

Portfolio Holder Decisions/Leader Decisions

Friday 18 February 2022

Minutes

Attendance

Committee Members

Councillor Peter Butlin

Councillor Heather Timms

1. Domestic Abuse Counselling and Therapy Commissioning

Resolved

That the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Property approves proceeding with an appropriate procurement process to tender a new specialist Domestic Abuse Counselling and Therapy Service for an initial two-year period, with the option to extend it for up to an additional two years and authorises the Strategic Director for People to enter into all relevant contracts on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.

2. Fees and Charges Report for Waste Management

Resolved

Approval be given for the changes to waste fees and charges from 1 April 2022, as set out in the Appendix.

Delegate to the Strategic Director for Communities (acting in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate and Culture) authority to modify charges for an existing waste type before the next annual review by up to 10% where changes in circumstances affect the costs to the County Council of disposal.

3. Warwick District Council Off-street Parking Order 2022

4. Country Parks Fees and Charges 2022/23


Resolved

Approval be given for the changes to Country Parks fees and charges from 1 April 2022, as set out in the report and the Appendix.

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Portfolio Holder Decision

Domestic Abuse Counselling and Therapy Commissioning

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Finance & Property
Date of decision	18 February 2022
	Signed 

1. Decision taken

Recommendation:

That the Portfolio Holder for Finance & Property approves proceeding with an appropriate procurement process to tender a new specialist Domestic Abuse Counselling and Therapy Service for an initial two-year period, with the option to extend it for up to an additional two years and authorises the Strategic Director for People to enter into all relevant contracts on terms and conditions acceptable to the Strategic Director for Resources.

2.0 Reasons for decisions

- 2.1 Warwickshire County Council (WCC) has a new duty under Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 to assess the need for accommodation-based support and prepare strategies to provide such support for victims and their children who reside within relevant accommodation as set out in the legislation. This duty has been reflected within the Warwickshire Safe Accommodation Strategy 2021 – 2024. The definition of “support” includes the provision of counselling and therapy for adult and child victim-survivors of domestic abuse.
- 2.2 The requirement for a specialist Domestic Abuse Counselling and Therapy Service has emerged from the Domestic Abuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2021. The Needs Assessment recommended that specialised, trauma informed therapy for victim-survivors of domestic abuse be provided for all ages.
- 2.3 To meet this identified need, the Portfolio Holder is requested to approve that WCC can tender for a new Domestic Abuse Counselling and Therapy Service and enter relevant contracts. This will be funded using Domestic Abuse Act funding from the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities and existing WCC Domestic Abuse Service budget (WCC general fund allocations). The proposal is compliant

¹ <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/joint-strategic-needs-assessments-1/thematic-needs-assessments-previous-annual-updates/1>

with the Domestic Abuse Act Statutory Guidance.

- 2.4 The tender will be for a specialist domestic abuse counselling and therapy service for children, young people, and adults who reside in relevant, safe accommodation as set out in the legislation and guidance and those who do not reside, in what the legislation and guidance determines, is safe / relevant accommodation, but are currently being supported by the Warwickshire Domestic Violence and Abuse Service.
- 2.5 The aim is to commission a service for a two-year period, with the option to extend it for up to an additional two years (budget pending).
- 2.6 The financial envelope for this would be £400,000 per annum, with the totality of the contract value over 4 years, calculated at £1.6m.
- 2.7 It is anticipated that up to 200 victim- survivors will benefit from this service, per year.

3.0 Background information

3.1 The Domestic Abuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (DAJSNA) 2021 informed the commissioning of the current Warwickshire Domestic Violence and Accommodation Service (WDVAS). The current WDVAS includes the provision of:

- 24 units of refuge accommodation and re-settlement support across the county.
- Domestic Abuse Support Services, which incorporates:
 - A Single Point of Contact / Helpline – to provide victim-survivors, concerned family and friends and professional’s advice and information. This includes risk assessments and immediate safety planning for victim-survivors.
 - 1:1 support for victim-survivors either via Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) or outreach workers
 - Outreach / floating support – drop-in sessions and recovery group programmes
 - Health advocate educators – 1:1 support to victim-survivors who make disclosures to health care staff and training and awareness raising for health care staff
 - Sanctuary Scheme (home security and target hardening)
 - Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference Coordination – a meeting where agencies agree actions to reduce harm and increase safety of high-risk victims and implement actions to hold perpetrators accountable for their behaviour.
 - Training and awareness raising for professionals on domestic abuse.

