisations clients were the most likely to benefit by way of the direct benefits of participation and fun. Some examples of the benefits were given by respondents and included less anti social behaviour in communities; financial benefits from fund raising events; increased skills and gaining volunteering experience. One respondent identified wider benefits:

'Benefits of shared good practice passed on to other voluntary youth settings through our networks. Links to other large county based national organisations - a strong local voluntary youth sector creates a more powerful and effective voice for the whole sector. Scouting is integral to this with its high national profile and history'

And another noted that:

'Bringing disaffected and excluded young people, many at risk, into our beautiful rural situation, provided many opportunities to broaden perspectives, learn new skills and simply to gain a sense of well-being'

Table 6.17 Benefits to clients/services users

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Direct benefits of participation / fun	54	50	73	53
Training/experience	32	58	27	27
Shared facilities / property / premises	27	25	9	30
Other	32	42	55	27

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q13B)

6.2.16 The benefits derived from partnership working and the effects on communities are demonstrated through initiatives between private companies like Sainsbury's who are a key partner of the Scouts Association and have engaged in partnership projects for a number of years now. Panel 6.2 below describes a recent example of partnership working, a TSA initiative, between TSA and Sainsbury's. It demonstrates collaborative partnership working results in beneficial outcomes for communities throughout the UK, particularly in this case in relation to health.

Panel 6.2 Case study – Sainsbury's

- Sainsbury's have been partners of The Scout Association for around 6 years. The initial involvement was in supporting Eurojam in 2005 providing a supermarket and then again for the World Scout Jamboree in 2007 which hosted around 40,000 Scouts from across the world. In 2007 Sainsbury's were also involved in a joint initiative with a government agency "V" to encourage more volunteers into Scouting. During the Xmas period 2008 Sainsbury's supported local Scout groups in bag packing in store which has been found to be an extremely valuable initiative both as a fundraising opportunity but also as an opportunity to show the face of Scouting in the community and encourage much needed volunteer participation. This has become a regular event across Sainsbury's stores with very strong community bonds developing between store personnel and Scout Leaders.
- In December 2009 Sainsbury's became title sponsors of "The Big Adventure", an initiative launched by The Scout Association to encourage parents to participate in Scouting events and in doing so become more inclined to get involved in volunteering. This was launched in conjunction with the Active Kids campaign which in its first year saw a 23% increase in group participation providing much needed kit and equipment for local Scout Groups. Sponsorship of The Big Adventure and Active Kids is now in its second year and looking to increase group participation even further.
- The main outcome of collaboration with Scouting has been that since 2007 over 4,000 Scouts groups have received over £1.8 million worth of equipment. Sainsbury's is supporting the Scouts Big Adventure where Active Kids products will be used to get families active outdoors.

6.2.17 The extent to which the benefits which clients and service users derived from their interaction with Scouting would have happened if they would have not had this interaction was explored. Overall, 36% reported that the benefits would not have occurred at all, 45% said they would have partially occurred, 12% largely and 7% wholly. Public sector organisations were the most likely to report the benefits not occurring at all, with 59% reporting this.

Table 6.18 Extent to which these client / user benefits would have occurred without the organisation's involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Partially	45	38	28	49
Not at all	36	59	44	28
Largely	12	3	22	13
Wholly	7	0	6	10

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q13C)

6.2.18 The organisations were asked if any whether any elements of their involvement with Scouting work particularly well. Overall, 79% reported that they went well with the remaining 21% stating that things did not go too well. The elements which went well were volunteering activity, with 34% reporting this, and the sharing of facilities and property, which was reported by a further 32%. In addition to these elements 27% reported that information sharing went well, 21% grant aid and sponsorship went well, and finally 12% mentioned that training and apprenticeships went well. The private sector organisations were the most likely to cite that volunteering worked well and the public sector organisations were most likely to report training activity and apprenticeships worked well. Other things which were mentioned which worked well were Gang shows; joint fundraising events; educational activity and strategic involvement and policy development. One respondent commented that collaborative activity had added

