

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisers for Regeneration and Development
2.	Date:	Friday 5 April 2013
3.	Title:	Amending Fees and Charges for Provision of Highway Services
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

Amendment to the current charge made for arranging a Street Works Licence (NRSWA Sec 50 permit / licence)

Implement a retrospective charge for unauthorised skip/container placements to improve highway safety and reduce disruption

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member:

- (i) Approves the proposed revised charge for a Street Works Licence (NRSWA Sec 50 permit / licence)
 - (ii) Approves the implementation of a retrospective charge for the unauthorised placement of skips and containers
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7. Proposals and Details

Properly licensed highway services help fulfil the aims of the Local Transport Plan, and the Traffic Management Act in terms of helping to keep the highway safe and reduce disruption.

A review has been carried out to benchmark the appropriate cost of providing this licence. It has been ascertained that neighbouring Authorities charge between £350 and £550 for providing this licence.

It is therefore proposed that the current charge of £300 for processing and implementing a Street Works License (SWL) under Section 50 of The New Roads and Street Works Act (NRSWA) 1991 should be increased to £450.

Approximately 100 unauthorised skips/containers were placed on Rotherham's highway last year, and there is a risk that such placements could be dangerous or conflict with other programmed works.

The introduction of a retrospective charge of £50 for the placement of unauthorised skips and containers on the highway is consistent with the charge made for a street works site inspection under the NRSWA.

8. Finance

The proposed increase in charges would realise approximately £16,750 additional income per annum, which would equate to an overall income increase of approximately 3.0%.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There is a small risk that the proposed new charges may be resisted, however, the proposed charge for a SWL would still be lower than the highest charge made by Sheffield City Council within the Yorkshire region.

The retrospective charge for the placement of an unlicensed skip would be consistent with several other neighbouring authorities. Therefore it is anticipated that resistance will be minimal.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The initiative is in full accord with the LTP3 objectives and the requirements of The Traffic Management Act 2004.

Licensing activities in the highway helps support the clean streets and safer and well maintained roads objectives in seeking an improved environment.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

1. The Highways Act 1980
2. The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTRA)
3. The New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (NRSWA)
4. The Traffic Management Act 2004 (TMA)
5. The Street Works (Inspection Fees) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009.
6. LTP3 (2011-2015)

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