3.2 The DAJSNA highlighted the following gaps in relation to the mental health and wellbeing of adults, children, and young people:

- 42% of those supported by the WDVAS had a mental health issue, of these, 17% had attempted to take their own lives.
- 30 women everyday attempt to end their lives because of experiencing domestic abuse; three women succeed.
- Of women who experienced severe mental illness, 15-22% were victims of

domestic abuse.

- Domestic abuse is consistently undetected by mental health providers, with only 10-30% of cases identified.
- One in seven (14.2%) children and young people under the age of 18 are exposed to domestic abuse which places them at an increased risk of trauma, direct abuse, serious injury or death.
- Although mental health professionals are aware of links with domestic abuse, services are ill equipped to respond appropriately to disclosures from victim-survivors.
- Young People are at risk of domestic abuse from a partner - 6.6% of men and 12.6% of women aged 16 to 19 experienced domestic abuse in the past year.
- A survey of 13- to 17-year-olds found that 25% of girls and 18% of boys had experienced physical violence from an intimate partner.

3.3 The recommendations which emerged from the DAJSNA suggested that further development was required to provide specialised, trauma information therapy for victim-survivors of domestic abuse of all ages.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 In 2021/22 the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) issued a section 31 grant to WCC which provided additional funding to deliver the Safe Accommodation Duty. The amount WCC received from DLUHC for 2021/22 was £1,040,132. It is expected that this funding will be recurring for the next three years.
- 4.2 The current 2021/2022 WCC General Fund budget for domestic abuse is £1.2m. It is allocated primarily toward the Warwickshire Domestic Violence and Abuse Service contract, and the recurring annual contract value is £837,502. Of the funding allocated to the WDVAS from WCC, £240,000 is considered within scope of the duty to provide support within relevant and safe accommodation.
- 4.3 The WCC Finance Team have reviewed the guidance and opportunities for maximising both the DLUHC funding and the WCC general fund allocations towards the WDVAS and are supportive of this approach.
- 4.4 The intention is to commission a new Counselling and Therapy Service for a two-year period, with the option to extend it for up to an additional two years.
- 4.5 The financial envelope for this would be £400,000 per annum, with £200,000 allocated via the DLUHC funding and £200,000 offset against payments made to the Warwickshire Domestic Violence and Abuse Service from WCC.
- 4.6 The totality of the contract value over 4 years, would be £1.6m.

5. Environmental implications

² The contract will operate from 2021 – 2026, with an option to extend for up to two years.

5.1 None

Report Author	Emma Guest emmaguest@warwickshire.gov.uk,
Assistant Director	Assistant Director People - Strategy and Commissioning
Strategic Director	Strategic Director for People
Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care & Health

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of background papers

- Warwickshire Safe Accommodation Strategy - <https://safeinwarwickshire.files.wordpress.com/2021/09/warwickshires-safe-accommodation-strategy-2021-2024-.pdf>
- Recommendations for the Domestic Abuse Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – <https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1350011118-3053>
- Warwickshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2021 - Domestic Violence and Abuse – <https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1350011118-3054>

Members and officers consulted and informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Peter Butlin

Corporate Board – Nigel Minns

Legal – Katherine Lamyman, Sioned Harper and Ian Marriott

Finance – Rosemary Rockcliffe and Andrew Felton


Equality – n/a

Democratic Services – Isabelle Moorhouse

Councillors – Warwick, Birdi, Boad, Philipps and W, Roberts

Local Member(s): n/a

Portfolio Holder Decision Fees and Charges Report for Waste Management

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate & Culture
Date of decision	18 February 2022
	Signed 

1. Recommended Decision

- 1.1 Approval be given for the changes to waste fees and charges from 1 April 2022, as set out in the Appendix.
- 1.2 Delegate to the Strategic Director for Communities (acting in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate and Culture) authority to modify charges for an existing waste type before the next annual review by up to 10% where changes in circumstances affect the costs to the County Council of disposal.