'strength to our lobbying voice expertise in policy development through membership of a multi-agency (statutory and voluntary sector) Youth Work Policy Group'

Table 6.19 Aspects of the involvement with Scouting which worked particularly well

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Volunteering	34	26	50	33
Sharing facilities / premises / property	32	32	10	34
Information / expertise sharing	27	16	20	29
Grant aid / sponsorship	21	21	30	21
Training/apprenticeships	12	37	10	8
Other	22	21	50	20

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test) Source: PACEC Survey (Q14B)

6.2.19 The organisations that were surveyed were asked how their involvement with Scouting could be improved. Overall, 54% reported that greater partnerships could be improved, and a further 39% noted that there could be improved communication. There were some other areas for improvement which were mentioned and these were in relation to better planning of activities; improved promotion of the impacts of Scouting; making Scouting more relevant and being able to directly contact local groups.

Table 6.20 How involvement with Scouting could be improved

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Greater partnership	54	47	40	56
Better communications	39	40	30	39
Other	27	47	80	21

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test) Source: PACEC Survey (Q15A)

6.2.20 Other things were mentioned as areas for improvement and these were around strengthening and maintaining good partnership relationships, keeping in contact, better communication between Scouts and the wider community and more involvement, and some comments in relation to needing better leaders. The word cloud conveys the key words from the 'other' comments

Figure 6.3 Other areas for improvement (numbers of comments in brackets)



Source: PACEC Survey (Q15A)

6.2.21 Organisations were asked to what extent their organisations achieved what they set out to achieve in their involvement with Scouting. Overall, over half, or 54% reported that they had achieved this to a great extent, 35% to some extent, only 4% very little and 3% no extent at all. Finally, 4% said it was too early to say. Civil society organisations were the least likely to report achievements to a great extent

Table 6.21 The extent to which aims were achieved from involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Not at all	3	3	0	4
Very little	4	3	11	4
To some extent	35	23	11	41
To a great extent	54	73	74	47
Too early to say	4	0	5	4

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q16)

6.2.22 The wider community survey research went on to explore the contributions which Scouts made to the organisations. They were asked about the number of youth member person days which young Scouts had contributed towards the Scouting activities they were involved in. Overall, the typical number of days of youth member involvement was 10 per organisation surveyed. This was most marked for Civil Society organisations whereby these reported an average of 15 youth member person days a year. Private sector organisations were significantly less likely to have had youth member involvement in Scouting related activity at their organisation with only 1 day a year being reported.

6.2.23 The organisations were asked further about the number of Scouting volunteer person days which had been contributed towards the Scouting activities which they had been involved in. Overall, the typical number of days was 2 days per year. Public sector and Civil society organisations were more likely to report volunteer person days than the private sector.

6.2.24 In terms of the number of person days which the organisation contributed to Scouting activities this was typically 2 days per year. Civil society organisations were the most likely to report contributing person days and again private sector organisations contributed less overall.

6.2.25 In terms of direct expenditure over and above any staff costs, 41% of organisations surveyed reported that they indeed incurred costs which were typically £300 per year. For Scouts there were zero costs.

6.3 Likely future engagement with Scouting

6.3.1 Organisations were asked about what their likely future involvement with Scouting would be. Firstly, they were asked if they envisaged having any involvement in the future and 19% reported that they would definitely be involved with Scouting in the future, 7% probably, 37% possibly and 36% said they would definitely not. Private sector organisations were the most likely to report that they would definitely not and public sector organisations the most likely to report they definitely would.

