

REPORT TO: Cabinet Member – Environmental
Cabinet

DATE: 26th February 2010
4th March 2010

SUBJECT: Environmental Protection Department -
Fees and Charges 2010/11

WARDS AFFECTED: All Wards

REPORT OF: Peter Moore
Environmental Protection Director

CONTACT OFFICER: Peter Moore
Environmental Protection Director
0151 934 4020

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL: No

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To propose changes/increases in fees and charges in 2010/11 for the range of services delivered by the Environmental Protection Department.

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

In order to achieve the income requirement of the department for 2010/11.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Cabinet Member – Environmental endorses the proposed fees and charges for 2010/11 listed in Annex A and recommends their adoption, together with the LAPPC fees and charges for 2010/11 once announced by DEFRA, to Cabinet.

That Cabinet approve the Environmental Protection Department's proposed fees and charges for 2010/11 and agrees the adoption of the LAPPC fees and charges for 2010/11 once announced by DEFRA..

KEY DECISION: No

FORWARD PLAN: N/A

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: N/A

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not to agree the proposed fees and charges which would have budgetary implications for the department in meeting its income targets.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: Fees and Charges are outside the budget setting framework

Financial:

Some of the Department's fees & charges are set nationally, where this is not the case the increases proposed are required for the department to meet its incomes targets and to reflect external financial escalators.

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2009/ 2010 £	2010/ 2011 £	2011/ 2012 £	2012/ 2013 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: N/A

Risk Assessment: N/A

Asset Management: N/A

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS:

Neighbourhoods and Investment Programmes Director

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

Corporate Objective		Positive Impact	Neutral Impact	Negative Impact
1	Creating a Learning Community		✓	
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities		✓	
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy		✓	
8	Children & Young People		✓	

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

None.

Background

1. Other than any areas specifically identified in the Council's budget proposals, the setting of fees and charges falls outside the budget setting framework and it is left to individual departments to determine any need for increases. Fees and charges levied by the Environmental Protection Department are reviewed and adjusted to reflect current service delivery costs (including material costs such as pesticides, cleaning chemicals etc.), national guidelines and/or inflation. None of the fees and charges included within this report for services delivered by the Environmental Protection Department has been specifically identified in the Council's budget proposals for 2010/11.
2. Some areas where the Environmental Protection Department levy a fee or charge are controlled by national arrangements/guidelines e.g. LACORS or DEFRA. In most other areas the increases proposed are inline with inflation, taking into account the September Retail Price Index (RPI), the same measure used by the Government for uprating pensions and benefits, and any additional actual inflationary costs experienced (i.e. pesticide costs, fuel costs and pay award). DEFRA have not as yet published LAPPC fees and charges for 2010/11, Sefton Council has no discretion in relation to these fees and charges and the Cabinet Member/Cabinet are asked to approve their adoption in advance of their publication by DEFRA.

Trading Standards

3. Following a review of the methodology for setting verification fees, LACORS Guidance has now moved away from a fee for each type of equipment to an hourly cost based on the provision of a single weights and measures inspector, reflecting salary levels plus all the necessary on-costs for the delivery of such a service (including on-costs training, management, administration, infrastructure, transport and equipment). There is an additional charge where additional staff are required. This simpler method allows councils to better demonstrate that fees levied cover costs of providing the service.

Building Cleaning

4. It is not proposed to increase charges for Building Cleaning contracts (including the Core Contract) at this time, other than where an annual uplift is specified within the contract.

Annex A

Details	VAT rate	Date of last increase	Previous 2009/10 charges £ p	Proposed 2010/11 charges £ p	Percentage increase on charge %
---------	----------	-----------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------------

DOG WARDEN SERVICE

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (STRAY DOGS) REGULATIONS (1992)

Seizure and detention of Stray Dogs

Collection of dog by owner from RSPCA kennels within 48 Hours of dog arriving at kennels	O	Introduced 1.4.09	35.00	35.00	0.0%
--	---	----------------------	-------	--------------	------

Collection of dog by owner from RSPCA kennels after 48 Hours of dog arriving at kennels until end of retention period.		1.4.09	85.00	85.00	0.0%
--	--	--------	-------	--------------	------

Microchipping of Dogs		1.4.09	12.30	12.70	3.0%
-----------------------	--	--------	-------	--------------	------

Microchipping fees are only levied in relation to the actual costs incurred in purchasing the microchips.
When microchips are provided free no charge is levied.

HMO LICENSING

HMO Licensing fees are levied over a 5-year period.

The fees below relate to the annual proportion of that 5-year fee i.e. 20% per year.

Annual licence fee per unit (up to a maximum of 6 units per premise)	O	n/a	32.00	32.00	0.0%
--	---	-----	-------	--------------	------

Annual licence fee per unit (each additional unit over 6 units per premise)		n/a	10.00	10.00	0.0%
---	--	-----	-------	--------------	------

PEST CONTROL SERVICE

Domestic Premises:

Treatment of one wasp nest	O	1.4.09	48.50	50.00	3.0%
----------------------------	---	--------	-------	--------------	------

Treatment of one ant nest		1.4.09	56.00	58.00	3.5%
---------------------------	--	--------	-------	--------------	------

Rats, Mice, Fleas, Bedbugs, Cockroaches			Free	Free	
---	--	--	------	-------------	--

Commercial / Industrial Premises (including communal areas of tenanted domestic properties):

Normal hours (Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm) Treatment of any vermin, wasps or ants - minimum charge per visit.	S	1.4.09	69.00	71.00	3.0%
--	---	--------	-------	--------------	------

For every 15 minutes per operative after first 30 minutes plus materials and other specific costs		1.4.09	23.00	23.70	3.0%
---	--	--------	-------	--------------	------

Outside normal hours calculated at 1.5 times normal hours rate.

Sundays and Bank Holidays calculated at 2 times normal hours rate.

GYPSY CARAVAN SITE, BROAD LANE, FORMBY

Pitch Charges per week

Single	O	1.4.09	55.60	57.30	3.0%
Double		1.4.09	61.50	63.40	3.0%
Single let as double		1.4.09	58.90	60.70	3.0%

In addition to the above residents will be re-charged for electricity and water usage at the rate set by the utility provider and in accordance with actual usage obtained from regular meter readings.

TRADING STANDARDS

N.B. Charges are in accordance with the national recommendations set by L.A.C.O.R.S.

Weights and Measures Inspector calculated at a per person and per hour rate for the time spent at the place of submission for the purposes of the examination.	O	new		51.13	n/a
--	---	-----	--	--------------	-----

Weights and Measures Technical Officer calculated at a per person and per hour rate for the time spent at the place of submission for the purposes of the examination.		new		30.66	n/a
--	--	-----	--	--------------	-----

POISONS ACT :

(1) Initial registration		1.4.09	30.80	31.72	3.0%
(2) Re - registration		1.4.09	16.24	16.72	3.0%
(3) Change in details of registration		1.4.09	8.30	8.55	3.0%

INFORMATION CHARGES

Supply of Environmental Information

Up to 30 mins	O	1.4.08	41.50	41.50	0.0%
Per additional hour or part thereof		1.4.09	41.50	41.50	0.0%

Statement of facts	S	1.4.09	103.00	103.00	0.0%
--------------------	---	--------	--------	---------------	------

Photocopying costs

per page (A4)	O	1.4.09	0.32	0.32	0.0%
per page (A3)		1.4.09	0.90	0.90	0.0%