

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL DECISION



DECISION OF: DIRECTOR OF PLACE.

WITH ADVICE FROM: HEADS OF SERVICE. PLACE DIRECTORATE

DECISION NO: 23/24 DP 473

SUBJECT: Place Directorate Fees and Charges 2024-25

KEY DECISION: YES

REASON: The decision affects services across North Somerset.

BACKGROUND:

Fees and charges represent an important source of income, providing funding to assist in achieving the Council's objectives. Some of our fees and charges are effectively set by legislation but many are locally determined.

Income derived from charging will be used to offset the costs of providing the service being charged for, including support service costs. In setting an appropriate level of fees and charges, managers also take into account their client groups and corporate objectives

DECISION:

In accordance with the Council's constitution, this decision seeks approval for the proposed increases to fees and charges detailed in appendix A that are up to and including 5% or are estimated to generate additional annual revenue income up to £100,000.

REASONS:

- Raising revenue from charges for services is an important element in the overall financing of Council services and activities and helps to deliver service and strategic objectives.
- Consideration is therefore given, on a regular basis, to the scope for raising revenue through charges for services and to reviewing the appropriateness and adequacy of the levels of charges being proposed or actually in force.
- Services are generally given an increase in their income targets each year in accordance with agreed budget principles. This will be achieved through a combination of increases to fees and charges, increased use, and through rental and sales income where appropriate. Where information is available, changes to fees and charges will take account of changing circumstances and patterns of service use as well as known and predicted changes to service costs.
- There is a general policy presumption that the levels of fees and charges should rise, each year, in line with the rate of inflation wherever possible. Accordingly, the charges proposed in each service area should be sufficient to meet the additional fees and

charges income reflected in the final draft budget, which is detailed in an annual report to the Executive.

- The following represents the range of factors, which service managers need to take into account when setting fees and charges:-
 - Charges determined by primary or secondary legislation
 - Service costs, including inflation
 - Service supply and demand
 - Market conditions
 - Benchmarking with other authorities and other providers
 - Full cost recovery for services provided
 - Affordability

OPTIONS CONSIDERED:

Service Managers considered alternative pricing within the guidance / framework as described above.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There is a general policy presumption that the levels of fees and charges should rise, each year, in line with the rate of inflation. Accordingly, the charges proposed in each service area should be sufficient to meet the additional fees and charges income reflected in the final draft budget, which is detailed in an annual report to the Executive.

LEGAL POWERS AND IMPLICATIONS

Trading and charging for services has been a feature of local government for a Considerable time. Specific powers to charge for services are contained in a variety of local government statutes. The Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970, the Local Government Act 2003 and the Localism Act 2011 empower councils to charge for discretionary services on a cost recovery basis

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

NA

CONSULTATION

The changes are in accordance with the Council's policy guidance and principles and, as such, no consultation has been undertaken. The revised fees and charges will be published on the Council's website

RISK MANAGEMENT

In some cases, increases in fees and charges can be a disincentive to the take up services.

No material risks have been identified in this respect.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

Have you undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment? No

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

The contribution made by charging for council services supports other strategic objectives of the council.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 list of increases

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to Executive 12 April 2016 – 2016/17 Fees and Charges Schedule

<http://apps.n-somerset.gov.uk/cairo/docs/doc27320.pdf>

16/17 DE 302 Development and Environment Fees and Charges 2017/2018 – Flexible Pricing Policy

SIGNATORIES:

DECISION MAKER(S):

Signed:Director of Place

Date:

Appendix A

Service being charged	2023/24 charge	2024/25 charge	% increase	Is this a new charge? (Y/N)
Affordable Housing: Enabling Fees	£550.00	£570.00	4%	No
Campus				
Day Delegate Packages				
Full day package - external	£30.50	£31.50	3%	No
Half day inc lunch - external	£23.00	£24.00	4%	No
Half day no lunch - external	£19.25	£20.00	4%	No
Full day package - NSC net	£22.50	£23.50	4%	No
Half day no lunch - NSC - net	£16.00	£16.75	5%	No
Meeting Rooms				
Standard per hour	£16.25	£17.00	5%	No
Community per hour	£12.50	£13.00	4%	No
Half day 4 HRS - standard - BACK OFFICE	£44.00	£46.00	5%	No
Full day 8 hrs - standard BACK OFFICE	£84.00	£88.00	5%	No
Half day 4 HRS - NSC BACK OFFICE PRICING	£30.50	£32.00	5%	No
Full day 8 HRS - NSC BACK OFFICE PRICING	£50.00	£52.50	5%	No
Hourly NSC Price	£13.50	£14.00	4%	No
Conference Room 1 or 4				
Standard per hour	£30.50	£32.00	5%	No
Community per hour	£22.00	£23.00	5%	No
Half day 4 HRS - standard BACK OFFICE	£119.00	£123.00	3%	No
Full day - 8 HRS standard BACK OFFICE	£180.00	£188.00	4%	No
Half day 4 HRS - NSC BACK OFFICE PRICING	£90.00	£94.00	4%	No
Full day 8 HRS - NSC BACK OFFICE PRICING	£151.00	£158.00	5%	No
Conference Room 2 or 3				
Standard per hour	£39.00	£40.50	4%	No
Community per hour	£25.00	£26.00	4%	No
Half day 4 HRS - standard BACK OFFICE	£140.00	£145.00	4%	No
Full day - 8 HRS standard BACK OFFICE	£225.00	£230.00	2%	No

