

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Shelford, Cabinet Member for Transport	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	On or after 29th July 2017	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E2958
TITLE:	Fees & Charges 2017/18 – Highways and Traffic	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
Appendix 1 – Fee and Charges applied by Bath & North East Somerset Council, Environmental Services, Highways and Traffic -2017/18		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain agreement to the fees and charges for specified services provided, within the Highways and Traffic Service (Service), in line with proposals agreed in the February 2017 budget setting by Full Council.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member approves;

- 2.1 The recommendation for the new fees and charges for relevant services - as proposed in Appendix 1.

2.2 That these are to be implemented on 1st August 2017.

- 2.3 That delegated authority be given to the Highways and Traffic Group Manager in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Transport to agree fees and charges which vary from the standard inflation clause, if the cost base changes or new services are introduced, and that this can be done at 6 month intervals if external factors influence the cost base significantly throughout the financial year.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 This is an update to current charges for existing services; no additional resources are required to implement the recommendations. There is a regular annual review that is needed to support existing revenue budgets. If a bi annual review is deemed necessary it will reflect the change in the cost to ensure income budget are achieved.
- 3.2 Communications with existing customers, where required, is to be undertaken within existing resources.
- 3.3 These charges also include statutory fees which cannot be varied.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The Localism Act 2011 section 1 (Act) sets out the general power of competence (GPC). The GPC is the means where by a local authority has the power to generally do anything an individual may do. The GPC enables local authorities to charge for discretionary services and supports innovation. Section 3 of the Act permits local authorities to recover the costs of provision, but not to make a profit, when taking into account all elements of service provision.
- 4.2 The Service has a statutory duty to safely manage the highway network under the Highways Act 1980, the New Roads and Streets Works Act 1991 and the Traffic Management Act 2004. These Acts allow both statutory charges and discretionary charges for the placing temporary plant on the highway such as skips and scaffolds.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Service undertakes a wide range of statutory and non-statutory functions to ensure that the highway network is managed, maintained and developed to specified standards.
- 5.2 The fees for a number of the functions delivered by the Service are statutory and are therefore set by legal Regulations. Other fees and charges are discretionary and have been set to ensure that cost recovery is achieved.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 Fees and charges are designed to recover costs and are in line with comparable services offered by neighbouring Councils.
- 6.2 Some fees and charges are based on quotes depending on the length of time to undertake the task.
- 6.3 As the cost base for fuel, plant and materials and other items can change throughout the year, the Service requires the ability to review prices at 6 month intervals to ensure full cost recovery.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 None

8 CONSULTATION

8.1 The Council's Divisional Director for Environmental Services, Strategic Director for Place, Cabinet Member for Transport, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer have had the opportunity to input to this report.

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

9.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

Contact person	<i>Gary Peacock</i>
Background papers	The Localism Act 2011
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