

REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES 2022-23

Executive Summary

It is the Council's policy to review its discretionary fees and charges at least once a year.

Schedules of proposed charges for 2022/23 are attached at Appendix 1 (People), Appendix 2 (Place), Appendix 3 (Us) and Appendix 4 (Rhoda McGaw Theatre).

Recommendations

The Executive is requested to:

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL That

the discretionary fees and charges, as set out in Appendices 1 – 4 of the report, be approved.

Reasons for Decision

Reason: The regular review of discretionary charges ensures that the Council maintains its income base and generates additional resources for the provision of services.

The item(s) above will need to be dealt with by way of a recommendation to Council.

Background Papers: None.

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In accordance with Council Policy, fees and charges which are at the discretion of the Council are reviewed at least annually.
- 1.2 The fees and charges for 2021/22 were approved by the Council on 3 December 2020 and the forecast yields were incorporated in the budget approved by the Council on 11 February 2021.
- 1.3 As was the case when the 2021/22 fees and charges were agreed, service areas have been asked to look at ways of increasing yield through increased activity, revised charging or new charging opportunities. This process has been considered alongside the Council's Fit for the Future efficiency programme and has focussed particularly on those areas where charges are below comparable rates and where the cost of providing the services is not recovered.
- 1.4 Schedules of proposed charges for 2022/23 are attached at Appendix 1 (People), Appendix 2 (Place), Appendix 3 (Us) and Appendix 4 (Rhoda McGaw Theatre).
- 1.5 The Council's "Strategy for Applying and Setting Fees and Charges for Services" sets out a broad and transparent approach to setting fees and charges. All charges are reviewed against this strategy and charges will be set in line with the framework outlined.
- 1.6 A commentary on any specific service issues arising from the review follows. The name of the relevant Officer contact has also been provided.

2.0 People

2.1 Centres for the Community (Appendix 1)

- 2.2 Hiring fees for the Centres have simplified this year. In previous years, each individual room had four different rates, relating to different times and days of the week. For buildings such as these, this approach is arguably unnecessary and therefore one set rate per hour is proposed for each individual room. These new rates are not an increase for residents and the cost of hiring the Centres remains excellent value when compared to local market comparisons.
- 2.3 Income from the Centres will significantly increase in 2022/23. In previous years, the cumulative income target for Parkview, The Vyne, St. Mary's and Moorcroft was £75,241. This has now more than doubled and the projected income is over £180,000. This is due to the wider use of the buildings and increase in partnerships. Regular hirers are booking the facilities and do not require key holder support, and charities and Public Health teams now lease designated spaces, generating sustained annual income. This both improves the offer of the Centres for residents, relating to the Council's health and wellbeing priorities, as well as increasing overall income and reducing admin demands.

Community Meals (Julie Mémé) (Appendix 1)

- 2.4 The Community Meals Service is a vital service for many elderly, vulnerable and disabled residents of Woking. There are two elements to the service:
 - Community Meals Delivery Service
 - Community meals and café provision in Community Centres and extra care schemes (Brockhill and Hale End Court)

Community Meals Delivery Service

- 2.5 Community meals currently delivers 1130 meals a week, and finished last financial year with an 47.2% increase in growth from pre pandemic time with 216 regular clients.

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- 2.6 The menu offer has been adapted over the past 12 months and will continue to change to offer variety and flexibility to cater for all health needs.
- 2.7 The Community Meals Service is more than a meal. By regular and often daily contact with our most vulnerable and isolated residents our staff can monitor their clients health and condition of the home and make the necessary referrals for other services and agencies to get involved when needed. Many of our clients have no family or visitors other than the Meals Delivery Officer. Our Officer is the only person they see. A majority of properties have to be entered by key safe and lunch plated up and presented to the client as they have severe mobility issues. The charge for a meal must therefore remain affordable and cost should not be a barrier to our most vulnerable residents.
- 2.8 Frozen meals are now being delivered alongside the hot lunch service to ensure client's needs are met and charged the same rate as the hot lunch service. This means we are able to deliver meals to clients who may have to attend appointments or would prefer to cook the meals themselves later in the day.
- 2.9 The past 12 months has seen a drastic increase in the number of people needing assistance from the Meals Service, especially through the pandemic which doubled the number of clients at its peak.
- 2.10 The cost in relation to food and resources needed to maintain the service has increased annually by at least 5%. There are still price uncertainties due to how the pandemic, Brexit and HGV shortages will impact and potentially cause additional price increases.
- 2.11 The Council's current two course lunch and frozen charge of £4.40 remains low across Surrey, with only Spelthorne and Surrey Heath offering a service at a lower price. All district and Boroughs use the same supplier for the meals.
- 2.12 The 2021/2022 charges from Surrey district and boroughs are:

Council	Cost Lunch 2021/22
Waverley	£6.50 - £7.00
Mole Valley	£5.20
Epsom and Ewell	£4.95
Elmbridge	£4.80
Runnymede	£4.40
Guildford	£4.40
Woking	£4.40
Surrey Heath	£4.10
Spelthorne	£4.00

The Community Meals Delivery Service is subsidised.

Financial Year	Income	Expenditure	Staffing plus on costs	Deficit
Est 2021/22	£300,814	£141,970	£301,427	£142,583

- 2.13 The past 18 months costs have been exceptional. The effects of the pandemic did increase the number of clients but it significantly increased staffing costs and transportation in addition to food prices rising sharply. Prior to 2021/22 the charges for meals had not been increased

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for four years. Considerable efficiencies have now taken place, both in processes and staffing and being planned to further reduce the deficit.

- 2.14 An increase in meals cost is recommended to start moving towards the Community Meals Service covering its own costs.
- 2.15 The table below indicates the resulting income generation from 5%, 10%, 15%, 20% increases in costs with current client numbers.

Community Meals Price % Increase					
Meal Type	Current Charge	5%	10%	15%	20%
2 course Main	£4.40	£4.62	£4.84	£5.06	£5.28
Tea bag	£2.20	£2.31	£2.42	£2.53	£2.64
Breakfast	£1.10	£1.16	£1.21	£1.27	£1.32

Income Generation on % increases

Meal Type	Current Income	5%	10%	15%	20%
Lunch	£232,085.70	£243,689.99	£255,294.27	£266,898.56	£278,502.84
Tea	£29,741.14	£31,228.20	£32,715.25	£34,202.31	£35,689.37
Breakfast	£1,518.55	£1,594.48	£1,670.41	£1,746.33	£1,822.26
Total	£263,345.39	£276,512.66	£289,679.93	£302,847.20	£316,014.47
Additional income generated	0	£13,167.27	£26,334.54	£39,501.81	£52,669.08

- 2.16 It is therefore recommended to increase the meals charges by 15% to reduce the deficit.

Community Centres and Extra Care Schemes Meals (Appendix 1)

- 2.17 Discussion are underway with the voluntary sector to consider the transfer of the responsibility of the kitchens and cafes in the Community Centres to them making further savings to the service. This model has already proved successful, with the transfer of Moorcroft kitchen and café to Foodwise CIC in November 2020.
- 2.18 No income was generated from the Community Centre meals and cafes as we remained in lock down and even now have comparatively small number of customers returning.
- 2.19 If the meals in the community centres are retained in house then the cost of a 2 course hot lunches is recommended to also increase by 10% from £6.00 to £6.60 p day. The 2 course meal at Brockhill and Hale End Course would also increase by 10% from £5.00 to £5.50 per meal.

Careline (Julie Mémé) (Appendix 1)

- 2.20 Careline is a vital service for our residents who need extra reassurance to enable them to live independently at home.
- 2.21 As at 1 August 2021 there were 1185 Careline clients.
- 2.22 In Woking there are 2 rates of weekly rental charges:

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- £4.70 full rental - 906 clients
 - or £4.00 reduced rental for those clients in receipt of means tested benefits - 279 clients
- 2021/22 saw the first increase in charges for 4 years.

2.23 The predicted income for 2021/22 was £227,282 from full rental clients and £66,560 from those on means tested benefits.

2.24 The table below indicates the rental charges of District and Boroughs in Surrey.

District and Borough	Weekly charge 2020/21
Runnymede	£4.90
Surrey Heath	£4.90
Woking	£4.70 (£4.00 if means tested benefit received)
Guildford	£4.60
Mole Valley	£4.60
Waverley	£4.55
Spelthorne	£4.30
Elmbridge	£3.93

2.25 Woking is the only district and borough in Surrey to have a reduced rental rate for those clients in receipt of means tested benefits. Within the Careline charge it also entitles the resident to the free Fall Raiser service again the only such service in Surrey.

