

Report to:	Public Board of Directors	Agenda item:	19b
Date of Meeting:	26 January 2021		

Title of Report:	Charities Committee Update Report
Status:	For Information
Sponsor:	Jeremy Boss, Non-Executive Director & Chair of the Charities Committee
Author:	Katie McClean, EA to Director of Finance
Appendices	None

Purpose

This report summarises the discussions, recommendations and approvals made by the Charities Committee on the 10 December 2020 to provide the Board with an update of the Committee's activities.

Background

The Charities Committee holds delegated responsibility from the Board of Directors (the Corporate Trustee of the RUH Charitable Funds), this report provides evidence to satisfy the Board that the tasks required to meet those responsibilities are being carried out.

Business Undertaken

The Head of Fundraising provided an update on the work of Forever Friends since the last meeting. The Team were thanked for their hard work despite COVID.

The Committee discussed the Friends of the RUH update report, noting that engagement was improving and congratulated the League of Friends for this.

The Interim Head of Financial Services provided an update on the risk register, the Committee agreed with the recommendations.

The Interim Head of Financial Services provided an update on the latest financial position.

The Interim Head of Financial Services confirmed that the investment portfolio had returned to the levels they were at on 1st April 2020.

The Committee approved the Terms of Reference.

The Interim Head of Financial Services confirmed that she had reviewed an old Service Level of Agreement, following advice from HR the agreement was undergoing further updates.

It was agreed that the internal financial controls for charities would be added as part of this year's programme.

The Interim Head of Financial Services stated that there had been ongoing discussions regarding the rosebud donation, the Trust had failed to fulfil the donation criteria and was therefore being asked to return it. The original donor organisation, had been liquidated, and it is not possible to verify that the persons and organisations

now demanding the refund are entitled to it. The Committee agreed to the Head of Corporate Governance contacting the Charity Commission, and then run by the Trust's solicitors to ensure that the right questions were being asked of them to demonstrate that they were indeed legally entitled to the money.

Key Risks and their impact on the Organisation

- Continued impact on future fundraising of the pandemic
- Rosebud donation – validation of request for repayment
- Investment market risk

Key Decisions

- Rosebud donation – no payment will be made without evidenced proof of entitlement
- Investment market risk stance unchanged noting that investments have recovered to pre-March 2020 valuations
- A process review will be undertaken to ensure all charitable third-party funding applications are appropriately approved

Exceptions and Challenges

Nothing impacted on the Committee's ability to undertake its business.

Governance and Other Business

The Charities Committee meets at least four times a year, its members consist of 2 Non-Executive Directors, the Director of Finance and Director of Nursing.

Future Business

Work plan review
Charitable fund spending plans
Financial and risk performance of charitable activities

Recommendations

The Board is asked to note this report.