

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism
2.	Date:	14th January, 2014
3.	Title:	Leisure and Green Spaces Fees and Charges 2014/15
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

The report outlines proposed changes to fees and charges for Leisure and Green Spaces.

6. Recommendations

6.1 That the fees and charges set out in Appendices A and B be approved.

7. Proposals and Details

Generally, proposed charges have been increased by at least the rate of inflation. Where this is not the case, it is either because implementing a price increase would incur additional costs (e.g. for changing ticket machines) or because managers feel that a unit price increase would reduce overall income due to its impact on levels of business. Where a charge is made there is often a concessionary rate and, in some cases, a junior Rothercard rate. Concessions are not restricted to off peak times as is the case in many other local authorities.

In most cases the proposed charges would take effect on 1st April 2014. However, as indicated in Appendix B, proposed charges for allotments and Rother Valley Country Park water-sports take effect on other dates. The proposed charges for allotments are for financial year 2014/15. This is because legislation requires 12 months' notice to be given of any rent increase. The proposed charges for water-sports start on 17th February 2014, as this is when the service re-starts for the 2014 season.

8. Finance

The proposed increases are designed 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 when appropriate.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda

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

Corporate Priorities: The services provided meet the Council priorities of improving lifestyle, health and skills and contribute to creating safe and healthy communities.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The charges have been developed in consultation with Service Managers across Leisure and Green Spaces.

Appendix A – Front Sheet

Appendix B - Leisure and Green Spaces Fees and Charges 2013/14

Contact Name: **Phil Gill, Leisure and Green Spaces Manager**

Tel: 822430, E-mail: philip.gill@rotherham.gov.uk