

Committee: Annual Meeting of the Council

Date of Meeting: **2nd April, 2020**

Report Subject: **Fees & Charges 2020/2021 – Trade Waste & Markets**

Portfolio Holder: **Leader/Executive Member Corporate Services, Councillor Nigel Daniels**

Report Submitted by: **Anne-Louise Clark, Chief Officer Commercial**

Report Written by: **Gina Taylor – Service Manager Accountancy**

Reporting Pathway								
Directorate Management Team	Corporate Leadership Team	Portfolio Holder / Chair	Audit Committee	Democratic Services Committee	Scrutiny Committee	Executive Committee	Council	Other (please state)
							2.4.20	

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is for Members to approve the fees & charges to be applied for the 2020/2021 financial year for Trade Waste Services and Markets.

2. Scope and Background

2.1 The 2020/2021 Fees & Charges Register was presented to Council on 3 March 2020. This report included a range of uplifts to be applied to existing fees and charges, and the core fees and charges for Aneurin Leisure Trust.

2.2 Council agreed to implement the proposed fees & charges for 2020/2021 with the exception of Trade Waste and Markets, whereby Members asked for consideration of these fees to be deferred until the March Council, whilst a further review was undertaken.

2.3 During the current financial year, a strategic business review was carried out on the Trade Waste service. The outcome of the review was presented to Community Services Scrutiny on 5 December 2019, which included a change to the structure and value for the fees and charges, and an estimated increase in income of £23,000 per annum. The new fee structure was included in the proposed Fees & Charges Register for 2020/2021 which was presented to Council on 3 March 2020.

2.4 The proposed fee uplift for Markets was an increase of 5.5% on the 2019/2020 fee, increasing the fee between £1.00 for the smallest pitch to £5.50 for the largest pitch.

3. **Options for Recommendation**

To include Recommendation(s) / Endorsement by other groups, e.g. CMT/Committees/Other groups)

Following the further review, options for consideration are as follows:-

3.1 **Option 1 (Preferred Option)**

3.1.1 Members of the Council consider and approve the proposed fees and charges for Trade Waste and Markets, the extract from the Fees and charges Register 2020/2021 is attached at Appendix 1, and summarised below:

- Trade Waste – A reduction in the annual fee for the Duty of Care Notice from £49.50 to £25.00.
- Markets – A fee uplift of 2% which will increase the pitch fee between £0.40 and £2.00 depending on the pitch size.

3.2 **Option 2**

3.2.1 Members of the Council consider and do not approve the proposed fees for Trade Waste and Markets included in the Fees and Charges Register for 2020/2021 (extract attached at Appendix 1), and propose alternative fee increases.

4. **Evidence of how does this topic supports the achievement of the Corporate Plan / Statutory Responsibilities / Blaenau Gwent Well-being Plan**

4.1 This report supports the Council Priority, “Efficient Council”. Income generation contribute funding towards the cost of delivering services and supports the Councils’ financial resilience.

5. **Implications Against Each Option**

5.1 **Impact on Budget (short and long term impact)**

5.1.1 **Trade Waste**

5.1.2 Reducing the fee for the Duty of Care Notice from £49.50 to £25.00, will reduce the annual income collected by the council by approximately £8,000. The estimated increase in income of £23,000 identified in the strategic Business Review will be delivered, however, there will be no surplus funding for re-investment into the service moving forward.

5.1.3 **Markets**

5.1.4 Reducing the fee uplift from 5.5% to 2% will reduce the income collected by approximately £700.

5.2 **Risk including Mitigating Actions**

5.2.1 Fee increases may impact on demand and result in a decrease in income, particularly in the short term.

5.2.2 Demand and the impact on the budget will be monitored and reported as part of the Financial Reporting Framework.

5.3 **Legal**

5.3.1 There are no direct legal implications arising out of this report. However, charging and trading for local authorities must comply with the Local Government Act 2003 and The Localism Act 2011.

5.4 **Human Resources**

5.4.1 There are no staffing implications arising out of this report.

6. **Supporting Evidence**

6.1 **Performance Information and Data**

6.1.1 Fees and charges generate approximately £14m per annum in income, and contribute towards funding the cost of delivering Council service, of which £2m relates to commercial activities.

6.2 **Expected outcome for the public**

6.2.1 The setting of fees and charges on an annual basis is essential to maintaining economic resilience, however, these should be set at a cost that local people can afford and taking into account the protected characteristics.

6.3 **Involvement (consultation, engagement, participation)**

6.3.1 The review of the Fees & Charges Register has been prepared in consultation with relevant officers.

6.3.2 Services look to involve partners and citizens in consultation where possible. The impact of these charges will be reviewed throughout the year by officers, along with any issues raised by users of the services affected.

6.4 **Thinking for the Long term (forward planning)**

6.4.1 Full cost recovery will support the long term financial resilience and the ability to maintain facilities and services for the people of Blaenau Gwent.

6.5 **Preventative focus**

6.5.1 Income generation contributes funding towards delivering Council Services and investing into early intervention and prevention activities.

6.6 **Collaboration / partnership working**

6.6.1 The Fees & Charges Register for 2020/2021 was developed in conjunction with officers across the Council.

6.7 **Integration (across service areas)**

6.7.1 The services provided have a positive impact socially and on the health and wellbeing of those who use the facilities provided.

6.8 **EqIA(screening and identifying if full impact assessment is needed)**

6.8.1 The Strategic Business Review on Fees and Charges have been subject to screening.

7. **Monitoring Arrangements**

State how the work will be monitored e.g. through scrutiny or directorate performance management arrangements

7.1 The regular review of the corporate fees and charges register is a vital component of the Council's budget setting proposal and should be monitored and refreshed to ensure it is in line with the Council's agreed income policy and Medium Term Financial Strategy.

7.1.1 Actual Income achieved from Fees & Charges during the financial year will be monitored and reported to Corporate Leadership Team and Members as part of the Financial Reporting Framework.

Background Documents /Electronic Links



Appendix 1.pdf

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