

BRSC – 12 January 2023

Review of Fees and Charges: Annex D



Income Policy

Legal Framework	Description
Statutory Non-chargeable	Legal requirement to provide the service without levying a charge
Statutory Fixed Charge	Statute dictates the actual charge or a fixed charging methodology
Statutory Cost Recovery	Statute provides that a charge can be levied to recover the cost of the service
Statutory Chargeable	Statute does not prevent charging for the service and does not outline a specific charging requirement
Discretionary	Council has powers to deliver a service but not a duty.

Setting of Charges

- The user should pay the full costs for all services which they benefit.
- Any subsidy from the taxpayer to the service user should be a conscious choice.
- The Council will use its fees and charges structures to incentivise and discourage behaviours so as to improve targeted policy outcomes; efficiently manage resources and allow the Council and our partners to provide services in a more effective manner.
- Concessions will be provided on the basis of the ability to pay and clear public benefit and will be applied consistently across the Council.
- Prices will be based on the full cost of providing the service.
- There should be a clear rationale for the charge including the scale for different levels of the same service, and there should be consistency between charges for similar services.
- The setting of charge should not be detrimental to another service and the wider objectives of the Council.

Setting of Charges

- The Council will produce, maintain and update on a regular basis a Fees and Charges Register which will constitute the official policy position.
- Fees and charges should be reviewed and increased:
 - Annually as part of the budget setting process including reporting to and approval by Council .
 - At least in line with corporate inflation on an annual basis. (The July Consumer Price Index (CPI) as published by the Office for National Statistics will be the basis for the calculation of inflationary increases.)
 - To incorporate any changes in VAT (increases or decreases)
 - Where increases in fee amounts result in odd amounts that are difficult to collect and the fee is collected in cash the fee should be rounded up to the nearest convenient amount, and held at that amount until such a time as further annual increases on the 'odd' amount surpass the convenient amount.

Fees and Charges Income

- Total Fees and Charges budgeted income is £24.6m & Client Contributions £8.1m
- Our largest source of income is parking totalling £7.8m.
- Fees and charges of £13m have seen increases applied for 2023/24 in line with the Income Policy.
- Review of fees and charges for the General Fund is estimated to increase total income by £560k in 2023/24.

Top 5 Income Generators	2022/23 Budget
Parking	£8.0m
Regulatory Services	£3.9m
Planning	£2.5m
Bereavement	£2.3m
Highway Adoptions	£1.5m

Fees and Charges - Key Changes

Increases in Income in 2023/24	2022/23 Budget
Adults *	£56k
Bereavement	£100k
Children's	£46k
Highway Adoptions	£108k
Regulatory Service	£62k
Taxi Licensing	£45k