

Appendix E

Briefing Paper to accompany the Fees and Charges Register

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to consider and approve the changes to charges detailed within the Council's fees and charges register. The fees and charges register will be maintained and updated for submission as part of the budget setting process on an annual basis, with the new fees agreed as a whole rather than on an individual basis.

The fees and charges register, contains details of all items for which a charge is made. It is important that these fees are reviewed at least annually as part of the budget setting process and reviewed during the year, in line with the Councils income policy. This will ensure existing targets are being met and to explore any further income potential to maximise the Councils resources.

Improving income management and service cost recovery has a key role to play in enabling the Council to achieve its financial and wider strategic objectives.

The fees and charges is being reviewed by each Service area, and appropriate uplifts proposed. Increases to fees and charges across the council range from between 0.2% and 30.89% has been applied where no alternative basis is available. Some of the fees have been increased in line with Welsh Government guidance, while others have been increased to reflect the increasing cost associated with these fees. Further detail of changes discussed below.

Some of the charges are still to be confirmed but will be available for full council on 24th February.

There are several fees and charges which are outside of the council control as these are set by statute or the HSE and these will be updated when we have confirmation of fees for the coming financial year.

2. Changes of Note

Car Parks – These charges are currently being considered as part of a review into the car park charges. This review is proposed as part of a savings target in the service FRM for this £50k 22/23 with a further £50k for 23/24.

LAPAAN – The highways technical team have review the charges made for Licences, Authorisations, Permissions, Agreements, Approvals and Notices. Fees have reviewed, the average increase across these sources of income is 4.5%, there are two which are larger than the average with one increase of 30.89%. Charges within this area have been increased due to increasing costs and future increased cost risks associated with these sources of income.

Social Care – There has been a change in the charges for Direct payment scheme and home care. These both total an increase of 14.63% and these have been increased in line with Welsh Government guidance.

Registrations – Registrations fees have been reviewed and are increased to cover costs, a number of the fees are significantly under charged and will be increased over the next three years to fully recover the costs associated with these fees.