

Report of the Strategic Director of Resources

RESOURCES DIRECTORATE FEES AND CHARGES

SUMMARY

1.1 In order to maximise income and contribute to meeting budget challenges, it is proposed to increase certain fees and charges with effect from 1 February 2011.

RECOMMENDATION

2.1 To approve the increases in fees and charges set out in Appendix 2 to be implemented from 1 February 2011.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The proposals contribute to funding the pressures within Legal and Democratic Services in 2011/12, and are in line with the principles approved by the Council Cabinet.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 At their meeting on 14 December 2010, Council Cabinet considered a report reviewing fees and charges across the Council and agreed:
 - To note the action taken so far in relation to fees and charge setting.
 - To approve the principles outlined in paragraph 6.1 of the report.
 - To delegate the implementation of specific detailed proposals to the relevant Cabinet Members in conjunction with the relevant Strategic Director

- 4.2 The principles referred to in paragraph 6.1 of the Cabinet report were:
 - the January 2011 VAT increase will be passed on to customers. This is particularly relevant to VAT inclusive supplies
 - standard inflation is assumed at 4.6% for 2011/12
 - standard inflation for 2012/13 to 2014/15 is estimated at 2.5% for budget modelling purposes to account for the assumed levelling off of inflation rates over a longer period
 - above standard inflationary increases will be applied where practical and appropriate, without having a detrimental effect on demand
 - some income will be exempt from the increase because either the fees are nationally set, or the current rates form part of an existing agreement for a period of time
 - new charges will be applied, which have never previously been charged, or to a new client group based on changes to eligibility
 - fees will be applied from 1 January 2011, or as soon as possible after this date.
- 4.3 A review of fees and charges within the Resources Directorate has been undertaken. Proposals for increases, in line with the principles set out in paragraph 4.2 above, are set out in Appendix 2 of this report.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Comparisons with fees and charges levied by other local authorities are set out in Appendix 3. It is felt that the increases proposed in Appendix 2 represent a reasonable balance in the circumstances.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer	Stuart Leslie
Financial officer	Mark Nash
Human Resources officer	Not applicable
Service Director(s)	Stuart Leslie
Other(s)	

For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Steve Dunning 01332 643643 e-mail <u>steve.dunning@derby.gov.uk</u> None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Proposed increases in fees and charges
	Appendix 3 – Comparison with charges levied by other authorities

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 The proposed increases in Registration fees and charges are estimated to result in an extra £25,000 income in a full year.
- 1.2 The proposed increase in the fee for commercial land searches should realise approximately £14,000 in a full year.

Legal

2.1 All of the Registration fees and charges proposed for increase are discretionary.

Personnel

3.1 None

Equalities Impact

4.1 The proposals will not disadvantage any particular groups more than others.

Health and Safety

5.1 None

Carbon commitment

6.1 None

Value for money

7.1 None

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

8.1 None

Proposed Increases in Fees and Charges from 1 February 2011

Note – for marriages and civil partnerships already booked, the current fees would be honoured.

<u>Marriages</u>(fees not subject to VAT)

Ceremony / Activity	Current £	Proposed £
Three year licence for Approved Premises for marriages and civil partnership registrations	1100	1300 + £100 per additional room
Provision of Superintendent Registrar and Registrar at Approved Premises (other than the Oak Room, Royal Oak House) for marriages and civil partnerships:		
Monday to Saturday Sunday and Bank Holiday	225 275	275 350
Provision of Superintendent Registrar and Registrar at the Oak Room, Royal Oak House for marriages and civil partnerships:		
Monday to Friday Saturday morning Saturday afternoon	100 100 150	150 150 200

<u>Civil Partnerships</u> (fees not subject to VAT)

Ceremony / Activity	Current £	Proposed £
Three year licence for Approved Premises for marriages and civil partnership registrations	1100	1300 + £100 per additional room
Civil Partnership Registration (other than the Oak Room, Royal Oak House) :		
Monday to Saturday Sunday and Bank Holiday	120 140	275 350

Civil Partnership Registration at the Oak Room, Royal Oak House:		
Monday to Friday	100	150
Saturday morning	100	150
Saturday afternoon	150	200

Nationality Checking Service (NCS) (fees inclusive of VAT)

Type of application	Current £	Proposed £
Adult (single application)	50	60
Husband & wife joint application (applying at same time)	90	118
Husband & wife and up to 2 children (applying at same time)	140	168
Any additional children (fee per child)	30	36
Child who submits separate application from their parent(s)	40	48

Land Searches (fees not subject to VAT)

Increase the charge for a search relating to commercial land or property from £135 to £185.

