

58648

## Lauriston Castle Trust ("LCT") – Administration and Expenditure

### Annual accounts and financial statements from 1930 to present

Annually, the Council makes publicly available through the CEC website the audited annual accounts for the Council's Charitable Trusts from financial year 2018/19 to 2023/24 (available to view at: [<Audited annual accounts for Council Charitable Trusts – The City of Edinburgh Council>](#)).

For information related to Council financial accounts prior to this, records are accessible and available for members of the public to view in the City Archives. This information can be found within bound volumes that are not searchable as a database. There may be relevant information relating to this request but there is no catalogue held for the volumes, there are 65 volumes in total and details are as below:

- Edinburgh Corporation Abstract of Accounts 1930 to 1974/75- 46 volumes
- Edinburgh District Council Abstract of Accounts 1974 to 1981- 6 volumes
- Edinburgh City Council Abstract of Accounts 1996-1997 to 2000-2001- 4 volumes
- Edinburgh City Council Audited Financial Statements from 1996-1997 to 2000-2001- 4 volumes
- City of Edinburgh Council Unaudited Accounts 2000/01 to 2010/11- 5 volumes

### Trustee meeting minutes authorizing capital works or restoration projects

The Council is the sole trustee of LCT as statutory successor of the Lord Provost, Magistrates and Council of the City of Edinburgh, who were the original trustees appointed by the Trust deed. The Council presently delegates the administering of LCT to the Finance and Resources Committee. Previously this was delegated to the Pensions and Trust Committee until 20 September 2012. It is likely that Committee minutes will contain information about this request. Committee minutes for Pensions Committee back to 18 December 2012 are accessible online on the City of Edinburgh website and for F&R to 23 August 2007, although it is unlikely that any information will be held in F&R Committee Minutes prior to 20 September 2012 (Pension and Trusts Committee: [<Browse meetings - Pensions and Trusts Committee - Modern Council>](#) and Finance and Resources Committee: [<Browse meetings - Finance and Resources Committee - Modern Council>](#)). Older Committee minutes and papers prior to 2012, which may contain relevant information are organised by year and date at the City Archives. Records held in the Archives are public domain and free to consult, however, to locate information relating to LCT would require consulting each file one by one. There is a considerable amount of information and volumes held at the Archives that may be relevant to this request. The following list has been provided for ease, but is not exhaustive:

#### **Records from 1930-1975:**

- Edinburgh Town Council minutes are available and stored at City Chambers. These minutes are usually one volume per year. There are over 45 indexed handwritten volumes of Full Council Minutes. There is also 45 volumes available of minutes of the Treasurer's and Finance Committee which may contain reference to LCT.

#### **Records from 1975-1996**

- Edinburgh District Council Committee minutes and information is stored at off Archive's off-site storage. It is estimated there are 50 boxes for the Policy and Resources Committee, 20-30 boxes for the Finance Committee (1986-1996) and potentially 40-50 boxes related to the

Personnel and Manpower Committee. Potentially requested information may also be found within these records but again would require consulting each document held.

The Council also considers that some decisions may have been taken on the B Agenda of Committee meetings and in such cases information is heard in private as it likely contains information which is legally privileged or otherwise confidential.

Details of large expenditures (over £1,000 or equivalent going back in time) including the Glasshouse refurbishment and front electronic gate

The Council takes the view that LCT itself has not spent any money on the upkeep of LCT for a considerable amount of time. The Council has given funding and resource to LCT in excess of £200,000 in each of the last three years, with LCT itself generating relatively low income. The Council's annual audited accounts for CEC charitable trusts are publicly available as per above. These accounts provide details of any expenditure relating to the Trust.

Furthermore, FOI response 58416 provides information relating to the electronic gate to 28 November 2025. It is the Council's position that it does not hold any additional information since that response was published. FOI Response 36345 was provided in April 2022 and relates to the Glasshouse. The response provided a condition report survey and estimated costs of repair. It is the Council's view that the information provided in 2022 is still accurate. The Council holds nothing further in relation to this request.

Inspection reports, tenders, invoices, contractor agreements, and maintenance records

Any other information/documents relating to expenditure/management falling outwith those detailed above

The Council considers these requests to be wide in scope and unclear on what information is being requested. Specification would be necessary for the Council to properly consider if any relevant information is held.