Scouting Ireland Cash Build Initiatives - FAQ's Version 1

Completing our Past & Securing our Future - Honouring Survivors & Investing for Future Generations

General Understanding

GU01 - Q: Why now?

A: The timing and quantum of claims creates a significant financial risk that we must address.

If Scouting Ireland cannot meet its liabilities as they fall due, then, absent a credible financial restructuring, the board's duty will be to commence a liquidation (or a creditor will ask the High Court to appoint a liquidator) and we (all of us – Scout Groups, Counties, Provinces and Property Trusts) will potentially lose control of our future and our assets.

Any liquidator appointed to Scouting Ireland CLG will seek to maximise the assets of Scouting Ireland CLG, which includes the assets of predecessor organisations, and will use the assets gathered to pay liquidation fees and expenses, then preferential and secured creditors and then to meet unsecured liabilities in so far as possible. Usually payments to unsecured creditors are negligible if anything and are not paid for many years.

Claimants who would be concerned that a liquidation could result in there being no one to meet their claimcould foreseeably seek to amend their claims, or bring new claims, against Scout Groups, Property Trust companies, and other entities within the Scouting family, past and present. For example, if there is no prospect of recovery from Scouting Ireland CLG, a claimant could decide to seek compensation from the Scout Group where the alleged abuse occurred.

If the Liquidator decided that they could realise more money from the assets by ceasing all scouting activities, then they would do so as that would be their duty.

Liquidator could also have regard to any transfers out of Scouting Ireland and would seek to reverse any such transfers for the benefit of creditors.

There is no obligation on a Liquidator to defend or investigate claims. It may be more expedient and cost efficient for them not to do so on the basis that claimants would rank as unsecured creditors and might get a few cent on the euro for their claims. This would mean that the claimants may look to other parties for recovery.

The risk for us as a Scouting Family is we lose control of the value of mediation and negotiated settlements and would have no reasonable scrutiny on amounts paid.

With these initiatives we stay in control of our future and protect the unbroken Scouting service to our youth and communities.

Scouting Ireland 2.0 will not rise from the ashes overnight – that thinking is deeply flawed and inaccurate, the Government may not support, WOSM would not support, Insurers would be problematic, even Scoup Group's as individual franchises without safeguarding would have significant trouble locally carrying out scouting activities.

GU02 - Q: What alternatives have been exhausted?

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A: Many avenues have been exhausted including the Government, who have firmly closed down any vicarious liability, Banking institutions whom have an issue with the purpose of the loan and a technical credit committee fail in that no lasting asset exists from the loan, many Corporates and Philanthropy and all happy to support Scouting but cannot and will not have their money associated with historical abuse.

We continue to negotiate a loan which will help towards the overall effort, with two active avenues still in play.

GU03 - Q: Why should I pay?

A: Outside of the risks above, risk to our legacy, history and assets.

That answer critically lies in our values, who we are as scouters and what we can be counted on for.

The wrong doing which took place in Scouting, and indeed among many other institutions, in the past is abhorrent. Terrible hurt was caused to young members, long before many of us were born, and those young members are now vulnerable adults and we owe them a duty of care.

The working assumption, in keeping with our values, is to remain fully committed to meeting our obligations to survivors.

GU04 - Q: What role for me now?

A: To fulfil our mission and to continue to grow we need to be financially strong.

As discussed and presented at the recent AGM, October 10th 2026, we are cash solvent but clearly carrying on the balance sheet the financial reality of historical abuse cases.

We need to build our cash reserves and maintain robust liability / claims management

If our movement is to survive unbroken and to protect our future we have no choice but to solve for our liabilities.

Your role and our collective ask is to support a range of cash building initiatives.

We need 'champions' at every level of Scouting to support our collective challenge.

Initiatives

I001 - Q: What Initiatives are proposed?

A:

1. Financial Loan under negotiation for €4m – repayments from operating cashflow.
2. Property Sales – working alongside the Property Trust to identify those properties that the Scouting Family will no longer have a charitable purpose for.
3. Group Advances to Scouting Ireland – in effect a prepayment of membership fees, with a signed Board Memorandum of Understanding to repay from a reduction in membership fees from 2030.
4. Purchase of bricks, paving stones, trees, plaques as personal designed 'remembrance' for family, members, former members, Scout Groups, etc. Significant

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opportunity for all Scout Group's and members to engage – likely target of 100 sales per Scout Group.

5. Efficiency Initiatives - €400,000 secured in 2025 with a further €300,000 net of investments in Programme and MMS/ Website secured for 2026. This work will continue at pace in 2027 with a full cost and process review across all staff and services.
6. Emergency measures not yet mobilised to include the sale of National Properties (likely only secure a net €1.5/2million max and also needed as collateral for the commercial loan) alongside an additional levy on membership fees e.g. €50 for few years.

I002 - Q: What should I do?

A: Your Role is to champion and support Initiatives 3 and 4

Group Advances – where feasible and without putting Group finances at risk, we are asking those with sufficient funds to advance same to Scouting Ireland in the form of a prepayment of membership fees.

These 'advances' would be repaid from 2030 through a reduction on membership fees e.g. €10,000 advance would be paid off at €2500 off membership fees across 2030-2033.

Remembrance Memorial – this initiative will allow every member, former member, Scout Group, County and Province support our collective efforts without falling foul of any legal, financial or fiduciary duties.

There are close to 1 million adults in Ireland that had direct or household exposure to Scouting. Close to 500,000 have been scouts or scout leaders/ volunteers themselves.

Many will be open to a local led engagement to a purchase of this nature, to remember a loved one, scouter or indeed a Scout Group that no longer exists.

These memorial purchases can be personalised to a tree, paving stone, plaque or a brick – personal message or name and indeed location.

The design of the website and end remembrance memorial is near completion and will be available to members in the coming weeks.

Critical we get behind this initiative over the coming weeks post launch, critical in context of understanding demand and support in advance of any physical build and spend, and critical in context of supporting cash build to negotiate better outcomes with legal firms.

The vision is to have this located at Larch Hill, with a flow and link between the remembrance memorial and the heritage museum – virtual will launch over next few weeks.

I003 - Q: What's involved in Initiative 5 – Cost and Process Review?

The Board will sponsor a full end to end 'Cost and Process' review in early 2027, in line with implementing the GSAT, Global Scouting Assessment Improvement Plan, alongside operationalising the 2026 Strategy, the Board will oversight a full cost and process review.

Be assured all spend will be challenged.

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Mindful of efficiencies implemented to date and mindful of standards expected from Scout Groups and WOSM affiliated compliant movements.

As per the membership fee annual update we have four buckets of costs – staff costs, Insurance, Compliance/ Regulatory and Historical Abuse Provisions.

All initiatives will need to be mindful of legal, contractual and employment commitments.

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