

<b>Notice of:</b>	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development
<b>Decision Number:</b>	PH21/2021
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Alan Cavill, Director of Communications and Regeneration
<b>Relevant Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Mark Smith, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Economic Development
<b>Date of Decision:</b>	25 February 2021

## LOCAL LAND CHARGES SEARCHES AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATION (LAND CHARGES) FEES AND CHARGES 2021/22

### 1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To consider fees and charges for Local Land Charges Searches and Environmental Information Regulation (EIR Land Charges) for 2021/22.

### 2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 To agree the fees and charges for Local Land Charges Searches and Land Charges EIR's for 2021/22, which are detailed in section 6.3 with effect from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.
- 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 Communications and Regeneration, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

### 3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 The fees and charges for 2020/21, need to be approved in order to take account of inflation and the costs of providing the service.
- 3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No
- 3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

To set other rates for fees and charges for Land Charges Service, however, such fees might not reflect the costs of providing the service and therefore may be at odds with legislation governing cost recovery in this area.

5.0 **Council Priority:**

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

6.0 **Background Information**

5.1 The attached schedule proposes a scale of fees and charges for the Land Charges Service.

6.2 It is further proposed that the Director of Communications and Regeneration be delegated authority, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member, to make reductions to these fees if necessary.

6.3 The proposal is to maintain the current charges for the statutory Land Charges Searches and Land Charges EIR service the Council offers. The charges for the financial year 2020/21 are shown in the left had column and the new charges for financial year 2021/22 are shown in the right.

<b>Service</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>
Standard Search (Con29 only) Domestic	£153	£153
Standard Search (Con29 only) Commercial	£163.20	£163.20
Full Search (Con29 and Optional questions) Domestic	£358.20	£358.20
Full Search (Con29 and Optional questions) Commercial	£368.40	£368.40
Con29 Optional Questions (Domestic & Commercial)	£10.80	£10.80
EIR – Submission and 1 <sup>st</sup> Question	£3.82	£3.82
EIR – Additional Questions	£0.80	£0.80

All fees are inclusive of VAT

6.4 Does the information submitted include any exempt information

No

**7.0 List of Appendices:**

None.

**8.0 Financial considerations:**

8.1 The proposals are in line with the General Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22.

**9.0 Legal considerations:**

9.1 None.

**10.0 Risk Management considerations:**

10.1 None.

**11.0 Equalities considerations:**

11.1 None.

**12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:**

12.1 None directly

**13.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:**

13.1 None.

**14.0 Background papers:**

14.1 None.

**15.0 Key decision information:**

15.1 Is this a key decision? No

15.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

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

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

**16.0 Call-in information:**

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

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

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE**

**17.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):**

Date informed:

Date approved:

**18.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):**

18.1 None.

**19.0 Executive decision:**

19.1 The Cabinet Member agreed the recommendation as outlined above namely:

1. To agree the fees and charges for Local Land Charges Searches and Land Charges EIR's for 2021/22, which are detailed in section 6.3 with effect from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.
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 Communications and Regeneration, following consultation with the relevant Cabinet Member.

**20.0 Date of Decision:**

20.1 25 February 2021

**21.0 Reason(s) for decision:**

21.1 The fees and charges for 2020/21, need to be approved in order to take account of inflation and the costs of providing the service.

**22.0 Date Decision published:**

22.1 25 February 2021

**23.0 Executive Members in attendance:**

23.1

**24.0 Call-in:**

24.1

**25.0 Notes:**

25.1