

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 is 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 are being reviewed by each Service area, and appropriate uplifts proposed. 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 and linked to inflation, whilst other areas have increased charges below this rate in order to retain their customer base. Further detail of changes is discussed below.

Some of the charges are still to be confirmed (TBC) but will be available for full council in 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 to Note

For next year a new set of fees have been added to the register for Special Procedure Licenses. The Licencing Committee approved these new fees as part of an all Wales change.