Table 6.22 Potential in the future involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Definitely	19	43	7	20
Probably	7	8	1	10
Possibly	37	21	24	45
Definitely not	36	29	69	26

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q18)

6.3.2 Of those who anticipated future involvement with Scouting, 59% reported that the activity would be around collaboration and 17% reported it would sponsorship activity. Public sector organisations were most likely to report that the activity would be a collaboration and private sector organisations most likely to report the activity would be sponsorship related. A high proportion of organisations who mentioned other areas of anticipated future involvement. These comprised volunteering activity, community projects, training and peer mentoring, supporting older people in the community and environmental projects.

Table 6.23 The anticipated nature of future involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Collaboration	59	72	63	57
Sponsorship	17	13	31	16
Other	41	26	41	44

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q19A)

6.3.3 In terms of likely anticipated frequency of involvement with Scouting mentioned by organisations, 34% reported that it would be yearly, 18% a one off activity, 18% weekly, 10% quarterly and 8% monthly. These findings reflect those of actual current frequency activity. The private sector was more likely to envisage less frequent involvement and the public sector much more likely to anticipate weekly involvement.

Table 6.24 The anticipated frequency of future involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
One off	18	9	26	19
Yearly	34	22	47	31
Quarterly	10	19	4	0
Monthly	8	16	2	6
Weekly	18	34	4	13
Don't know	11	0	18	31

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q20)

6.3.4 The main activities which organisations anticipated being involved with Scouting were Funding/sponsorship/grants (36%) Gang show / event (33%) Outdoor activity / camping (30%) Sharing facilities / collaborating (29%) and Sports (8%). The public sector organisations were the least likely to anticipate involvement in gang shows and events and there was not much variation elsewhere.

Table 6.25 The anticipated future activities with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Funding/sponsorship/grants	36	40	35	31
Gang show / event	33	21	41	38
Outdoor activity / camping	30	36	22	38
Sharing facilities / collaborating	29	33	24	31
Sport	8	7	6	19
Other	34	21	45	31

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test) Source: PACEC Survey (Q21A)

- 6.3.5 The main anticipated benefits which organisations mentioned which their clients or service users would receive were direct benefits of participation / fun (67%) collaboration/co-operation (50%) activities for young people (41%) training/experience for young people (37%) shared facilities/property (17%) and training/experience for the organisation (15%). Private sector organisations were the most likely to envisage future activity in relation to Collaboration/co-operation and least likely to report Training/experience for young people.

Table 6.26 Anticipated benefits to clients/service users from involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Direct benefits of participation / fun	67	51	78	81
Collaboration/co-operation	50	35	64	52
Activities for young people	41	30	49	48
Training/experience for young people	37	51	18	48
Shared facilities/property	17	11	20	24
Training/experience for organisation	15	23	9	10
Other	29	37	22	29

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test) Source: PACEC Survey (Q22A)

6.4 Future engagement with Scouting

- 6.4.1 Organisations were asked about what the main barriers were to involvement with Scouting. The most cited barrier was that Scouting was not relevant to what the organisation does with 30% reporting this barrier. The next most cited barrier was lack of communication/contacts with 22% mentioning this. A further 14% reported not having enough time to explore options, 11% not knowing enough about Scouting, 11% economic considerations, and 6% not a good brand fit, finally 25% reported that there were no barriers at all. Public sector organisations were the most likely to

mention that there were no barriers and private sector organisations the most likely to report that Scouting was not relevant to what they do. Finally, Civil Society organisations were the most likely report not having enough time to explore the options and lack of communications and contacts

Table 6.27 Barriers to future involvement with Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Not enough time to explore options	14	0	9	19
Don't know enough about them	11	5	11	12
Economic considerations	11	10	5	13
Other	16	16	20	14
Not relevant to what we do	30	20	47	26
Not a good brand fit	6	2	13	4
Lack of communication/contacts	22	2	5	31
No Barriers	25	49	20	23

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q23A)

6.4.2 Organisations were asked what type of information they would find helpful from The Scouts Association. Almost two thirds (64%) noted that they would like notifying of potential collaboration opportunities, 48% mentioned that they would like contact details, 43% information on general activities and 7% the Annual report. Private sector organisations were the most likely to want information on potential collaboration opportunities and general information and the public sector would most likely to report wanting contact details. Other comments were made in relation to information requirements and these were mainly about lack of local contact information, information on the Scout 'offer' which is easily digestible and information on how Scouting fits with community activities.

