

WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

COUNCIL ACTING AS TRUSTEE OF THE JOSEPH EWART BEQUEST
15 DECEMBER 2015

Title:

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

[Portfolio Holders: Cllrs Wyatt Ramsdale and Carole King]

Summary and purpose:

This report seeks approval of the Annual Trustee's Report and accounts of the Ewart Bequest for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Legal Implications:

There are no direct legal implications relating to this report. In December 2011 the Trust approved a delegation to the Executive, acting as Trustee, to make all decisions on behalf of the full Trustee Board. The only exception was the approval of the annual report and financial statements because it is a requirement of the Charity Commission that this is approved by Full Council, acting as Trustees.

Officers have investigated whether the constitution of the Trust could be changed to give full delegation to the Executive to avoid the Council having to meet as Trustee once a year. It is clear that this would require significant officer time and legal costs to be met by the Trusts.

Introduction

1. The Charity prepares an annual report and accounts in accordance with Charity Commission requirements which are then independently examined and filed with the Charity Commission.

Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2015

2. The Annual Trustee's Report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015 have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and were subject to an independent examination.
3. A copy of the trustee's report and accounts are attached as Annexe 1 and the Independent Examiner's report from Grant Thornton will follow.
4. The transactions relating to the Joseph Ewart Bequest also have to be included in the Council's Group Accounts because the Council, as sole trustee, has a significant interest and influence over it, which, in consideration of accounting statements overrides the legal form of the relationship.

Independent Examiner

5. The independent examination of the Trust's accounts was carried out by Grant Thornton, for the third year, as part of a three year contract.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Annual Trustee's Report and annual accounts for the year ending 31 March 2015 be approved.

Background Papers

There are no background papers (as defined by Section 100D(5) of the Local Government Act 1972) relating to this report.

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