

Time started: 1.30pm
Time ended: 1.51pm

Place and Community Development Cabinet Member Meeting 13 July 2021

Present: Councillor Smale

In Attendance: Councillor S Khan
Mike Kay – Head of Environmental Protection, Housing Standards, Licensing and Emergency Planning and Business Continuity
Dawn Deakin – Team Leader, Housing Standards

01/21 Apologies

There were no apologies.

02/21 Late Items

There were no late items.

03/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

04/21 Public Protection Service Fees and Charges 2021/22

The Cabinet Member considered a report which stated that the 2021/22 fees and charges for the services were set out in Appendix 1 of the report. These had been approved on the 31st March 2021, however the government decided to raise the statutory fees only for explosives (Fireworks) in late April 2021.

Appendix 2 of the report set out the amended fees required due to the statutory fee increases.

It was noted that in paragraph 4.2 of the report the biggest increase in charges was a maximum increase of £25 for a 5 year storage licence.

Resolved to approve the amended statutory fees and charges for explosives for 2021/22 as set out in appendix 2 of the report.

05/21 Housing Standards Service Fees and Charges

The Cabinet Member considered a report which stated that the housing standards service regularly reviewed its fees and charges. This was to ensure that they reflected the cost of delivering services, took into account comparator rates for these services within the sector where permitted, ensured that inflationary cost increases were taken into account, and that budget income targets were achieved.

The housing standards service fees and charges for the period 2020/21 and 2021/22 were set out at Appendix 1 of the report.

Resolved to approve the housing standards service fees and charges for the period 2020/21 and 2021/22 set out in appendix 1 of the report.

06/21 Update of Space and Amenity Standards for Houses in Multiple Occupation

The Cabinet Member considered a report which stated that the space and amenity standards for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) were endorsed by the Cabinet Member in February 2007. The standards needed to be reviewed and amended as circumstances required. It was now a good time to get a fresh endorsement of our standards as we had over the years made minor amendments and since the original document was prepared we had also produced more specific standards for owners and managers of bed and breakfast type temporary accommodation HMOs.

Resolved to endorse the new space and amenity standards for HMO's as set out in appendix 1 and 2 of the report.

07/21 Approval of Electrical Safety Standards in Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020

The Cabinet Member considered a report which stated that a new regulatory duty came into force on 1 June 2020 requiring private sector landlords to certify the electrical safety of every dwelling.

A breach of the above requirements required enforcement action by the Council which would be undertaken by the Housing Standards Team.

The Council may require the landlord to pay a penalty charge for non-compliance.

Resolved

- 1. To endorse the use of The Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020.**
- 2. To approve the methodology for determining penalty charges required under The Electrical Safety Standards in the Private Rented Sector (England) Regulations 2020 as set out in Paragraph 4.5 of the report.**

MINUTES END