Table 6.28 Information about The Scout Association that would be useful

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Potential collaboration opportunities	64	55	71	64
Contact details	48	70	65	45
General info on activities	43	45	68	40
Annual reports	7	20	15	5
Other	9	15	12	9

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q24B)

6.4.3 The organisations in the survey were asked that in the absence of Scouting would some of the work done by Scouting be undertaken by other organisations. Overall only 6% reported that their organisation would undertake the activity themselves, a

further 5% other organisations and another 5% their organisation and other organisations. More importantly, 40% reported that the work would not be done at all by either their own organisation or other organisations. The types of organisations which the respondents mentioned could undertake the type of activities in the absence of Scouting were youth clubs, the Councils youth services and schools.

Table 6.29 Whether Scouting activities would be carried out by other organisations

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Yes (this organisation only)	6	12	2	11
Yes (other orgs only)	5	8	4	4
Yes (this and other orgs)	5	6	3	15
No	40	39	41	33
Don't know	44	35	50	37

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q25A)

6.5 Volunteers and staff

6.5.1 Organisations were asked about how important they felt a range of key attributes were for their staff or volunteers. Overall across all of the attributes shown in Table 6.29 below organisations reported that these were either quite, very or critically important. When ranked in order of importance, respect for others was the most important. This was followed by enjoyment of life, friendships, contribution to the community, and teamwork ability, with organisations typically reporting these as very important attributes. The least important attributes reported by the organisations were ability to cope with outdoor conditions, expertise in physical pursuits, skills, and levels of fitness. Civil society organisations were less likely to find these important. There was not much variation across the sectors though private sector organisations were least likely to report “contribution to and an understanding of the community” as an important attribute. Conversely Civil Society organisations were more likely to find these attributes important. Furthermore, the public and private sectors were more likely on average to report that levels of fitness were important attributes.

Table 6.30 What organisations look for in their staff / volunteers (mean scores 100=critical; 0=not important)

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Respect for others	78	76	71	81
Enjoyment of life	75	74	70	77
Friendships	75	74	70	76
Contribution to the community	73	74	65	76
Teamwork ability	73	74	74	73
Social skills	72	74	71	71
Understanding of values	72	71	67	74
Understanding of community	72	71	64	75
Confidence	71	73	72	71
Character, personal development	69	74	66	69
Self understanding	66	70	66	66
Leadership ability	65	72	68	63
Ability to reflect on life	64	69	62	64
Understanding of the world	64	68	61	65
Level of fitness	55	62	62	51
Skills (e.g. music, mechanics, craft)	55	61	59	53
Expertise in physical pursuits	51	61	56	47
Ability to cope with outdoor conditions	51	61	58	47

Source: PACEC Survey (q26a1+q26a2+q26a3+q26a4)

6.5.2 In addition to asking the organisations about the level of importance they attach to specific attributes they were further asked whether an applicant's involvement in Scouting would influence their appointment. A total of 41% overall concurred that this would positively influence their decision. A further 40% stated that that it wouldn't influence their decision. Public sector organisations were most likely to report the positive influence. Private sector organisations were the least likely to be influenced, with just over a third, 34% reporting this.

Table 6.31 Recruiting Scouts. The influence on recruitment

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Yes (positive)	41	52	34	43
No (neutral)	40	34	35	43
Yes (negative)	1	0	1	1
Don't know	17	14	31	13

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q27)

6.5.3 Overall just over a third, 34%, of organisations reported that they were aware of staff or volunteers in their organisation who have been involved in Scouting. Again public sector organisations were most likely to report this with 43% stating this. Private sector organisations were much less likely to know with only 19% reporting this.

