



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

[No.]

CABINET

On 24th February 2009

Report Title. **Urban Environment Fees and Charges 2009/10 –**
Part 3 – Planning & Regeneration

Report of **Niall Bolger, Director of Urban Environment**

Signed :



11-2-09

Contact Officer: Marc Dorfman, Planning & Regeneration, 0208 489 5538

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Key**

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 This report reviews fees and charges for Planning & Regeneration and recommends increases in the areas covered.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member for Enterprise and Regeneration

2.1 This report asks the Cabinet to agree the proposed fees and charges for the coming financial year for Planning & Regeneration.

3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:

3.1 The review of fees and charges will support the achievement of council priorities , particularly making Haringey one of London's greenest boroughs and Creating a Better Haringey: cleaner, greener, safer.

4. Recommendations

- That the Cabinet agree the new charging model for Planning & Regeneration.
- That the Cabinet propose the increases are implemented from 1 April 2009.
- That the Cabinet will formally approve the increases proposed to the existing fees &

charges that will apply from 1 April 2009.

5. Reason for recommendation(s)

5.1. The Council's external income policy has two fundamental principals: (i) Services should raise income wherever there is the power or duty so to do; and (ii) the income should (at least) cover the full cost, including all overheads of the service.

5.2 The Council's budget setting assumes an inflationary increase in Planning & Regeneration fees and charges.

6. Other options considered

6.1 The review of fees and charges considered the budgeted increase to charges.

7. Summary

7.1 In preparing this report the following factors have been taken into account:

- Current economic climate
- The fees and charges of neighbouring boroughs.
- The increase in materials and other costs.
- Where applicable, the current market rates.
- VAT implications.

7.2 Planning Fees

- Planning Fees are nationally set and will therefore not be appearing in this report.

7.3 Building Control Fees

- Building Control Fees are set following a benchmarking exercise with 'nearest neighbours' that is yet to be completed. These fees are likely to increase and will be agreed under delegated powers.

8. Chief Financial Officer Comments

8.1 The proposed fees and charges set out in the appendices are broadly based on inflationary uplifts of 2% allowing for some rounding to collectable amounts. VAT in the appendices is charged at the rate of 15% where appropriate. The rate is expected to return to 17.5% from 1st January 2010.

The increases proposed in this report will be sufficient to meet the Planning & Regeneration budget target assumptions in respect of the services included. Generally fees and charges should be set in line with the Council's external income policy agreed by Members. The policy requires budget holders to review fees and charges against corporately set criteria as well as other factors that may be relevant.

All of the fees and charges being considered in this report have been reviewed and the policy is basically being complied with or steps are being taken to achieve compliance.

9. Head of Legal Services Comments

9.1. The Head of Legal Services agrees with the recommendations and notes that the proposals entail consultation. An increase in line with a 2% overall uplift is considered legally sound provided there are no exceptional disproportionate uplifts well in excess of 2% in any particular case.

10. Head of Procurement Comments – [Required for Procurement Committee]

10.1. N/A

11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

11.1 In the context of anti-poverty policies, any charging or increase in charges for the services listed would have a detrimental impact on some low paid/unwaged members of the community. However, people in need are protected from adverse effects in many instances by the concessions made.

12. Consultation

12.1. N/A

13. Service Financial Comments

13.1 Many of the services listed are associated with improving the environment of those who live, work and travel within the Borough. It is clearly important therefore that the right balance is achieved between the level of fees of services and the sustainable consumer demand for the services.

14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

- Appendix 1- sets out proposed increases

15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

15.1 The Council's Financial Planning 2009/10 to 2011/12

15.2 The Council's External Income Policy

APPENDIX 1

Planning & Regeneration

	Revised Charge inc. VAT where applicable 2008-09	Revised Charge inc. VAT where applicable 2009-10	% Change
1. OFFICER TIME (Including private consultations and collection/delivery of keys in relation to visits)			
Attendance per hour or part thereof (Plus expenses where off site)	79	81	2.53
Charge for written factual statements, formal instruction/advice, facilitating operations and arrangements, animal handling services, etc	123	126	2.43
NOTE - materials used may be charged for, and, establishment Charges will be imposed on Officer time, materials used, etc. Enhanced rates may apply for weekend and bank holidays working.			
2. PUBLICATIONS Planning Development (UDP details on application)			
Single Page Copy of Public Registers	16	17	6.25
3. DEVELOPMENT CONTROL			
Decision Notice per decision	16	17	6.25
Weekly Press List (per annum)	243	248	2.05
Summary of planning history per property	14	15	7.14
Personal Searches	32	33	3.13
Copying of Documents	£6.50 1st page(67p per extra)	£6.75 1st page(70p per extra)	3.84 4.48
4. BUILDING CONTROL (non -Schedule)			
Standard Letter involving research	34	35	2.94
Decision copy	18	19	5.56
Completion Certificate	46	47	2.17
Drainage Record Copy	18	19	5.56
Plan Copies – first copy	£22 each (A3)	£23 each (A3)	4.55
subsequent copies	£18 each (A4)	£19 each (A4)	5.56
24 HR turn round for solicitor/conveyancing enquiries	68	70	2.94