

REPORT of DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE
29 JANUARY 2019

DISCRETIONARY FEES AND CHARGES 2019 / 20

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To review the fees and charges set at the discretion of the Council that individually generate greater than £2,000 income per annum.
- 1.2 Fees and charges that generate less than £2,000 are reviewed and set by the Director of Resources under delegated powers.

2. RECOMMENDATION

To the Council:

- (i) The detailed Fees and charges for 2019 / 20 as set out in **APPENDIX A** be agreed.
- (ii) That the revision to the fees and charges policies shown in **APPENDIX B** be agreed.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The proposed fees and charges for 2019 / 20 are set out in **APPENDIX A** and are based on the policy decisions recently updated and agreed by this Committee on 27 November 2018. There are a few changes proposed taking into account inflation, and changes to charging bands. Some charges have been deleted in relation to Events equipment rentals where the equipment is no longer held by the Authority.
- 3.2 The 2018 / 19 and 2019 / 20 budgets for income generated from these fees and charges are detailed in the following table:

Service	2018 / 19 Budget £'000	2018 / 19 Forecast £'000	2019 / 20 Budget £'000
Environmental Protection	7	9	7
Food Safety, and hygiene	2	2	2
Taxis and Private Hire Licensing	33	34	34

Service	2018 / 19 Budget £'000	2018 / 19 Forecast £'000	2019 / 20 Budget £'000
Premises Licensing	52	52	52
Animal Licensing	10	13	13
Gambling Licensing	3	3	3
Pest Control	32	32	32
Green Waste Bin Service	437	469	479
Cemeteries	126	152	135
Off Street Parking	1,044	1,054	1,054
Funfairs and Circuses	16	31	31
Parks Sports Pitches	8	6	8
River Moorings	14	14	14
River Wharfage	26	29	29
Splash Park	110	127	110
Building Control - Chargeable Services	135	135	141
Land Charges - Full Searches	122	122	122
Pre-Application Advice	44	64	44

NB – Forecast 2018 / 19 and Budget 2019 / 20 are provisional figures.

3.2.1 This total table excludes income generated from statutory fees and charges.

3.3 Building Control fees

- 3.3.1 Fees for the Building Control service are currently subject to a detailed review.
- 3.3.2 These will be brought to a future meeting of the Finance and Corporate Services Committee if the review suggests changes are required. Until that time, the existing fees will be used.

3.4 Clinical Waste

- 3.4.1 The Fees and Charges policies for 2019/20 were agreed at the Finance and Corporate Services Committee on 27 November 2018. The NHS decided in November 2018 to stop clinical waste collection, and therefore the Council reacted by changing its policy to remove free collection and to signpost to commercial collection companies.
- 3.4.2 Officers have discussed with other Local Authorities in the County the potential options; and further work is required to assess the financial impact on relevant households and to this Authority. Therefore, it is recommended that the original policy of free collection is retained, until Officers are able to fully consider the options and impacts.

4. **CONCLUSIONS**

4.1 Fees and Charges should be updated in accordance with the agreed policies.

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

5.1 Income from fees and charges is a key financial resource that enables the delivery of all Council goals.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) <u>Impact on Customers</u> This has been considered when setting fees and charges policies.
- (ii) <u>Impacts on Equalities</u> There are not considered to be any issues.
- (ii) <u>Impact on Risk</u> The actual income generated from fees and charges is subject to fluctuation based on changes in demand. This risk is managed by factoring potential losses into the calculation of the minimum general fund balance used in the budget setting process.
- (iii) <u>Impact on Resources (Financial)</u> Fees and charges are a major financial resource of the Council. The financial implications of the changes to fees and charges have been incorporated into the 2019 / 20 budget proposals.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (human)** None.
- (v) <u>Impact on the Environment</u> Sustainability has been considered, as far as possible, when setting Fees and Charges policies.

Background Papers: Fees and Charges Policies.

Enquiries To: Carrie Cox, Finance Manager, (Tel: 01621 875799).