6.5.4 Organisations were asked to think back to the list of important attributes which they felt that paid staff or volunteers should have. They were given the same list of attributes and asked to assess to what extent they felt that their current staff or volunteers who they thought or knew had been involved in Scouting were better or worse than average. The main attributes which they felt were above average are

shown in table 6.31 below and reflect the attributes which they felt were important in table 6.29 above.

Table 6.32 Attributes of Scouting that are above average. Average on high ranked attributes

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Understanding of values	60	73	67	56
Social skills	60	74	67	55
Confidence	60	74	67	55
Character, personal development	60	74	67	56
Respect for others	61	74	67	57
Friendships	58	72	64	54
Teamwork ability	61	75	67	56
Understanding of community	61	74	67	56
Contribution to the community	61	74	65	57
Leadership ability	60	75	67	55
Ability to reflect on life	58	73	66	54
Enjoyment of life	58	72	64	54
Self understanding	59	74	66	54
Understanding of the world	58	72	66	53
Ability to cope with outdoor conditions	59	72	66	55
Skills (e.g. music, mechanics, craft)	58	72	65	54
Expertise in physical pursuits	57	70	66	52
Level of fitness	56	71	65	51

Source: PACEC Survey (q30a1+q30a2+q30a3+q30a4)

6.5.5 Finally, organisations were asked what their overall attitude to Scouting was. Precisely half (50%) reported that they were very positive towards Scouting, a further 31% quite positive and 20% were neutral in their response. Civil society and public sector organisations were more positive about Scouting than private sector organisations, and the latter were more neutral in their response.

Table 6.33 Overall attitude to Scouting

	Percentage of all respondents (by sector)			
	Total	Public	Private	Civil Society
Neutral	20	18	30	4
Quite positive	31	27	33	30
Very positive	50	56	37	66

A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test)
Source: PACEC Survey (Q31)

Panel 6.3 Snapshot summary

Past and Present Involvement with the Scouts

- Main activities were sharing property and resources and general collaborative activity such as community projects and service provision. Most activities were one off and annual, and there was a low level of frequent activity with the Private sector.
- Low levels of involvement at National Level and particularly for Network Scouting.
- 80% reported that involvement with Scouting benefitted their organisation to either some or to a great extent

Benefits of Scouting

- Benefits are wide ranging, from financial to community benefits and mutual training. The sharing expertise and knowledge exchange, educational and youth diversion activity and engagement in community and civic activities and support at events.
- 80% noted that the benefits which their organisation derived from Scouting would not have occurred at all or partially would have occurred in the absence of activities with activities Scouting
- Two thirds of organisations reported benefits to some or a great extent for their clients / service users and volunteering activity worked well
- 36% overall reported that their clients and service users would not have derived benefits if they hadn't engaged with Scouting activity, 45% reported that they partially would have occurred.
- There was a need to strengthen and maintain good partnership relationships and improved communications, particularly at the local level.
- Over half, 54% of organisations reported that they had achieved to a great extent what they had set out to do by engaging in activities with Scouting.
- Young Scouts typically contributed 10 days a year for each organisation surveyed, volunteer older Scouts 2 days and organisations contributed 2 staff days a year for Scouting activity.
- 41% of organisations incurred some level of costs which was typically £300 per year. Scouts incurred no costs.

Panel 6.4 Snapshot summary (cont'd)

Likely future engagement with Scouting

- The Private sector was most likely to report that they would not engage in Scouting activity in the future and less frequently.
- There was a perception that Scouting was not relevant and that it needs to convey more the diversity of collaborative projects which occurs in Scouting. There was also greater more scope for future sponsorship activity.
- Anticipated benefits which organisations mentioned which their clients or service users would receive in the future were direct benefits of participation / fun, collaboration/co-operation, activities for young people and training/experience.

