1. Prepare a critical literature review of the factors which are seen to be influential in influencing dividend policies, contrasting different views.

1500 words

1. Investigate the dividend policy of Apple and Dell over the last 5 years:

* use the most recent five annual reports
* look for investor and analyst comment
* consider actions and circumstances which may be related to dividend distributions

Discuss what influenced dividend policy in these companies over this time. Can the behaviour you observe be explained by academic theories?

1500 words

20 references