2. Reasons for decisions

- 2.1 The Environmental Protection Act 1998 Section 51(1)(b) gives the County Council as the Waste Disposal Authority the duty to provide free access to Household Waste Recycling Centres for the deposit of household waste by householders. Two of our HWRCs - Princes Drive and Hunters Lane - have had longstanding arrangements in place to accept non-household and commercial wastes on a chargeable basis. Charges are calculated by weight using calibrated weighbridges. In 2015, the County Council added to this service by allowing commercial waste to be delivered to all our sites; chargeable on a by-volume basis, due to the lack of weighbridges at the smaller sites.
- 2.2 The launch of the extended commercial waste service in 2015 followed the development by Defra and WRAP¹ of a pricing model by size of delivery vehicle, which ensures that all costs associated in offering the service are covered while also ensuring small businesses are supported to dispose of their wastes correctly and cost effectively. Income from the service supports the County Council's ability to deliver a comprehensive recycling centre service for householders and achieve income targets. The comprehensive drop-off charging scheme at all of our sites allows local people and small businesses to access compliant waste disposal services at locations around the county at a competitive cost. The service provides a wide range of recycling opportunities that are not readily available to businesses by other means. The availability and range of services are one way the County Council can reduce fly tipping.

¹ Defra – Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; WRAP – Waste and Resources Action Programme

3. Background information

- 3.1 The Appendix sets out the new fees and charges which would take effect from 1 April 2022. All waste fees and charges will continue to be reviewed and approved by the Portfolio Holder at least annually to allow for future gate fee and / or haulage increases and inflation.

Method of Calculation

- 3.2 Calculations are based on a DEFRA mode and were first used in 2015.
- 3.3 Charges by weight are banded in 10 bands from 0 – 100 kg to 900 kg – 1000 kg. At the lower band an administration multiplier ² of 2 is used and at the upper band an administration multiplier of 1.5 is used, with the administration multiplier evenly escalated with each band in between. Current costs for the treatment gate fee for each material have been calculated, as have the costs for haulage of each material to the treatment facility. These prices will increase in the next financial year; some are linked to RPIX³, landfill disposal includes landfill tax rises, and some material contracts will be new rates and may change within the year differently to the predicted price change. Providing the haulage service in house should save the Council money and reduce prices overall, however there is greater uncertainty as the Council is struggling to recruit drivers and officers have applied for a Market Supplement to their pay. In the meantime, the Council need to pay additionally for agency or contractor drivers to help provide the service and so this adds some uncertainty.
- 3.4 The gross figures are rounded up to the nearest 50p at Princes Drive and Hunters Lane weighbridge sites. For the non-weighbridge sites, the gross figures are used, along with an assumption of 70% fill levels for each for the 5 types of vehicle and average densities for the materials. The relevant administration multiplier is applied, and the gross values are rounded up to the nearest £1.
- 3.5 It is recommended that there is scope to make in-year delegated decisions to alter prices, if proved necessary. There is currently a lot of uncertainty in relation to HGV drivers and fuel prices and with running some of the service in house and other parts of the service with contractors there is uncertainty in the market. It is recommended that officers, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, be able to make changes reflecting changes in costs but that this be limited to changes of no more than 10% and that delegated changes can only be made to charges for existing waste types and not to introduce new schemes charging for new waste types. Any other changes would require formal Portfolio Holder approval.
- 3.6 The landfill tax rate from April 2022 will increase by 1.96% to £98.60 per tonne and the Bubbenhall landfill contract uses RICS⁴ indices to calculate the increase, which is due to be calculated later in the year but is likely to be higher than the 1.8% average RPIX.

² When a small quantity of waste is brought in, the cost to the council to ultimately dispose of this waste is 2 times the cost of the haulage and disposal alone. According to the Defra model, it is recommended to charge double to cover site overheads, consumables and staff for offering this service. When the waste brought in is a tonne or more, these costs as a proportion of the cost of disposal and haulage becomes more like half, so the multiplier reduces to 1.5 times.

³ Measure of inflation in the UK, equivalent to all items Retail Price Index excluding mortgage interest payments.