Increase rental charges

2.26 The table below indicates the current Careline weekly rental charges and resulting income generated from different increase charge scenarios on current client numbers.

	21/22 current charge pw	5% inc	10% inc	15% inc	20% inc
<u>Full Rate</u> (906 clients)	£4.70	£4.94	£5.17	£5.40	£5.64
Additional income		£11,307	£22,142	£32,978	£44,285
<u>Lower Rate</u> (279 clients)	£4.00	£4.20	£4.40	£4.60	£4.80
Additional income		£2,901	£5,803	£8,704	£11,606
	Total additional income	£14,208	£27,945	£41,682	£55,891

2.27 There are 97 Careline customers who also receive community meals so would be affected by both Careline and meals increased charges.

2.28 It is recommended to increase the Careline weekly rental cost by 5% or .24p pw bringing the weekly charge to £4.94 full or £4.20 lower rate pw. This increase is necessary to cover the increased cost in capital outlay of purchasing the equipment and increased staffing costs and overheads.

OwnFone (Julie Mémé)

- 2.29 OwnFone was introduced in 2020/21 as an alternative personal alarm, similar in size to a small mobile phone that is worn around the neck. It works using a SIM card and has to be regularly charged. Like the traditional alarm the OwnFone will work within home and garden and when activated will connect to Forestcare Alarm Centre in the normal way. Clients are given the option at the end of their trial whether to keep the OwnFone or revert to the normal alarm. When introduced a separate charge was agreed at £4.50. It is now proposed to standardise the charge to the same as a full charge careline rental £4.94 pw. There are 4 clients at present renting the Ownfone.

Brockhill (Julie Mémé) (Appendix 1)

- 2.30 Brookhill has a guest room available for relatives/friends of tenants to rent when they visit Brockhill tenants. It is recommended that this charge is increased from £35.00 per night to £40.00 per night. Most visitors stay in the guest flat for one night only in order to visit a relative when they live far away. If they choose to stay in a hotel in Woking the charge would be considerably higher.
- 2.31 The hair saloon can be hired by an external hairdresser to benefit the tenants of Brockhill and visitors to the day centre to whom they charge for the haircuts etc. It is proposed to increase the hire charge for the hair dressing saloon, as customers have increased, from £40.00 to £45.00 per day or £22.00 to £25.00 per half day.

Hale End Court (Julie Mémé) (Appendix 1)

- 2.32 The only charge at the new Hale End Court extra care scheme opening in October 2021 is the fees for renting the hairdressing saloon once a willing hairdresser is located. It is recommended the charge is the same as at Brockhill i.e. £45.00 per day or £25 per half day.

Homelink (Julie Mémé) (Appendix 1)

- 2.33 Homelink is part of the NW Surrey Home Improvement Agency (HIA) Hub with Spelthorne, Runnymede and Surrey Heath BC's. Woking takes the lead role designed to provide a more consistent approach across the area and to provide efficiencies and savings in service provision.
- 2.34 Homelink now operates the Handyperson service for the four boroughs. The proposed Handyperson charges will apply across all boroughs. Any income generated will benefit Woking and goes back into the running of the Handyperson service.
- 2.35 The majority of the work carried out by the Handyperson service is to assist hospital discharge and to enable residents to remain safe and secure in their homes for as long as possible. There is no charge to the residents for this type of work. The volume of this work is increasing due to the aging population, the effect of the pandemic and our growing ties with Adult Social Care, NHS and Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) through the Alliance Integrated Care Partnership and so the time available for chargeable DIY work is diminishing.
- 2.36 The Handyperson Service is part funded by the Better Care Fund and the grant for 21/22 remained the same as the previous year. Funding for following years has not been confirmed.
- 2.37 The proposed increase in Handyperson charges are required to increase the ability of the service to become self-financing in the long term and provide resilience in the current uncertain climate.
- 2.38 Previously there had been a reduced charge for those clients requesting the paid for service who received means tested benefits. It is recommended to abolish the reduced rate and have

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one hourly charge for all residents. This is also recommended as it is difficult to prove the receipt of means testing benefits especially for residents living in the other 3 boroughs the Handyperson covers.

