



Ms Amanda Beer  
Kent County Council  
Sessions House, County Hall  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ

6th June 2026

Dear Amanda,

I am writing to you on behalf of Kent Scouts regarding the proposal recently considered by the Personnel Committee on 25th March 2026, concerning the provision of 10 days of additional annual leave for staff who serve as adult leaders in the Cadet Forces.

While we applaud Kent County Council's recognition of the immense value provided by volunteer leaders in uniformed youth organisations, I would like to formally request that this proposal be broadened to include KCC staff who volunteer with the Scouts, Guides, and other recognised organized youth work.

Kent Scouts performs vital work across the entire county, providing a place of belonging and skill-building for over 16,000 young people. Our impact is driven by a dedicated network of volunteers who operate as part of a charity that receives no direct government funding. These leaders give up significant amounts of their personal time, often using their own annual leave to facilitate summer camps, expeditions, and residential experiences that are life-changing for Kent's youth.

As the Personnel Committee prepares to reconsider this proposal on 9th July, we would appreciate it if the council looked favourably upon including Scouting volunteers in this policy. Such a move would not only be a powerful gesture of equality across the youth sector but would directly support the sustainability of local Scouting groups that provide an essential service to the community.

We recognise the financial pressures on the authority and understand that the total number of days granted may need to be balanced across a wider group of volunteers. However, even a modest allocation of special leave would significantly alleviate the burden on our volunteers and demonstrate KCC's commitment to all forms of youth empowerment.

We would be very happy to provide further details on the number of young people and volunteers within the county who would benefit from this support, or to discuss how we can work together to make this proposal a success.

Yours sincerely,

Nirav Patel  
County Lead Volunteer  
Kent Scouts



**Kent County Scout Council**

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