

Appendix 2 – Fees and Charges

1. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

- 1.1 The Council provides a wide range of services and the ability to charge for some of these services is a key funding source to support the cost of providing the service.
- 1.2 Some fees and charges are statutory, such as planning fees which are set nationally. Others, such as Adult Social Care, the Council has little discretion over and increases are determined by factors such as the pensions triple lock or increases in welfare benefits. Similarly, rental income from Temporary Accommodation is largely dependent on changes to the Local Housing Allowance set by the DWP.
- 1.3 Other charges are discretionary, and the Council can choose to set the level. Where this is the case, the following principles have been used:
- **Charges should be broadly in line with other neighbouring councils.** Where possible, benchmarking has been completed to ensure this is the case.
 - **Charges should reflect cost increases incurred by the Council.**
 - **Charges should recognise demand for the service.** In some cases, increasing charges can have a negative impact on overall income.
- 1.4 This year inflation is much higher than it has been in recent years. This feeds through to the Council charges when considering the second principle in paragraph 4.3. In December 2022 the Consumer Price Index was 10.7% and the Retail Price Index was 14.0%.
- 1.5 Table 1 details the Council's significant estimated fees and charges income streams for 2023/24. Annex A details the full list of proposed fees & charges for 2023/24.

Table 1: Fees & charges budgeted income for 2023/24

	22/23 Budget £000	23/24 Draft Budget £000	Budget change %
Parking Services	(10,272)	(11,087)	7.93%
Adult Social Care	(10,450)	(10,914)	4.44%
Property services	(4,342)	(4,469)	2.92%
Planning services	(2,111)	(2,753)	30.39%
Highways	(1,465)	(1,679)	14.63%
Housing	(1,253)	(1,290)	2.99%
Waste & Highways Environmental	(1,102)	(1,208)	9.66%