Appendix 3

Fees and Charges Currently Levied by Other Authorities

<u>Marriages</u>

	DERBY & DERBYS	LEICESTER CITY	LEICS	NOTTM	NOTTS	LINCS	NORTHANTS
AP Mon-Thurs	£225	£205 £220 Apr		£275 £300 Apr		£260	£300.00
AP Fri	£225	£205 £220 Apr		£300 £350 Apr		£300	£350.00
AP Sat	£225	£315 £330 Apr		£300 £350 Apr		£300	£400.00
AP Sun & Bank Holiday	£275	£360 £380 Apr		£365 £400 Apr		£350	£460.00

	Birmingham	Liverpool	Manchester	Leeds
AP Mon-Thurs	£295	£250	£271.5	£275 £285 Apr
AP Fri	£295	£280	£319.5	£320 £360 Apr
AP Sat	£380	£300	£319.5	£350 £350 Apr
AP Sun & Bank Holiday	£380	£420	£377.5	£395
				£405 Apr

AP = Approved Premises

			LEICESTER					
	DERBY	DERBYS	CITY	LEICS	NOTTM	NOTTS	LINCS	NORTHANTS
AP Mon-		£120	£205	£217	£275	£305.00	£260	£300.00
Thurs	£120	£140 Apr	£220 Apr		£300 Apr			
AP Fri		£120	£205	£217	£300	£355.00	£300	£350.00
	£120	£140 Apr	£220 Apr		£350 Apr			
AP Sat		£120	£315	£310	£300	£355.00	£300	£400.00
	£120	£140 Apr	£330 Apr		£350 Apr			
AP Sun &		£140	£360	£386	£365	£405.00	£350	£460.00
Bank Hol	£140	£160 Apr	£380 Apr		£400 Apr			

	Birmingham	Liverpool	Manchester	Leeds
AP Mon-Thurs	£295	£250	£271.5	£275
				£285 Apr
AP Fri	£295	£280	£319.5	£320
				£360 Apr
AP Sat	£380	£300	£319.5	£350
				£350 Apr
AP Sun & Bank	£380	£420	£377.5	£395
Holiday				
-				£405 Apr

AP = Approved Premises

Nationality Checking Service (NCS)

	Leicester City	Lincs County	Leics County	Notting ham City	Leeds City	B'ham City	Newca stle	Derby City	Manche ster City
							City		
Single Adult Application	£55.00	£45.00	£46.00	£45.00	£60.00	£50.00	£55.00	£50.00	£47.00
Single Child Application	£55.00	£25.00	£46.00	£35.00	£30.00	£50.00	£25.00	£30.00	£24.00
Husband and Wife or Civil Partners applying together	£100.00	N/A	£82.00	£85.00	N/A	£70.00	N/A	£90.00	£79.00
Husband and Wife or Civil Partners and 2 Children	£155.00	N/A	£150.00	£95.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	£140.00	N/A
Any additional Children applying with the above (each)	£45.00	N/A	£46.00	£35.00	N/A	£25.00	N/A	£30.00	£24.00

Commercial Land Searches

Amber Valley	£98.50	Lichfield	£200
Bolsover	£105	Newcastle-under-Lyme	£145
Cannock Chase	£161.84	South Derbyshire	£150
Chesterfield	£109	South Staffs	£115
Derby	£135	Stafford	£165
Derbyshire Dales	£97	Staffs Moorlands	£115.70
East Staffs	£140	Stoke-on-Trent	£54.60
High Peak	£127	Tamworth	£155