

# District Explorer Scout Administrator Training Pack Factsheet 7 of 8 Where to get help



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0845 300 1818

Clearly this will depend on your own particular needs and circumstances. For example, you may be an expert word processor but find it hard to extract information about potential Explorer Scouts from Group Scout Leaders. Alternatively honing up on your computer skills may be your first priority. Below is a list of people and resources which you may wish to turn to for help:

## **District Explorer Scout Commissioner (DESC)**

This is obviously the first person you will turn to for help and advice. You are directly responsible to the DESC, and he or she should be able to answer most of the questions you have about how Explorer Scouting operates in your District, and your role in it. Remember to agree your job description with your DESC when you take on the role of DESA. This should be as much about identifying what help you may need as defining what you are to do. If you feel you need some specific training to help you to be a good DESA, make sure you ask your DESC to help you to arrange this.

## **District and County Adult Support Team**

The role of DESA is not a warranted role, and there is no formal training requirement, but your District or County may be able to offer help in the form of informal training or advice.

## **Other District Explorer Scout Administrators**

This is potentially the most valuable source of support and advice. There is no doubt that the DESA in every District will come across the same

problems as you, and may have already overcome them. Sharing ideas with other people in the same role can be hugely beneficial; as well as restoring confidence and enthusiasm you will pick up some valuable ideas to help you in your own district. Communicating with other DESAs could happen formally (for example in the context of a regular "DESA meeting" in the County) or informally by telephone or e-mail. Ask your Assistant County Commissioner (Explorer Scouts) for the names and contact details of the other DESAs in the county and get in touch – you will have as much to give as they have.

## **County Scout Network Administrator**

This person will be encountering the same problems as you but on a much wider scale. They will probably value the opportunity to share good practice – and problems!

## **UK Adviser (Explorer Scouts) and the Explorer Scout Office**

This is a team of experienced Explorer Scout leaders and commissioners, led by the UK Adviser (Explorer Scouts), who are available to provide support to anyone involved in Explorer Scouting across the UK. As well as providing resource material (like this factsheet) they are happy to deal with any specific questions which may arise, and provide support locally if this is needed. If you have any queries about Explorer Scouting and your role in it, please contact the Explorer Scout office at Gilwell Park by telephone or e-mail: [explorer@scout.org.uk](mailto:explorer@scout.org.uk) 0845 300 1818

## **The Scout Information Centre**

Gilwell Park Chingford London E4 7QW Tel + 44 (0)20 8433 7100 Fax + 44 (0)20 8433 7103 email [info.centre@scout.org.uk](mailto:info.centre@scout.org.uk) [www.scoutbase.org.uk](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk)

## Other useful contacts and resources

- **The Scout Association Websites:**
- [www.scout.org.uk](http://www.scout.org.uk) up to the minute information and links to all sections of The Scout Association including My Backpack.
- [www.scoutbase.org.uk](http://www.scoutbase.org.uk).

There is a wealth of information available here, including useful contacts, factsheets and much more.

- **Scout Information Centre**

If you have a specific query or you want to get hold of factsheets or other support material contact the Information Centre on 0845 300 1818 or email [info.centre@scout.org.uk](mailto:info.centre@scout.org.uk)

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