

Agenda Item	12
Report No	RC/008/19

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: **Ross and Cromarty Committee**

Date: **30 January 2019**

Report Title: **Ross and Cromarty Educational Trust**

Report By: **Derek Martin, Area Care and Learning Manager**

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks authority to make a change to levels of budget carry forward to ease administration of the trust between the financial year and academic year.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to:

Approve an increase of carry forward funding from £1000 to £5000 in order to allow the granting of funds at the end of the academic session for school prizes and bursaries.

3. Introduction

- 3.1 At the meeting of the Ross and Cromarty Committee in August 2018, approval was given to modernise the Ross and Cromarty Educational Trust.
- 3.2 It has become apparent that there are challenges matching the funding period of the financial year with the academic year. Currently, the maximum sum which can be carried forward is £1000. In order for sufficient funds to be available early in the new financial year, to pay school prizes and some bursaries (traditionally distributed at the end of the academic year in late June), it would be sensible to allow an increase of carry forward to £5000.

4. Implications

4.1 Resource

There are no additional resource implications to The Highland Council.

4.2 Legal

Under Section 118a Education (Scotland) Act 1980, the requirement to seek approval from the Secretary of State is no longer in effect, and is now covered by The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, Section 43. The Scottish Charity Regulator has confirmed that the modernisation of the trust is in order.

4.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural)

With a refreshed approach to the organisation and administration of the trust, it is likely that more young people will access funds to support learning and sports.

4.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever

There are no climate change/carbon clever implications.

4.5 Risk

There are the usual associated risks of trust funds held in investment accounts, where income varies from year to year.

4.6 Gaelic

There are no implications for Gaelic.

Designation: Area Care and Learning Manager

Date: 30 January 2018

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