Future engagement with Scouting

- The key barriers to involvement with Scouting were that Scouting was not relevant to what the organisations do and lack of communication and contacts, particularly for the civil society organisations. A quarter of respondents reported that there were no barriers.
- Two thirds of organisations would like information on potential collaboration opportunities and almost a half wanted contact details of relevant individuals related to Scouting. .

- 40% reported that if Scouting activity didn't occur then they doubt it would be undertaken by them or other organisations.

Volunteers and staff

- Organisations reported that many of the key Scouting attributes such as respect for others, friendships, teamwork, character building and personal development were very important for their staff / volunteers. The least important ones were around fitness, skills, and outdoor pursuits. Private sector organisations attached the least importance to community related activity
- 41% of wider community organisations reported that a job applicant's involvement in Scouting would be a positive influence on their appointment.
- Organisations felt that staff who had been involved in Scouting were above average across a range of key attributes related to key Scouting qualities and that these matched the attributes to which they attached the most importance to.
- 50% of wider community organisations reported that they were very positive towards Scouting and a further 30% quite positive.

Panel 6.5 Benefits to the wider community groups, ie voluntary groups, businesses and public sector bodies

Past and Present Involvement with the Scouts for Community Groups

- The main activities were sharing premises and resources (facilities and people) with other groups and resources and general collaborative activity such as community projects and service provision for other people in the community. Most activities were one off and annual. There was less frequent activity with the private sector.
- 80% of community organisations said that their overall involvement with Scouting benefitted their organisation to either some or to a great extent

Benefits of Scouting for Community Groups

- Benefits are wide ranging, from financial and resource benefits to wider community benefits and include mutual / shared training, the sharing of expertise, knowledge exchange, educational benefits, engagement in community and civic activities and greater support at events.
- 80% said that the benefits which their organisation derived from Scouting would not have occurred at all or only partially in the absence of Scouts participating
- Two thirds of organisations said benefits also accrued to their clients / service users, ie the volunteering activity worked well for clients
- A third of the community groups said that their clients and service users would not have derived the benefits at all if they hadn't engaged with Scouting activity; 45% said that some of the benefits would have occurred anyway through other means.
- Over half, 54% of organisations said that they had achieved their aims of engaging in activities with Scouting.
- Young Scouts typically contributed 10 days a year for each community organisation and volunteer older Scouts 2 days.

Likely future engagement with Scouting – by Community Groups

- The private sector was most likely to say that they were less likely to engage in Scouting activity in the future or they would but less frequently. The sector was faced with other priorities and business aims

- There was a perception that Scouting was not relevant to their businesses, they had other priorities and Scouting needed to communicate more clearly the benefits of collaborative activities. There was greater scope for future sponsorship activity where time may not be available for employees to become involved in Scouting.
- Community groups considered that future engagement with Scouts, cooperation and training/ sharing expertise would bring benefits to them and their clients / service users.

Panel 6.6 Benefits to the wider community (cont)

Future engagement with Scouting

- The key barriers to involvement with Scouting were that Scouting was not seen as relevant to what the organisations do and there was a lack of communication about mutual benefits and Scouting contacts. This was particularly the case amongst civil society organisations. A quarter of all organisations said that there were no barriers to future engagement.
- Two thirds of organisations would like information on potential collaboration opportunities and almost a half wanted contact details for Scouting organisers in their areas.
- 40% said that if Scouting activity didn't occur with them that it would not be undertaken by them on their own or with other organisations.

Benefits of Scouting for volunteers and employers

- Community organisations said that many of the key Scouting attributes such as respect for others, building friendships, teamwork, character building and personal development were very important for their employees / volunteers. The least important ones were physical fitness, outdoor skills and pursuits. Private sector organisations attached the least importance to community related activity compared to the community groups and the public sector
- 41% of wider community organisations said that a job applicant's involvement in Scouting would be a positive influence on their appointment.
- Organisations said that employees who had been involved in Scouting were above average across a range of relevant key attributes reflecting key Scouting qualities. These matched the attributes that they considered to be of most importance for their employees.
- 50% of the wider community organisations said that they were very positive towards Scouting in terms of their volunteering skills and a further 30% generally positive, ie some 80% overall.

