

Notice of:	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development
Decision Number:	PH29/2017
Relevant Officer:	Alan Cavill, Director of Place
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development
Date of Decision:	30 March 2017

PLANNING FEES AND CHARGES 2017/18

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The proposed Place fees and charges for Planning for 2017/18.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

2.1 To agree to the proposed Place fees and charges for Planning for 2017/18, which are detailed in Appendix 'A' with effect from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

2.2 To agree that the fees charged can be reduced from these rates in exceptional circumstances on the published Officer decision of the Director of Place, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The fees and charges for 2017/18 need to be approved in order to take account of inflation, the budget, market and the costs of providing the service.

The proposals bring the Council's charging regime in line with other Councils and on the advice of the Planning Advisory Service and were agreed in 2016.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

To set other rates for fees and charges for Planning services, however, such fees might not reflect the costs of providing the service or market conditions.

In terms of pre-application advice for planning applications, the other option would have been not to continue to provide the service. The former would mean that the Council would not recover the cost of providing the service and the latter would remove the potential to influence proposals prior to submission and control the quality of submissions.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priority is “The economy: Maximising growth and opportunity across Blackpool”.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The attached schedule proposes retention of the amendments to the fees and charges for Planning which were agreed in 2016. The proposals are in line with the Council’s General Fund Revenue Budget for 2017/18 and have been compiled taking in to account inflation and market conditions and the opinion of the Planning Advisory Services

5.2 It is further proposed that the Director of Place be delegated authority, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to make reductions to these fees if necessary in order to achieve additional flexibility to adapt to market conditions.

5.3 The proposal is to retain the amended charges for the range of pre application applications the Council offers. The 2011 charges are shown and the agreed charges from 1 April 2016 are also shown in bold.

Significant major planning application £8400 for meeting/£420 for subsequent meeting.

Major planning application £540 for meeting/£270 for subsequent meeting.

Small Scale development £240 for meeting/£120 for written response.

Listed Building/Conservation Area £120 for meeting/£60 for written response.

Works to Trees £72 for meeting/£36 for written response.

Telecommunications £120 for meeting/£60 for written response.

Advertisements £60 for meeting/£30for written response.

Vehicle Crossings £36.

Householder Development enquiries £50.

In addition it is proposed to retain the charges for abortive work done on applications which are deemed invalid on receipt and are not subsequently made valid. At present £30 is deducted from the submitted fee to cover the Council's administrative costs. A number of authorities charge a sliding scale of fees depending on the size and nature of the application and hence we propose to make the following charges

Significant/major application £90

Minor application £60

Householder/advertisement/CLUP/CLDE/Listed Building Consent £30

5.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.5 **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 'A' – Fees and Charges for Planning 2017/18.

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 None

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 None.

8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 The proposals are in line with the General Fund Revenue Budget 2017/18.

9.0 **Financial considerations:**

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 To not retain the fees agreed in 2016 would impact on the 2017/18 Revenue Budget.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? No

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? N/A

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed:

Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1 None

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1 The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendations as outlined above namely:

1. To agree to the proposed Place fees and charges for Planning for 2017/18, which are detailed in Appendix 'A' with effect from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.
2. To agree that the fees charged can be reduced from these rates in exceptional circumstances on the published Officer decision of the Director of Place, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

18.2 Date of Decision:

30 March 2017

19.0 Reason(s) for decision:

The fees and charges for 2017/18 need to be approved in order to take account of inflation, the budget, market and the costs of providing the service.

The proposals bring the Council's charging regime in line with other Councils and on the advice of the Planning Advisory Service and were agreed in 2016.

19.1 Date Decision published:

30 March 2017

20.0 Executive Members in attendance:

20.1

21.0 Call-in:

21.1

22.0 Notes:

22.1