

Appendix 4. Hitchin District Scout Council

=Document Control:

Version	Issue Date	Changes
1.0	NA	First Draft (BE)

Reference	CG-132			
Name of Organisation	Hitchin District Scout Council			
Organisation Type	Registered Charity			
Ward	All in Hitchin			
Project Type	Youth outdoor activity			
Green option considered?	N/A			
NHC Councillor involvement that may constitute a conflict of interest	Cllr Ian Albert – awarded £500 towards this project from Hertfordshire County Council Locality budget			
Previous financial support within six years	None			
Documentation reviewed and approved*	Safeguarding	Yes	Accounts	Yes
	Demonstrates clear governance	Yes		
Total applied for	£1,500	Total project cost	£23,371	
Officer Summary				
<p>Hitchin District Scout Council run Dinghy Sailing for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers aged 8 – 18. Their evening taster sessions run every Tuesday evening for 2 hours from Easter to mid-September and their day courses run from 9.30-4.30pm.</p> <p>Their current fleet of 6 Pico sailing dinghies, that they use for training, is near the end of its life and need to be replaced before they deteriorate further and become unsafe. Therefore they are looking for funding towards replacing these 6 dinghies.</p> <p>Dinghy sailing is a popular outdoor activity in the Hitchin Scout District and beyond. The sailing team has grown over the last 16 years. 18 instructors and shore helpers now provide taster sessions and Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Training. Last year, the bookings for their three-day Easter course was fully booked in 24 hours. From Easter, their Tuesday evening sessions are booked within two weeks of the dates being released in January. For those who want to progress through the RYA Courses, they offer a week of Improver Sailing and camping at Mersea Island, Essex, which is always fully booked. Many of the older Explorers progress to becoming Dinghy Instructors and beyond.</p> <p>They are planning to have Brownies, Guides and Rangers aged 8-18 from Girlguiding Hitchin, to join their new Thursday sessions in 2026.</p> <p>The majority of users are from Hitchin with approximately 60 from Letchworth. In 2024, the team provided 590 activity sessions for 278 participants. They predict the final numbers for 2025 will exceed these.</p> <p>Funding is already secured for three boats, which will be purchased by March 2026, guaranteeing immediate replacement of part of their fleet. They continue to actively raise funds for the remaining three dinghies through fundraising and applying to grants.</p>				

*Funding will only be released on receipt and approval of all supporting documentation