	Hourly Charge including VAT
Routine DIY	£35.00
Minor Electrical Work	£50.00
Minor Plumbing Work	£40.00
Assisting voluntary organisations	£45.00

2.39 The NW Surrey Hub has agreed to maintain the management fee to carry out major disabled adaptations at 15% of the adaptation cost for the majority of works. Any increase reduces the amount available to spend on the actual adaptation work.

Independent Support Services (Julie Mémé) (Appendix 1)

2.40 The Independent Support Service was introduced in 2019/20 as an additional service for our most vulnerable, elderly and disabled residents of the Borough based on the resident's individual needs and not where they live.

2.41 The service was aimed to support any resident of the borough to live independently at home as long as possible in a safe and secure environment. The tenure neutral service being based on the individual needs which may change over time and will be flexible to cover periods of crisis i.e. hospital discharge, illness or bereavement.

2.42 Due to the pandemic this service has not been fully implemented so it is not proposed to increase any charges for 2022/23.

Woking Interpretation and Translation Service (WITS) (Appendix 1)

2.43 It is proposed to remove the British Sign Language Interpreting charge from 1 April 2022. Other charges are being held at 2021/22 levels.

Housing Standards (Jacqui Dixon) (Appendix 1)

2.44 Housing Standards is a statutory service responsible for ensuring that private rented and sometimes housing association stock in the borough meets minimum property standards. The team aims to work informally with landlords through education but has powers to enforce where persuasion has failed or if there is an immediate danger.

2.45 The Housing Standards Team administers and enforces the Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licences and the Canalside area Selective Licensing scheme. The Selective Licensing scheme currently ends in March 2023 and will be reviewed over the coming 12 months.

2.46 The Housing Standards fees have not been increased since 2017.

2.47 For 2022/23 it is recommended that all fees increase by 5% except the Selective Licensing scheme which should remain the same.

2.48 A new fee has been proposed for the following areas which are typical requests:

- Change of property owner, freeholder, mortgage or leaseholder details (£50)
- Change in number of households/occupiers/room information (£50)
- Request for an inspection under the HHSRS and/or a pre-application inspection for a new HMO (£126)

- 2.49 Previously 'Request for replacement copies of documents including letters, notices and licences' was set at £120 but this seems high and was possibly an error. It is suggested that this fee is reduced to £31.50 (£30 + 5% uplift) in line with the similar administrative changes to licences as above.
- 2.50 The Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) Regulations 2015 (as amended) requires landlords to provide their tenant with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) which must have a minimum 'E' rating unless they have a proven exemption. A successful bid for Government funds has resulted in an award to assist enforcement of Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards in the private rented sector.
- 2.51 The EPC rating is important because it can be the difference between affordable energy bills and a warm home or an expensive to run home that may have damp and mould issues.
- 2.52 The grant allows the team to proactively identify non-compliant properties. The approach is to focus on educating landlords and supporting them to become compliant. Failure to comply with a notice may result in a penalty notice of £2,000.
- 2.53 The process is in the early stages but it is thought that over 400 properties do not currently meet minimum energy efficiency standards. Due to the approach of working informally with landlords and that there can be exemptions, we have estimated that 5 properties may result in a Penalty Notice.

Leisure Centres and Pools (Steve May) (Appendix 1)

- 2.54 Fees and Charges for the leisure centres have been increased in line with market forces and have been ratified by the Leisure Partnership Board. Overall the increases are smaller than previous years and the industry has been somewhat rocked by the pandemic meaning that competitors have not increased in the way they historically have, in turn to stay competitive in the sector Freedom have had to be more reserved than previous years. There is discussion pending with the LPB that a mid-year increase should be considered if other leisure operators and competitors also increase their prices. It is suspected that many may do so due to the increase in National Insurance and Energy costs.

3.0 Place

Building Control Fees (David Edwards) (Appendix 2)

- 3.1 Fees and charges for Woking's Building Control Service were previously considered separately from the main Fees and Charges report. For consistency they have now been included.
- 3.2 To bring Woking into line with other adjoining boroughs it is proposed to raise the fees by 5% year on year for 3 years.

Planning Pre-Application Fees (Thomas James) (Appendix 2)

- 3.3 Fees and charges for Woking's planning pre applications service have been reviewed and benchmarked against other Surrey Councils and a fee increase is now proposed. Broadly, the new fees proposed represent half of the planning application fee plus VAT. Taking a different approach to pre applications fees does create an increase for all pre applications including householder submission but is considered to be fair and reasonable given the costs of the service and quality of response. The recommended fees strike an appropriate balance between contributing towards the costs of providing the service whilst keeping it financially accessible.

