
EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2011

EX.173/11 CHARGES REVIEWS
(Key Decision)

Portfolio Cross-Cutting

Subject Matter

Pursuant to Minutes EX.141/11, EX.142/11, EX.143/11 and EX.144/11, further consideration was given to the Charges Reviews in respect of charges falling within the responsibility of the Local Environment; Community Engagement; Economic Development and Governance Directorates. Copies of reports LE.23/11, CD.25/11, ED.39/11 and GD.62/11 had been circulated. In addition, the Assistant Director (Local Environment) had updated her Charges Report (LE.23/11), copies of which had also been circulated to all Members on 9 December 2011.

Copy Minute Extracts from the meetings of the Community Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 24 November (COSP.95/11); Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 1 December (EEO.SP.74/11, EEO.SP.75/11 and EEO.SP.77/11); and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 6 December 2011 (ROSP.90/11) in respect of the charges were also submitted.

The Leader indicated that the Executive had taken on board feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Panel meetings in formulating its budget proposals, and thanked Panel Members for their contribution.

The Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder then moved the recommendations contained in updated report LE.23/11 in respect of the Local Environment Directorate, subject to the deletion of the proposed charge in respect of 'Low key' commercial use by Dog Walking Companies (Table 5 referred).

The Environment and Housing Portfolio Holder further moved the recommendations contained within report CD.25/11 (Community Engagement Directorate), noting that the majority of the Hostel Services charges had been approved with an implementation date of 1 October 2011, and that the proposed charges for 2012/13 would take effect from 1 April 2012.

The Economic Development Portfolio Holder moved the recommendations contained within report ED.39/11 in respect of the Economic Development Directorate.

The Leader moved the recommendations contained within report GD.62/11 with regard to the Governance Directorate.

Summary of options rejected a number of alternative charges as detailed in the above reports

DECISION

1. That the fees and charges as set out within updated Report LE.23/11 and relevant appendices be approved with effect from 1 April 2012 in respect of services falling within the remit of the Local Environment Directorate, with the exception of :

(a) the proposed charge for 'Low key' commercial use by Dog Walking Companies; and

(b) the fees and charges relating to car parks which are approved with effect from the earliest practicable date.

2. That the fees and charges, as set out in report CD.25/11 be approved with effect from 1 April 2012 in respect of the Hostel Services falling within the Community Engagement Directorate.

3. That the fees and charges, as set out in the relevant Appendices to report ED.39/11, be approved with effect from 1 April 2012 for areas falling within the responsibility of the Economic Development Directorate.

4. That the fees and charges, as set out in Appendix A to Report GD.62/11, be approved with effect from 1 April 2012 in respect of the service areas and functions falling within the Governance Directorate.

5. That the Executive noted the Licensing Charges which had been approved by the Regulatory Panel on 19 October 2011.

6. That the Overview and Scrutiny Panels be thanked for their consideration of and contribution to the matter.

Reasons for Decision

The proposed charges and options reflected the Corporate Charging Policy as set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan, whilst attempting to recognise service pressures and trends.