

4 FEES AND CHARGES

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This section proposes the level of fees & charges where possible to be introduced from April 2010. The suggested increases in this report have also been included within the Financial Forecast at Section 3.
- 4.1.2 The purpose of gaining approval for the fees and charges at this stage of the budget process is to allow for greater certainty and flexibility in the budgeting process.
- 4.1.3 It is also necessary to set the level of charges in advance in some service areas in order for preparations to be made for the new financial year.
- 4.1.4 There are a number of fees and charges which are still under review and will need to be considered at a later date, where applicable these are clearly marked on Appendix C which sets out the proposed fees and charges for 2010/11.

4.2 Detailed Considerations

- 4.2.1 Where a contractor is managing a facility and the contractor sets the prices for use of the facility, they have been excluded from this exercise, as the Council has no discretion over price changes. This includes fees and charges for The Splash and Putting and Bowling Greens.
- 4.2.2 Fees and charges that are fixed by Government, such as some licensing charges and Development Control fees are also excluded, as the Council has no control over these price changes.
- 4.2.3 It is proposed, with a few exceptions, that all fees and charges are to be increased by 2.5%. However, the charges have been rounded to the nearest sensible figure and/or Service Manager's decisions to remove any peculiar charging amounts. The exceptions are as follows:
 - Planning - these charges are set by central government.
 - Car Parking – No changes to pay and display fees and charges are proposed for 2010/11 although a review of season ticket charges will generate a small increase in income.
 - Premises Licences – These charges are set by central government.
 - Beach Huts and Chalets – Work on this service has already recommended a new set of charges to be operative from April 2010
- 4.2.4 A full list of the fees and charges currently being proposed is included at Appendix C. The outcome of further work in relation to the setting of fees and charges in line with the efficiency strategy as outlined at 3.10 will be reported as part of the ongoing budget process.