



FOR PUBLICATION

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

16 August 2023

Report of the Executive Director - Place

Revised Fees and Charges for 2023-24 (I&E)
(Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Environment)

1. Divisions Affected

1.1 County-wide.

2. Key Decision

2.1 This is not a key decision.

3. Purpose

3.1 To seek approval of the revised fees and charges for the Place Department for 2023-24, attached to this report at Appendix 2.

4. Information and Analysis

4.1 Place Department reviews its fees and charges annually.

4.2 A full review of all fees and charges has now been carried out by each department section to ensure the Council is recovering all applicable costs.

4.3 A full list of all proposed fees and charges for those areas that sit within this Portfolio for 2023-24 are included in Appendix 2.

5. Consultation

5.1 Not required.

6. Alternative Options Considered

6.1 The Council could leave its fees and charges at the current level, however, due to inflationary increases and budget pressures, sections would find it difficult to continue to provide non-statutory services.

7. Implications

7.1 Appendix 1 sets out the relevant implications considered in the preparation of the report.

8. Background Papers

8.1 The Council's Corporate Charging Policy, the Council's Financial Strategy, and the Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 3.

9. Appendices

9.1 Appendix 1 – Implications.

9.2 Appendix 2 – Fees and Charges 2023-24.

9.3 Appendix 3 – Equality Impact Assessment.

10. Recommendation

That the Cabinet Member:

- a) Approves the revised fees and charges for the Place Department for 2023-24, attached to this report at Appendix 2.

11. Reason for Recommendation

11.1 To ensure that the Council is recovering all costs in relation to services that it provides.

12. Is it necessary to waive the call in period?

12.1 No.

Report Author: Emma Hickman

Contact details: Emma.Hickman@derbyshire.gov.uk

Implications

Financial

Financial

- 1.1 Fees and charges have been reviewed and checked to ensure that service areas are securing full cost recovery in accordance with the Council's Corporate Charging Policy.

Legal

- 2.1 The fees and charges in each case represent costs to be incurred by the Council in providing services, which it would be empowered to recoup. For Council functions governed by specific legislation, that legislation may include specific charging provisions. In other cases, where the service provided by the Council is discretionary, the Local Government Act 2003 (section 93(1) provides a broad power for the Council to charge for the service (except if expressly prohibited under other legislation), to the extent that, taking one financial year with another year, the income does not exceed the costs. Where the Council acts under its general power of competence provided by the Localism Act 2011, section 3 of the Act likewise broadly permits charging subject to income not exceeding costs.

Human Resources

- 3.1 None.

Information Technology

- 4.1 None.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and attached at Appendix 3.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 6.1 The Council is faced with severe financial pressures as funding from more established sources fails to meet the cost of delivering services. As a consequence, maximising alternative sources of income is crucial

if Council Tax is to remain at an acceptable level and service reductions are to be minimised.

Other (for example, Health and Safety, Environmental Sustainability, Property and Asset Management, Risk Management and Safeguarding)

7.1 None.