⁴ Measure of inflation from Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

- 3.7 In recent years the weighbridge price of plasterboard has been aligned with that of general waste and we will continue to do this. We believe this alleviated the operational issue of traders occasionally incorrectly declaring plasterboard as general waste to access the cheaper price, leading to potential contamination of the general waste. The price difference is so small that we will use the general waste price for plasterboard and will continue to review.
- 3.8 Our current wood contract saw a reduced cost for collection and reprocessing of wood, however the contractor has indicated the current price is below market value, so we have decided it is prudent to maintain the same wood price as last year rather than reduce the price.
- 3.9 For the pay by item prices, the £12 per item of large furniture for the non-weighbridge sites will continue. That assumes that the large item i.e., mattress, settee or bed base would not weigh more than 50 kg.
- 3.10 The £12 charge for a load of paper or cardboard will be capped at a maximum load size of 1 tonne, as recently the market rate for this waste has fluctuated significantly.
- 3.11 The minimum charge for disposal of a gas bottle, fire extinguisher or tyre was reduced to £5 last year, making the proper disposal of these items even more accessible, and it is still affordable to continue this. Other pay-by-item charges remain the same. Public weigh charges will remain at £10 plus VAT in line with other local weighbridges.
- 3.12 Last year on the table of charges per item at Princes Drive and Hunters Lane (Appendix) additional text was added to show more explicitly that fire extinguishers bear the same cost as gas bottles and ammonia fridges are the same as commercial fridges.
- 3.13 The cost of the commercial recycling permit increased from £40 to £50 last year. This was the first price rise since inception 5 years ago and will be kept at £50 this year.

Proposed changes

- 3.14 A proposed change for this year is to introduce a per bag charge for hardcore, bricks, rubble, and soil. At present traders / householders with above three bags (3 x 25 kg) have the option of paying over the weighbridge at Princes Drive and Hunters Lane Recycling Centres or paying for a vehicle load at non weighbridge sites. Being charged for a vehicle load when people have a couple of additional bags can lead to frustration and confrontation. We propose that a £3 per bag policy be introduced for additional sacks of hardcore, bricks, rubble and soil material.
- 3.15 The County Council already offer an orange sack scheme for businesses who generate smaller amounts of residual waste. Businesses can purchase 80 litre sacks at four recycling centres sold in batches of 20 at a cost of £60 (£3 per sack). The scheme is not very well used at present and little promotion is made of this service. It is proposed that this price be increased to £4 per sack or £80 for 20 and allow people to purchase the number of sacks they require rather than having to

buy 20. It is also proposed that all Warwickshire Recycling Centres are able to sell the sacks.

Delegated Powers

3.16 The service aims to offer the broadest possible range of recycling opportunities to the public and to also offer those opportunities to the commercial sector where appropriate. In order to act commercially, we will seek to develop new trade services and will seek approvals to launch these at the appropriate time through senior leadership.

3.17 Costs for the disposal of waste streams can vary for several reasons, for example market fluctuations, new procurements, and indexation uplifts. For that reason, it may be necessary to change discrete prices in-year. This year, as detailed above, there are particular known events that may trigger this, and changes to fees and charges will be made under delegated powers (where available in accordance with Recommendation 1.2) or sought by means of a report to the Portfolio Holder where delegated powers are not available.

Benchmarking

3.18 To ensure that prices are competitive with the market, and reasonable, the proposed changes have been compared to the charges of other local authorities. Bearing in mind the varying cost of waste treatment and haulage depending on availability and proximity, the proposed charges are broadly in line with our peers.

4. Financial implications

4.1 Prices are calculated based on a Defra model. They ensure that the true cost of waste disposal is covered, including the element of site running costs and administration. Income gained supports the operation of the sites and the delivery of services to the public. The facility to recycle and dispose of non-household waste means that local business can easily access competitively priced recycling and disposal services that ensure their compliance with waste legislation and the reduction of fly tipping.

4.2 Table 1 shows the level of income gains from providing the opportunity for local small businesses to be able to deposit waste at our network of HWRCs. The income gained in 2020/21 has been significantly lower because of the pandemic and it is not known what ongoing impact this will have on income in 2021/22.