Waste and Recycling and Garden Waste (Geoff McManus) (Appendix 2)

- 3.4 There are no proposals to increase the charges during 2022/23, although Joint Waste Services continue to look at potential alignment of charges across the four authorities (Woking, Surrey Heath, Elmbridge and Mole Valley). Recognising current service issues it is not felt appropriate to revise charges at this time.

C.C.T.V. (David Loveless) (Appendix 2)

- 3.5 It is proposed to increase the charge for investigation and supply of C.C.T.V. data from £90 to £96.

3.6 Mobile Home Sites – Fit and Proper Person Assessment

The Mobile Homes (Requirement for Manager of Site to be Fit and Proper Person) (England) Regulations 2020 introduce a fit and proper person assessment for mobile home site owners or the person appointed to manage the site. The purpose of the fit and proper person test is to improve the standards of mobile home site management. From 1 July 2021 and by 1 October 2021, all site owners must have applied to the local authority to be assessed as fit and proper persons and to be included on the register.

There are exemptions from the requirement for the owner of a site to apply for a FPPA, some of these include; a site that is only occupied by members of the same family and is not being run as a commercial residential site and a site occupied by and managed by the Council.

Currently there is one residential mobile home park within the Borough to which these new requirements apply, however, there may be more in future.

The fees have been set as follows;

Fit and Proper Person application fee - to cover the cost of assessing applications to be included on the fit and proper register - £335.00

Fit and Proper Person annual fee - to cover the cost of monitoring conditions attached to the register. Payment of the annual fee may also be required as a condition of inclusion in the register - £114.00. Further detail on the fee setting process can be found attached in Appendix 2.

Car Parks (Geoff McManus) (Appendix 2)

- 3.7 A 10p per hour increase is proposed for daily parking fees effective from 31st January 2022 for Town Centre car parks with the maximum daily charge increasing from £12 to £13 per day.
- 3.8 The overnight parking charge will similarly be increased by 10p from £1.50 to £1.60.
- 3.9 The new proposed charges will contribute to the Councils continuing investment in Town Centre car parking.
- 3.10 Existing and proposed tariff bands below for reference.

Woking Town centre car park charges

Current Tariff	night	1hr	2hrs	3hrs	4hrs	6hrs	7hrs	24hrs
mon -sat	1.50	1.50	3.00	4.50	6.00	7.00	11.00	12.00
Sun	1.50	1.50	2.80	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00

Proposed car park charges

<i>10p increase</i>	<i>night</i>	<i>1hr</i>	<i>2hrs</i>	<i>3hrs</i>	<i>4hrs</i>	<i>6hrs</i>	<i>7hrs</i>	<i>24hrs</i>
<i>mon -sat</i>	1.60	1.60	3.20	4.80	6.40	7.60	12.00	13.00
<i>Sun</i>	1.60	1.60	3.00	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30

Implementation

- 3.11 Following approval by Council notices would be advertised 21 days in advance of the new charges becoming effective.
- 3.12 The proposed operational date is Monday 31st January 2022.

New Car park management system

- 3.13 Following trials in Victoria Way car park the intention is to have all of the main Town Centre car parks operating on the new parking management system as the new car parks become operational in Spring 2022.
- 3.14 This will allow many new payment options for customers from traditional pay stations with added features such as contactless payment to online payments by a parking app and an auto pay feature for regular users.
- 3.15 Business users will be able to manage their accounts on line and the system also offers promotional opportunities for local retailers to discount parking fees with greater flexibility for the Council to offer parking promotions.
- 3.16 In a full year the proposed increase is estimated to achieve £450,000, principally to support continued investment in the car parks and prevent further pressure upon the Council's Investment Programme.
- 3.17 The Director of Neighbourhood Services in consultation with the Council's Portfolio Holder is authorised to implement the price increase by advertising a public notice subject to agreement of Council.

Public Season Tickets

- 3.18 Proposals are shown below to increase public season tickets effective for new applications from 31st January 2022.
- 3.19 Current and proposed charges below for reference.

