

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 12 May 2016
Report Subject	Community Endowment Fund – Annual Report
Cabinet Member	Corporate Management
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Flintshire Community Endowment Fund (the Fund) was established in September 2013 following Cabinet approval to transfer approximately £200k of 16 educational trust funds which were moribund or ineffective to the Community Foundation in Wales.

The Fund has since been managed and invested in by the Community Foundation in Wales and local grants have been awarded by the grants panel. This report and accompanying presentation provides an update on the progress and performance of the Fund since it was last reported in March 2015.

There is also scope to transfer the management and administration of the Welsh Church Act Fund which is currently administered by the Council; a further report will be brought back to this committee for consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Members continue to endorse the work of the Community Foundation in Wales and the award of local grants.
2	Members approve further investigation into the transfer of the Welsh Church Act Fund for Flintshire, Denbighshire and Wrexham to the Community Endowment Fund for Wales.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FLINTSHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
1.01	The Flintshire Community Endowment Fund has been managed by the Community Foundation in Wales since 2013. A report on the Fund's progress and performance is provided annually by a representative for the Community Foundation in Wales.
1.02	Colin Evans, an Associate of the Community Foundation in Wales will provide a presentation on the fund's performance at the meeting.
1.03	A grant panel was held in March 2016 and grants were awarded to 5 groups and 12 individuals totalling £10,250. Further information about these awards will be made at the meeting.
1.04	<p>The Community Foundation in Wales has also approached us about managing and administering the Welsh Church Act Fund from which the Council provides approximately 35 grant awards per year of an average annual total of £8,000. These awards are made by a Council Officer in conjunction with the Funding Officer from Flintshire Local Voluntary Council and approved by the Cabinet through delegated powers.</p> <p>Council officers wish to scope the benefits and risks by transferring this Fund (of which the Council would still remain the Trustee). The Council also manage the Fund on behalf of Wrexham and Denbighshire councils; their considerations would need to be sought as part of this proposal.</p> <p>A further report to this Committee taking these considerations into account will be provided in the autumn prior to any agreement or otherwise given by Cabinet.</p>
2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The Fund continues to be invested positively gaining interest for future award giving.
2.02	The Fund is administered by the Community Foundation for Wales in an effective manner with minimum input from the Council.
3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	A Grants Panel involving Council officers and members along with a representative from Flintshire Local Voluntary Council and a local philanthropist ensures that the Fund awards are made as consistently and effectively as possible.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Financial risks to the Fund are affected by either a reduced rate of interest dependent upon market conditions of the investment portfolios and also by lack of further growth of the Fund by donors and philanthropists.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Contact Officer: Karen Armstrong, Policy and Performance Manager Telephone: 01352 702740 E-mail: Karen.armstrong@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>(1) Community Foundation in Wales: The Community Foundation in Wales is a unique charity which promotes and manages philanthropy. Their role is to strengthen communities in Wales by awarding grants to projects that make a sustainable impact on local needs, and to help their clients make the most of their charitable giving.</p> <p>(2) Welsh Church Act Fund: The Welsh Church Act 1914 is an Act of Parliament under which the Welsh part of the Church of England was separated and dis-established. The Welsh Church Act Trust was established from the proceeds and assets, which were distributed evenly amongst the former County Councils in Wales and further divided between the Unitary Authorities with their establishment in 1996.</p>