Table 1: HWRC Trade Waste Sales, Fees & Charges Income

	Actual Income 2018/19	Budgeted Income 2019/20	Actual Income 2019/20	Budgeted Income 2020/21	Actual Income 2020/21	Budgeted Income 2021/22	YTD at 4/1/2022
HWRCs	£9,607	£13,605	£9,460	£14,267	£2,697	£11,100	£5,689
Transfer Stations	£334,903	£331,850	£261,461	£331,850	£207,866	£308,646	£172,493
Totals	£344,510	£345,455	£270,921	£346,117	£210,563	£319,746	£178,182

5. Environmental implications

5.1 The Council's commercial waste service offers the facility for local people and businesses to recycle and dispose of their waste in compliance with their waste duty

of care and other environmental legislation. It offers local businesses the opportunity to recycle a range of materials that may not be accessible to them through standard collections services. Providing local services that allow for the correct disposal of waste and the increased recycling of valuable materials benefits the environment by reducing pollution, the use of raw materials and carbon emissions.

Report Author	Laura Vesty Lead Commissioner – Waste Operations Tel: 192641 418071 lauravesty@warwickshire.gov.uk
Assistant Director	Assistant Director, Communities davidayton-hill@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	Strategic Director for Communities markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate & Culture


Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of background papers
Appendix 1

Members and officers consulted and informed
Portfolio Holder – Councillor Heather Timms
Corporate Board – Mark Ryder
Legal – Ian Marriott
Finance – Caroline Jones
Equality – n/a
Democratic Services – Isabelle Moorhouse
Councillors – Clarke, Chilvers, D’Arcy and Fradgley
Local Member(s): n/a

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Portfolio Holder Decision – Country Parks Fees and Charges 2022/23

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Environment, Climate & Culture
Date of decision	18th February 2022
	Signed 

Decision taken

Approval be given for the changes to Country Parks fees and charges from 1 April 2022, as set out in the report and the Appendix.

Reasons for decisions

The County Council's constitution requires approval of fees and charges by the relevant portfolio holder prior to their application.

Income derived from rents, tenancies, catering concessions, shop sales, caravan site profits share, special events and grants etc, account for approximately 25% of the country parks' total income in a normal year; these elements are adjusted through rent reviews and lease arrangements and are not included in this review.

Background information

The County Council has power under section 43 of the Countryside Act 1968 to make reasonable charges for any facilities or services provided by them in country parks provided under that Act.

The County Council's normal practice is to use inflation as a basis of increasing fees and charges each year. The service is undergoing a service review and restructure and it may be that in the future a more fundamental review of our fees and charges is required to maximise commercial opportunities.

The impact of the pandemic over the last two years has highlighted the value of the amenities provided to our communities by the Country Parks service in supporting health, safety and wellbeing. Last financial year the decision was taken not to increase fees and charges, except for some modest increases to day fishing prices, in order to support our communities through the challenging time of the pandemic.

As a result of these factors and in line with previous reviews, this report sets out some modest increases in some of the fees and charges for parking and other activities in Country Parks from 2021/22 levels. However, a small proportion of charges are proposed to have larger increases, for which the rationale is given in each instance.

The Appendix sets out the new fees and charges which take effect from 1 April 2022.

Proposed changes

Coarse permit concession at Kingsbury Water Park

There is currently a concessionary rate for pensioners for the Coarse permit fishing. It is recommended this is brought into line with the concessionary price of the car parking (which is offered at a 20% discount). This brings the price up of the concessionary permit from **£60 to £70**.

Car Parking price rises

Car parking charges at the main sites of Kingsbury Water Park and Ryton Pools Country Park are not proposed to be increased this year. Kingsbury still has the highest parking charge rate than all other parks, reflecting the size and range of amenities on offer. The flat rate of £4.50 (£3 in winter) will be reviewed again next financial year. Differential price bands were introduced in 2019/20 at Ryton Pools Country Park, so it was not deemed necessary to increase the charges for this coming financial year.

The charges for the smaller sites have not risen in a number of years, therefore it is recommended that these should be increased this year by **50p** across the sites with flat day rates.

Burton Dassett, Hartshill Hayes and Pooley Country Parks from **£2.50 to £3.00**.

STRATFORD GREENWAY

The increases in charges recommended for Stratford Greenway are relatively high in percentage terms. However, car parking prices have not been increased in five years at Stratford Greenway, since charges were introduced in 2017. In addition to this, by comparison with Stratford Town Centre, our proposed parking charges are still very reasonable, and we know that some visitors choose to use our car park for longer stays to visit the town centre.