Current Parking charges

Current	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G
Annual	900	1350	1800	1980	2070	2160	2250
Quarterly	275	403	550	605	633	660	688
Monthly	100	150	200	220	230	240	250

Proposed Parking charges

Proposed	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G
Annual	960	1450	1920	2120	2220	2320	2400
Quarterly	295	430	590	650	680	705	735
Monthly	110	160	215	235	245	260	270

The off peak Area 1 Residents permit is proposed to increase from £170 to £180 per year and the full time Woking town centre residents permit remains at £780 per year and has now been made more widely available to town centre residents.

Electric vehicle bays

- 3.20 Proposals are being developed to charge for use of electric charging bays within car parks to include existing charging points and the new charging points which will be provided in the new car parks from Spring 2023.

Controlled Parking Zones (Geoff McManus) (Appendix 2)

- 3.21 There are no charging proposals for 2022/2023. Any new proposals would normally originate from Woking Joint Committee and Surrey County Council acting as the highway authority for Woking.

Fishing Permits (Tracey Haskins) (Appendix 2)

- 3.22 The Goldsworth Park Angling Club continues to provide management services at both Goldsworth Park Lake and Brookwood Ponds and retain the associated charges for those purposes. In consultation with the Angling Club no increase in charges are proposed for 2022/23 and arrangements continue to work well.

Street Trading

- 3.23 Street trading charges have been replaced with a £100 fee for 3 months under the new covid19 related Planning laws. This continues to be a temporary arrangement and we will revert to 12 month licences when appropriate.

4.0 Us

Local Land Charges (David Ripley) (Appendix 3)

- 4.1 The national Local Land Charges (LCC) Programme will make Her Majesty's Land Register (HMLR) the sole registering authority and official search provider for LLC in accordance with the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015. Woking Borough Council is currently going through the migration process to transfer the data from the current LLC registry to the national digital registry and the scheduled completion date is from the year 2022/23. LLC searches the setting of these fees will therefore not be carried out by the Woking Borough Council from that date. These will be carried out via the national LLC portal on the GOV.UK website, apart from some non-Surrey CCC Con29 questions
- 4.2 Therefore the 2021/22 Woking BC element of Local Land Charge fees have been carried forward for the benefit of this report, as at the date of reporting the migration process of the LLC register is not yet complete.

Taxis and Private Hire (Gareth John) (Appendix 3)

- 4.3 A modest increase in respect of the fees and charges schedule for taxi licensing is proposed for the second consecutive year. The Licensing Department is running at deficit and prior to last year fees had not been increased for a number of years. Due to the continuing challenging trading environment it is proposed that the deficit be eliminated by gradual increases over the coming years rather than by a sudden sharp increase.

5.0 Corporate Strategy

5.1 The setting of appropriate Fees and Charges aligns with the Corporate Plan priority for Effective Use of the Council’s Resources, achieving best value for taxpayers and enabling the continued provision of services. Individual services, as outlined in the detail of this report, support the Council’s key areas of service provision.

6.0 Implications

Finance and Risk

6.1 The changes in fees and charges considered in this report are summarised in the following table.

	Budget 2021/22 £	Estimated Yield 2022/23 £	Change in Yield £	Change in Yield %
People	1,445,733	1,709,286	263,553	18.2
Place – Car Parking	8,438,324	8,918,466	480,142	5.7
Place - Other	1,325,415	1,344,054	18,639	1.4
Us	421,694	445,117	23,423	5.6
Total	11,631,166	12,416,923	785,757	6.8

6.2 Not all of the fees and charges income in the table above will directly affect the overall position in the Council’s General Fund budget also on this agenda. There will also be associated increases in costs for some services where activity has increased.

Equalities and Human Resources

6.3 This review forms part of the annual work plan of staff in the Council’s service areas. No specific training and development issues have arisen as a result of the review.

Legal

6.4 Local authorities have a variety of powers to charge for specific statutory services set out in statute. The Local Government Act 2003 also provides a power to trade and a power to charge for discretionary service. The Localism Act 2011 provides local authorities with a general power of competence that confers on them the power to charge for services.

7.0 Engagement and Consultation

7.1 Consultation has been undertaken with Freedom Leisure and the Leisure Partnership Board on the ‘core’ and ‘non-core’ charges for the Leisure Management Contract.

7.2 The Goldsworth Park Angling Club has been consulted on the proposed charges for Fishing.

7.3 Consultation has taken place with the Woking Drama Association and Ambassadors Theatre Group in respect of the proposed charges for the Rhoda McGaw Theatre.

REPORT ENDS