

- 3.4 When setting scales of charges, the following factors are taken into consideration:
- Statutory obligations;
 - Inflation and relevant indices;
 - Local market research and competition (where relevant);
 - The impact of price changes on activity level or demand;
 - Budget position and links to the MTFS and the Corporate Plan;
 - The cost of providing the service.
- 3.5 A rate comparable with Retail Price Index (RPI), which is a measure of inflation, has been used as an index where appropriate for up-rating charges from prior year. A rate of 1.5% has been used in line with the Budget Strategy for 2021/2022.

2021/2022 Fees and Charges

- 3.6 The Fees & Charges show the 2020/21 and 2021/22 charges, along with the percentage increases applied. Fees have either been inflated or set in accordance with relevant statutory guidance e.g. Fixed Penalty Notices and those under the Gambling and Licensing Acts have been set in line with relevant guidance.
- 3.7 All leisure centre charges have been set by Places Leisure who will operate the leisure centre. All charges are consistent with the current contract.
- 3.8 In the majority of cases where discretionary charges can be made, increases have been made in line with inflation.
- 3.9 The major changes that have an impact on the budgets are listed below:-

	2020/21 £	2021/22 £
Refuse collection:		
Fee updated to reflect budgeted costs of service delivery		
White goods/bulky item collection - 3 items or less	£15.00	£20.00
White goods/bulky item collection - 5 items	£25.00	£33.00
Garden Waste collection (annual subscription)	£24.00	£30.00
Exclusive rights of burial for 70 years:		
Fee updated to reflect budgeted costs of service delivery		
Reassignment / Transfer of Deed (if to spouse 50% reduction)	£56.00	£60.00
Licences – Taxis / Hackney carriage / private hire:		
Fee updated to reflect budgeted costs of service delivery		
New (TAXI PLATE) Wheelchair Accessible or Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV)	£140	£160
New (PHV PLATE) Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) or Hybrid Electric Vehicle (HEV)	£140	£160
Building Control:		

Fees updated to fall in line with fees charged by other Districts in Partnership		
Building Control hourly rate	£60.50	£67.80
Written confirmation of works exempt from building regulations	£30.25	£33.90
Written confirmation of non-existence of building regulations record	£30.25	£33.90
Written confirmation of completion of work to which building regulations applied	£30.25	£33.90
Extensive search of building control history for site or premises (per hour)	£60.50	£67.80
Completion application for a closed application (reactivation of application and 1 inspection)	£84.70	£67.80
Additional inspections on a reactivated application (per inspection)	£60.50	£67.80
Building control surveyor attendance at emergency incident/enforcement (per hour)	£60.50	£67.80
Building control surveyor attendance at emergency incident out of hours (per hour)	£105.90	£101.70
Preparation and posting of documentation in relation to an emergency/enforcement incident or dangerous structure (per document)	£60.50	£67.80
Miscellaneous		
Council Agendas (per copy)	£5.40	£11.00
Legal Services:		
Charge more accurately reflects the time taken to draw up agreements		
S106 Agreement short form unilateral undertaking	£250	£350
Variation of S106 agreement or unilateral undertaking	£534	£750
Retrospective consent (ex council properties)	£120	£130
Right of Way (standard easement)	£220	£250

4. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules

4.1 Report taken in open session.

5. Financial implications [IB]

5.1 Contained in the body of the report

6. Legal implications (MR)

6.1 The council's powers to charge can arise from mandatory powers, express discretionary powers or implied or incidental powers.

6.2 Mandatory powers are set out in the functional legislation such as the power to charge for planning applications set out in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

6.3 Section 93 Local Government Act 2003 gives the Council power to charge for discretionary services, but not in cases where there is already power to charge under other legislation e.g. power to charge for the use of a swimming pool pursuant to the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976.

6.4 The power to charge under Section 93 can only be used for services which the Council is empowered to provide.

6.5 The Section 93 power is not intended to provide a new income stream; its aim is to allow the Council to recover the costs of providing services, and there is a general duty on the Council to secure that, from one year to the next, the income from charges for services does not exceed the costs of provision.

7. Corporate Plan implications

7.1 The setting of fees and charges forms a key part of the budget process and aids in ensuring that resources generated in order to ensure delivery of all of the aims, outcomes and targets included in the Council's Corporate Plan.

8. Consultation

8.1 All budget holders, Corporate Operations Board and the Strategic Leadership Board have been consulted throughout the budget setting process.

9. Risk implications

9.1 It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of Significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating Actions	Owner
That the Council has insufficient resources to meet its aspirations and cannot set a balanced budget	A budget strategy is produced to ensure that the objectives of the budget exercise are known throughout the organisation. The budget is scrutinised on an ongoing basis to ensure that assumptions are robust and reflective of financial performance. Sufficient levels of reserves and balances are maintained to ensure financial resilience	A.Wilson

10. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

10.1 The budget process will impact on all areas of the Borough and all groups within the population

10.2 Where concessions are made for certain groups for charging purposes these are detailed in the attached booklet

11. Climate implications

11.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report

12. Corporate implications

12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
 - Environmental implications
 - ICT implications
 - Asset Management implications
 - Procurement implications
 - Human Resources implications
 - Planning implications
 - Data Protection implications
 - Voluntary Sector
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Background papers: Fees and Charges submissions
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