Car Parking:

Up to 1 hour	from 50p to £1.00
Up to 2 hours	from £1.00 to £1.50
Up to 3 hours	from £1.50 to £2.00
Up to 4 hours	from £2.00 to £3.00
Over 4 hours (all day)	from £3.00 to £4.00

PARKING PERMITS

As daily parking charges are increased, this in turn increases the price of the car parking permits, as follows:

ALL PARKS

All Parks Permit: from £109.00 to £120.00 (permits parking at Kingsbury, Pooley, Hartshill, Ryton & Burton Dassett)

Disabled permit (for all parks): from £87.00 to £96.00

North Parks Permit: from £81.00 to £90.00 (permits parking at Kingsbury, Hartshill & Pooley)

Disabled permit (for all north parks) from £65.00 to £72.00

South Parks Permit: from £56.00 to £60.00 (permits parking at Ryton & Burton Dassett)

Disabled permit (for all south parks) from £45.00 to £48.00

Stratford Greenway from £36.00 to £48.00 Permit (12 months from day of purchase)

Disabled permit from £29.00 to £38.00

Pooley, Hartshill Hayes & Burton Dassett (permits parking at one of the above sites)

Permit (12 months from date of purchase) from £30.00 to £36.00

Disabled permit from £24.00 to £29.00

Other price increases/changes

Events – guided walks and events including school holiday activities from **£4.00 to £4.50**

Birthday Parties – increase from **£120 to £150** to standardise prices across all sites. This is a relatively large percentage increase. However, the last increase in 2020/21 from £90 to £120 did not have a detrimental impact on the numbers of bookings for birthday parties. In addition, having benchmarked our prices with similar competitors, we have potentially been undercharging for these parties, therefore we do not believe this increase will result in fewer bookings and the proposed price will more adequately cover our costs for providing this service.

Schools: all increased by 50p;

This increase has been benchmarked against competitors, and is comparable with the wider market offer.

All-inclusive package (min.15 children)

2-hour session, £4.50 per child (from £4)

4-hour session, £7.50 per child (from £7)

Brownies, Scouts, etc. (min 10 children)

1-1½ hours with Ranger, £4.50 per child (from £4)

Mobility Scooter Hire

Annual Permit from £30 to £35 (no limits on amount of use, only availability)
 Daily session from £3.00 to £4.00 (only available if not booked out)
 Trampler hire £5.00 to £5.50

To assist with costs of increased wear and tear, and annual maintenance costs.

Financial implications

The price increases detailed above should provide for additional income of approximately **£80,950**. This figure has been calculated using visitor/ user numbers and sales figures from 2019/20 (pre pandemic) to give an estimate of likely additional income. This is a total increase of about 17% but only on the fees and charges proposed to be increased in this report. As a proportion of a total fees and charges income this percentage is about 10%. The rationale for this level of increase in our fees and charges is outlined above and for example includes where prices have not increased for a number of years, where charges have been increased to better reflect the cost of providing the service and increases to bring prices better in line with the marketplace. In all cases the increased charges are pitched to continue to make our country parks accessible and good value for money.

The Medium-Term Financial Strategy budget reduction increases the income target for Country Parks by £30k for 2022/23, so the proposed increase will enable us to reach this target, make the country parks more financially sustainable, and is in line with taking a more commercial approach to service delivery.

See Appendix for detailed information on Fees & Charges for 2022/23

Environmental implications

Whilst the Country Parks service is heavily dependent on income from car parking charges, we are confident that, with these relatively modest fee increases, our regular users will continue to pay to visit their local country park or greenway. The majority of our visitors do not need to travel for long distances in their vehicles to be able to get to their nearest/ favourite country park. Therefore, we do not believe that these fee increases will have an impact on length of vehicle journey for most of our users, which in turn will not have a detrimental effect on air pollution.

Report Author	Rachel Baconnet Lead Commissioner – Green Spaces Tel: 01926 412818
Assistant Director	Assistant Director, Communities
Lead Director	Strategic Director for Communities
Lead Member	Portfolio Holder for Environment and Heritage & Culture

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No

Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?

No

List of background papers

N/A

Members and officers consulted and informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Heather Timms

Corporate Board – Mark Ryder

Legal – Ian Marriott

Finance – Caroline Jones

Equality – n/a

Commercialism – John Stansfield

Democratic Services – Isabelle Moorhouse

Councillors – Clarke, Chilvers, D’Arcy & Fradgley

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