

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism
2.	Date:	Tuesday 12th March, 2013
3.	Title:	Customer and Cultural Services Fees and Charges 2013-14
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

The report outlines proposals arising from the annual review of fees and charges for services within Customer and Cultural Services.

6. Recommendations

6.1: That the fees and charges set out in Appendix A are approved

7. Proposals and Details

The annual review of fees and charges for Customer and Cultural Services has recently taken place. Where appropriate, proposed charges have been increased by at least the rate of inflation. Where charges have been increased by less than the inflation rate or remain the same, this is either because increasing a price would incur additional costs (e.g. changing ticket/photocopying machines) or because managers feel that a unit price increase would reduce overall income due to its impact on levels of business. It should be noted that several core services still remain essentially free of charge e.g. public library service, museum service, archives and local studies service. Where there is a charge there is often a concessionary rate.

In most cases the proposed charges would take effect on 1st April 2013. However, as indicated in Appendix A, proposed changes to the charges for the Civic Theatre would take effect from 1st September 2013 and remain in place until 31st August 2014.

Appendix A includes details of charges from 2012-13 and proposed charges for 2013-14. All changes are highlighted in red.

8. Finance

The proposed increases are expected to generate the levels of income required to operate services within available budgets. The impact of the charges will be closely monitored to ensure that income targets are being reached and that prices are reviewed throughout the year as demand dictates.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Any cost increase can have an adverse impact on levels of business and this can make it difficult to meet income targets. Service Managers will continue to monitor usage and act on customer feedback where appropriate

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Sustainability: The proposals outlined will make a contribution to the financial sustainability of the service.

Corporate priorities: The services provide meet the priorities of:

- Contributing to people in our poorest communities being in work and/or in training
- The creation of new businesses
- Increasing participation in and satisfaction with cultural activities
- Fostering and increasing a sense of local pride and enjoyment in cultural activity
- Helping create a safe & healthy community and encouraging people from different backgrounds to get on well together

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The charges have been developed in consultation with Service Managers across Cultural Services.

Appendix A: Cultural Services fees & charges 2013-14

Appendix B: Cultural Services concessionary use application form

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