7 The Social Value of Scouting

7.1 Effectiveness: Benefits compared to the objectives of the SA

7.1.1 The core aim of The Scout Association as a charitable organisation, as set out in the introduction to this report, is as follows:

The Aim of Scouting is to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

The Method of achieving the Aim is through the provision of exciting and adventurous activities with progressive training based on The Scout Promise and Law guided by adult leadership.

7.1.2 Levels of participation in activities among Scouts are very high. 95% of youth members have participated in team games / problem solving, 92% have participated in camping and hiking expeditions, 92% in other outdoor activities. Three quarters take part in team games or problem solving at least 4 times a year, and over half participate in camping and hiking expeditions or other outdoor activities at least 4 times a year.

7.1.3 With regard to outcomes: 69% of youth members found team games / problem solving useful, 70% have found camping and hiking expeditions useful, and 72% have found other outdoor activities useful. (nb as share of all members, not participants in those activities) 40% found camping/hiking very useful.

7.1.4 The following list is a summary of the ways in which members have developed their potential:

- PHYSICAL
 - 79% have improved fitness
 - 79% have improved expertise in physical pursuits
 - 78% have improved their ability to cope in outdoor conditions
- INTELLECTUAL
 - 75% have improved skills
 - 68% have improved skills for volunteering
 - 67% have improved CV
 - 66% have improved skills for employment
- SOCIAL
 - 78% have improved social skills
 - 78% have improved teamwork ability
 - 76% have improved confidence
 - 75% have improved leadership ability
- SPIRITUAL
 - 75% have improved self-understanding
 - 70% have improved their understanding of their own values
 - 68% have improved the ability to reflect on life
- COMMUNITY

- 78% have improved respect for others
- 76% have improved understanding of community
- 71% have improved understanding of the world

7.1.5 Overall, 76% of youth members and 83% of volunteers stated that they were “very satisfied” or “quite satisfied” with the opportunities and benefits provided by Scouting.

7.1.6 The Scout Association has 400,000 youth members in 24,000 sections (or 0.9% of youth population). 157,000 members are represented by the sections which are the subject of this research: that is, Scouts, Explorers, and Network. To put into perspective the achievements of The Scout Association listed above, 80% of the 157,000 youth members at Scout, Explorer, and Network level amounts to around 126,000 youth members, and 66% amounts to around 104,000 youth members.

7.2 Efficiency: Achievements against resources / commitment

7.2.1 The Scout Association has 400,000 youth members in 24,000 sections (or 0.9% of population of the appropriate age group). 157,000 members are represented by the sections which are the subject of this research: that is, Scouts, Explorers, and Network.

7.2.2 These youth members participate in activities organised by 94,000 adult volunteers (with 6,600 extra required to cover the waiting list for youth membership). These volunteers give up their time free of charge, but according to our research receive many benefits, including the following:

- Contribution to community (87%)
- Improved social skills (83%)
- Improved character / personal development (84%)
- Improved leadership ability (82%)
- Improved confidence, teamwork ability, outdoor skills, self-understanding (all 79-81%)

7.2.3 The volunteers are supported by around 250 paid staff. Costs are met via membership subscriptions, charitable activities, investment income, and donations. Relative to the high incidence of benefits which have been reported in our research with youth members and volunteers, and the high levels of satisfaction with the activities provided by The Scout Association, this shows a high level of efficiency.

