

Report title: Review of Streetscene Fees and Charges 2008/09

Report of: Director of Urban Environment

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To approve fees and charges for the year 2008/2009 in relation to services administered by Streetscene business unit.

2. Recommendations

- (a) That the Lead Member agree the increases in fees and charges being proposed for Streetscene business unit to be implemented from 1 April 2008.
(b) Note that inflationary increases in parking fees and charges will be reported separately to be implemented from 1 July 2008.

Report authorised by: Niall Bolger
Director of Urban Environment



Contact officer: Bola Odebiyi

Telephone: 020 8 489 1285

3. Policy summary

- 3.1 The fees and charges raised for various Streetscene services generated income of £13.8m in 2007/8 (summary attached Appendix B) which partly offsets costs by around 25% for the Council. The Council's Budget Setting Process for 2008/09 assumed that service fees and charges budgets will increase by 2.5%. The price increases proposed in this report will at least meet this requirement as set out in the pre business plan review for 2008/9 approved by the Council.

4. Access to information:
Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
(a) Mayor for London's Transport Strategy
(b) Council's Local Implementation Plan and Parking and Enforcement Plan
(c) Mayor for London's Air Quality Strategy

To inspect or discuss this report further, please contact:

- Bola Odebiyi – 020 8 489 1285

5. REPORT

- 5.1 The fees and charges proposed are as detailed in Appendix A to this report covering the following services:-

Highways

- 5.2 A summary of Streetscene services gross income and expenditure budget for 2007/08 is attached at appendix B.

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

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

- 5.4 The Council's external income policy has two fundamental principals that: Services should raise income wherever there is the power or duty so to do; and the income should (at least) cover the full cost, including all overheads of the service. Streetscene increases generally reflect increases in line with the RPI which is currently running at about 4%

- 5.6 Fees and Charges are inclusive of VAT where applicable

6. Legal Implications

Comments of the Head of Legal Services

- 6.1 The Council is able to charge for dealing with such functions as set out in this report. The amount of a charge is to the Council's discretion and in determining the amount the Council shall have regard to the cost to the Council of dealing with the matters in question.

7. Comments of Chief Financial Officer

- 7.1 The Council's budget setting process for 2008/09 assumes inflationary increase in income of 2.5%. The increases proposed in this report are reflective of the RPI at 4% and therefore will be sufficient to meet the Streetscene 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. The fees and charges being considered in this report have been reviewed in line with this policy.

8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMENTS

- 8.1 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.

9 ENVIRONMENTAL COMMENT

- 9.1 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 for services and the sustainable consumer demand for those services.

REVIEW OF STREETSCENE FEES AND CHARGES - 2008/9

Appendix A

Streetscene - 2008/9 Proposed Charges (Incl. VAT)

No	Description	Current Charge 2007/8 £	Proposed Charge 2008/9 £	Proposed Increase % / £	Comment
HIGHWAYS					
1	Cross Over - Rate Per Application	50.00	52.00	4%	
2	White Lines - Rate Per Application	60.00	62.50	4%	
3	Scaffolding License - Rate Per Application (3 month period)	55.00	118.00	63.00	Bring in line with neighbouring boroughs
4	Hoarding Licence - Rate Per Application (3 Month period)	55.00	118.00	63.00	Bring in line with neighbouring boroughs
5	Container Licence - Rate Per Application (3 Month period)	55.00	118.00	63.00	Bring in line with neighbouring boroughs
6	Crane License - Rate Per Application	100.00	220.00	120.00	Bring in line with neighbouring boroughs

Appendix B

Revenue and Cost Elements/Groups	Rev. Plan
Total for R1	33,277,950
R11 Revenue Expenditure	54,290,900
R111 Employees	10,339,550
R11101 Direct Employee Expenses	10,190,750
R11102 Indirect Employee Expenses	148,800
R112 Premises- related expenditure	2,102,300
R11201 Repairs Alterations Building Ma	464,900
R11202 Energy Costs	681,200
R11203 Rents	5,000
R11204 Rates	281,600
R11205 Water Services	27,200
R11206 Fixtures and Fittings	6,100
R11207 Apportion Operational Building	291,400
R11208 Cleaning and Domestic Supplies	249,500
R11209 Premises Insurance	95,400
R11211 Grounds Maintenance Costs	
R113 Transport-related expenditure	864,100
R114 Supplies and Services	3,766,000
R115 Third Party Payments	24,085,750
R11507 Other Local Authorities	1,187,700
R11509 Government Departments	332,800
R11512 Private Contractors	15,994,650
R11513 Carers	6,570,600
R117 Support Services	3,892,700
R118 Capital Charges	9,186,800
R11910 Contingencies	53,700
R12 Revenue Income	21,012,950-
R121 Income	21,012,950-
R12101 Government Grants	1,140,000-
58108 GrantIncDTLR - NRF	1,140,000-
58156 GrantIncGOL - SSCF	
58435 Grant - Pump Priming LPSA	
R12102 Other Grants Reimbursement Cont	385,400-
59000 JtFundInc - OtherLA	42,000-
59130 CaptContributionRev	343,400-
R12103 Customer and Client Receipts	14,948,250-
60500 Income & Fees	3,117,500-
60501 Receipt - Services	1,747,250-
60514 Receipt SkipLicences	
60518 Receipt TradeRefuse	120,000-
60528 Receipt Recycling	136,300-
60549 FMSBal 8540MiscFees	
60571 Fines Income - Parking	8,892,800-
60601 Receipts - Insurance	
60608 Receipt Pers Calls	
60609 Receipts - Recycling Credits	251,000-
60610 Receipt TippingCosts	633,600-
60701 Rent Income - Commercial	47,400-
60706 RentInc Serv Tenancy	2,400-
60751 LeaseInc Serv Charge	
R12105 Recharges	4,539,300-
59103 Recharge Income - Transport	1,575,400-
59110 RechgInc Intrade O	
59126 Recharge Int Service Waste	2,052,400-
62402 Recharge Int Service	911,500-
62404 RechgInc Intrade D	