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## **2016-17 FEES AND CHARGES**

To: **Council 3 December 2015**

Main Portfolio Area: **Financial Services and Estates**

By: **Portfolio Holder for Finance and Estates**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **All**

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**Summary:** **To present the proposed 2016-17 fees and charges for approval**

### **For Decision**

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#### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 Annex 1 to this report sets out the proposed level of Fees and Charges for 2016-17 in respect of services provided by the Council.
- 1.2 As a result of reviewing all the Council's fees and charges, additional income of £253k is anticipated in 2016-17, this excludes items such as Refuse Bins and Green Waste as these will be used within service to manage pressures. As per the policy, Managers have looked at bench marking Fees and Charges in order to maximise income.
- 1.3 Car parking has been reviewed in line with the build to bring the level of charges up to date and in line with other Authorities (no increase for 3 years). Free Saturday parking has been retained with the exception of Leopold Street Ramsgate; however, the car parks at Cannon Road Ramsgate and Albion Road Birchington will in future offer free Saturday parking (with the discounted first 30 minutes being removed at Albion Road).

#### **2.0 Comments arising from Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Panel**

- 2.1 Cabinet on 24 November approved the proposed fees and charges for 2016/17. Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 26 November recommended that the decision to remove free car parking facility for Leopold Street Car Park on Saturdays be reviewed. A further general comment arising from the Cabinet and OSP discussions was that the specific car parks identified for free Saturday parking could be reviewed in future, although Council is required to set all fees and charges on 3 December and any variation to the set charges would be subject to a further Council decision. The budget strategy has factored in the additional income generated from the increases.

### **3.0 Corporate Implications**

#### **3.1 Financial and VAT**

3.1.1 The proposed Fees and Charges will generate additional income of £253k and this had been factored into the budget proposals for 2016-17. Were Members to reject the proposals, then additional savings of the same value would need to be found in order to deliver a balanced budget.

#### **3.2 Legal**

3.2.1 Some charges are statutory, and are indicated as such in Annex 1, and therefore we have no discretion over these

3.2.2 Section 151 of the 1972 Local Government Act requires a suitably qualified named officer to keep control of the Council's finances. For this Council, this is the Director of Corporate Resources and S151 Officer, Tim Willis, and this report is helping to carry out that function.

#### **3.3 Corporate**

3.3.1 Corporate priorities can only be delivered with robust finances. The proposed level of fees and charges are believed to be sufficient to meet these priorities by being incorporated into the budget.

#### **3.4 Equality**

3.4.1 There are no direct equality issues associated with the proposed fees and charges.

### **4.0 Recommendation**

4.1 That Council approve the Fees and Charges for 2016-17 as set out in Annex 1.

Contact Officer:	<i>Matthew Sanham</i>
Reporting to:	<i>Nicola Walker</i>

#### **Annex List**

Annex 1	Fees and Charges Schedule
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#### **Corporate Consultation Undertaken**

Finance	<i>Matthew Sanham</i>
Legal	<i>Tim Howes</i>
Communications	<i>Hannah Thorpe</i>