8 The Scout Association going forward

8.1 Improvements in the eyes of the Movement

- 8.1.1 The research so far has shown that Scouts have, in principle, opportunity to undertake a wide variety of activities and that within the Scout movement its members have identified the useful nature of these activities to them and the benefit that they have derived through participation. However, the research shows that within the Scout Movement activities are focussed upon for improvement across a wide range of categories.
- 8.1.2 The most frequently cited area for improvement was within Camping and Hiking expeditions, identified by 37% of Scout members. This proportion is notably higher within volunteers, with 55% identifying it for improvement. Within the youth membership, Network Scouts are seen to be notably less likely to identify camping and hiking expeditions as being an area needing improvement, with only 14% deeming it to be so. The general consensus within the youth membership is one of wanting more opportunity to undertake this type of activity more frequently.
- 8.1.3 A third of respondents, overall, identified other outdoor activities as an area which could be improved. The general consensus within the youth membership is again a wish for greater opportunity to undertake activities and also an increase in the variety of activities available, such as an inclusion of more water sports and paintballing.
- 8.1.4 Around a quarter of respondents identified the areas of arts and crafts and science and technology as areas where improvements could be made within Scouting. When analysed within youth membership responses Scout youth members are seen to be significantly more likely to have identified these as 'areas for improvement' whilst in contrast Network and Explorer Scout youth members were significantly less likely to have identified these areas within Scouting.
- 8.1.5 Approximately a fifth of Scout members identified indoor recreational activities and team games and problem solving activities as areas for future improvement within Scouting.

Table 8.1 Areas in which Scouting could be improved

	Percentage of all respondents (by Type)						
	YM & Vol's	YM All	Former	Vol's	YM Scouts	YM Expl'r	YM Netw'k
Camping and Hiking Expeditions	37	30	15	55	32	30	14
Other outdoor activities	34	35	33	29	36	34	34
Indoor recreational activities	21	24	25	12	25	22	24
Team games / problem solving	19	20	16	15	24	12	24
Crafts, woodwork, making models	25	28	29	17	35	19	17
Fine Arts, music, film	24	29	33	12	38	15	19
Science	22	24	26	16	30	15	21
Technology / IT	27	28	28	25	34	19	26
Conservation and environment	17	17	18	15	18	14	24
Community Service & helping others	18	18	21	16	20	15	27
First Aid	22	26	29	13	27	25	25
Prayer, worship and reflection	18	19	23	14	20	15	26
Improving motivation / confidence	16	19	23	7	22	14	26
Character, personal development	14	16	19	7	19	10	26
Employment skills	18	19	21	15	20	14	25
Educational attainment	13	13	15	11	17	7	15
Other	8	6	4	12	8	5	2
None of the above	23	20	12	30	17	28	9

Respondents could select several options; so percentages in any column may sum to more than 100. A number is shown in bold where, taking into account the margin of error due to sampling, we are 95% certain that it is different from the number in the left hand total column (using a Chi-Squared statistical test) Source: PACEC Survey (Q12A)

- 8.1.6 A note from the past - **October 2009, National Conference:** A key finding from the conference was that most significantly and consistently held view that the strategic framework itself should have an added theme that could be expressed as 'Scouting empowers and develops young people in decision-making'; most of the working groups expressed this at least in terms of decision-making within Scouting, but some took the principle wider into empowering young people to engage with community-based decision-making and to have confidence with transferring their skills beyond just being internal to the Movement.

Panel 8.1 Scouting Going forward

- The consultations resulted in some improvements being suggested for Scouting.
- The most frequently cited area for improvement mentioned by 39% of Scout members (and 57% of volunteers) was more opportunities for camping and hiking and essential activities that stimulated character building, self reliance and group working.
- A third of respondents, overall, said they would like to see a greater variety of outdoor activities.

- Around a quarter of respondents identified the arts and crafts and science and technology as areas where improvements could be made and more activities organised
- Training in leadership and personal development was also mentioned as an increasingly important activity
- Improved communications to convey the benefits of Scouting and activities to the wide range of audiences and age groups could be strengthened with key messages.
- There was a need to strengthen and maintain good partnership relationships and improve communications, particularly at the local level.