

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	Review of Highways related fees and charges.
Date of decision:	25 October 2023
Decision maker:	Service Director Environment and Highways
Authority for delegated decision:	Economy and Environment Scheme – Highways and Transport 75. To act on behalf of the council in respect of the legislation specified in the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Road Traffic Act 1984, Highways Act 1980, National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1948, New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991, Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Town and Police Clauses Act 1847, Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The authorisation limit is within the financial procedure rules and is sufficient for the decision and that the officer has authority under the contract procedure rules.
Ward:	County Wide
Consultation:	Finance, Legal, Cabinet Member.
Decision made:	To amend the charges for services provided by the Public Realm Contract as set out in Appendix A
Reasons for decision:	<p>The Council and the council's service providers, Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP), provide a variety of chargeable services as listed below and as part of the duty to manage and maintain the highway network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 50 Street Works License (New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991) • S184 dropped crossings, single and multiple. • Skip Permits (Highways Act 1980) • Scaffold License (Highways Act 1980) • Temporary signage • Hoarding License (Highways Act 1980) • Section 171 Temporary Deposit of Materials (Highways Act 1980) • Section 171 Temporary Excavation (Highways Act 1980) • White Lining H Bars (Highways Act 1980) • Emergency and Temporary Road Closures • Crane per day • Occupation of Highways for works (Highways Act 1980) • Banners, bridges, canopies, wires, signs • Fencing • Traffic light switch on and off (streetworks) • Accident Data <p>A review of fees associated with the above services has been undertaken, having not changed since the commencement of the BBLP contract in 2013. As part of this process, a benchmarking exercise with neighbouring authorities has been undertaken, alongside a review of the demand for services over previous years. The review proposes increases in fees as well as the introduction of new charges such as switching on and off of pedestrian traffic lights for street works.</p> <p>It is for the Directorate to ensure charges are considered, appropriate and</p>

	authorised. It is proposed that fees will be reviewed annually and increased as appropriate.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	<p>Where the decision has financial, legal or equality considerations you should ensure that you have discussed the decision with finance/legal etc. and that any concerns they have raised have been addressed.</p> <p>Legal have no concerns as this is full cost recovery.</p> <p>Finance have no concerns.</p> <p>There are no health and safety implications.</p> <p>Equality Has been considered, the implementation of the new fee structure will have no direct impact on vulnerable users, and the increase is based on the cost to the service which need to be recovered.</p>
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	An option to not increase charges has been discounted as this would result in the service continuing to subsidise activities, which would result in a reduced budget for managing the highway network, which is a statutory function.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	None

Signed..... Date: 25 October 2023