



At its meeting on 9 July, the Board undertook a comprehensive training session on safeguarding and discussed a number of safeguarding-related matters. The UKCC, UKYC and Chief Executive presented a review of progress towards Vision 2018 and the Board considered a number of important matters. These included:

- Approval of the Association's Annual Report and Accounts for 2015/16.
- Agreement to pause, temporarily, applications to the DGB (Development Grants Board) for the October 2016 phase while a review takes place. This means that the next phase of applications will be considered in May 2017. However, this **will not affect Start-up Grants** (which provide financial support for growth activity). The DGB will continue to fund Start-up Grants. In addition, the DGB will continue to honour existing grants and those applications which are already in train.
- Approval of a small increase in the National HQ membership subscription, which will rise by £1 for the year from April 2017, to £26.50 per youth member (£26 for prompt payment before 23 April 2017). This is the first increase in National subscriptions since 2012/13.
- Approval of a new four-year national communications strategy. The strategy focuses on the benefits young people and volunteers get from Scouting and how we can use these messages to increase engagement and make Scouting more distinctive, more relevant and more supportable. We'll share more information about this over the coming 12 months and it will inform our work on the 2014/18 Strategic Plan.
- A report was shared with the Board of lessons learned from the BDO Auditors' Report on the Compass Project. The [following changes](#) to the way we do things have been made. We shall continually review these changes and make further improvements in the future as appropriate.

The UKYC was also co-opted as a Member of the Board until the 2017 AGM.

The Board will next meet in October, when it will further consider strategic planning for the period beyond the 2014/18 Strategic Plan.

You can find more information about the individual Trustees [here](#) and a copy of the July Minutes are available [here](#). And if you have any queries, please email governance@scouts.org.uk

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