Half day 4 HRS - NSC BACK OFFICE PRICING	£110.00	£115.00	5%	No
Full day 8 HRS - NSC BACK OFFICE PRICING	£170.00	£175.00	3%	No
<u>Locking Castle Children's Centre</u>				
Play Rooms 1&2, Kitchen - Standard hourly	£38.50	£40.00	4%	No
Play Rooms 1&2, Kitchen - Community hourly	£27.00	£28.00	4%	No
Meeting Room - Standard per hour	£16.50	£17.00	3%	No
Meeting Room - Community per hour	£12.50	£13.00	4%	No
<u>Conferencing Equipment to hire - EXTERNAL</u>				
Data Projector (includes screen FOC) - full day	£58.00	£59.00	2%	No
Data Projector (includes screen FOC) - half day	£58.00	£59.00	2%	No
Flip chart	£14.00	£14.50	4%	No
Display boards	£14.00	£14.50	4%	No
<u>Conferencing Equipment to hire - INTERNAL NSC</u>				
Data Projector (includes screen FOC) - full day	£48.00	£49.00	2%	No
Data Projector (includes screen FOC) - half day	£48.00	£49.00	2%	No
Screen only				No
Flip chart	£12.00	£12.50	4%	No
Display Boards	£12.00	£12.50	4%	No
<u>Conference Refreshments - EXTERNAL</u>				
tea/coffee per head	£1.90	£2.00	5%	No
tea/coffee biscuits per head	£2.60	£2.70	4%	No
tea/coffee cakes per head	£3.50	£3.70	5%	No
cakes (each)	£1.80	£1.90	5%	No
fruit platter (per head)	£1.80	£1.90	5%	No
tea/coffee half cakes and half fruit	£3.50	£3.70	5%	No
biscuits per head	£1.00	£1.05	5%	No
<u>Conference Refreshments - INTERNAL NSC</u>				
tea/coffee per head	£1.70	£1.75	3%	No
tea/coffee biscuits per head	£2.00	£2.05	2%	No
tea/coffee cakes per head	£3.10	£3.15	2%	No
lunch buffet or breakfast per head	£7.80	£7.90	1%	No
tea/coffee half cakes and half fruit	£3.10	£3.20	3%	No
<u>Main Hall</u>				

Standard (and Private) per hour	£31.00	£32.50	5%	No
Community per hour	£22.50	£23.50	4%	No
<u>Pool</u>				
Hire of Pool (Hourly - Standard)	£53.00	£55.00	4%	No
Hire of Pool (Hourly - Community)	£31.00	£32.50	5%	No
Adult Swim	£5.75	£6.00	4%	No
Child Swim	£3.75	£3.95	5%	No
<u>Grass Pitches</u>				
Junior Pitch - matches	£36.18	£37.50	4%	No
<u>Castlebatch</u>				
Whole Hall - Community	£15.00	£15.50	3%	No
Whole Hall - Private	£17.50	£18.00	3%	No
Meeting Room - Community	£10.50	£11.00	5%	No
Meeting Room - Private	£13.50	£14.00	4%	No
Kitchen - Community	£10.50	£11.00	5%	No
Kitchen - Private	£13.50	£14.00	4%	No
Whole Building - Community	£28.00	£29.50	5%	No
Whole Building - Private	£33.50	£35.00	4%	No
<u>Somerset Hall Room Hire Only</u>				
Foyer (Half day 4hs)	£68.00	£70.00	3%	No
Foyer (Full day 8hs)	£110.00	£115.00	5%	No
Foyer and half hall (Half day 4hs)	£122.00	£125.00	2%	No
Foyer and half hall (Full day 8hs)	£165.00	£170.00	3%	No
Foyer and whole hall (Half day 4hs)	£145.00	£148.00	2%	No
Foyer and whole (Full day 8hs)	£210.00	£220.00	5%	No
<u>Somerset Hall Party Package Rates</u>				
Lounge Bar area and half hall (6pm - midnight)	£200.00	£210.00	5%	No
Whole hall and lounge bar area (6pm - midnight)	£300.00	£310.00	3%	No
Whole hall, lounge bar area & stage (6pm - midnight)	£350.00	£365.00	4%	No
Bar extension (midnight – 1am)	£110.00	£115.00	5%	No
<u>Film Office</u>				
<u>Admin Fee</u>				
Small Crew < 72h notice	£100.00	£105.00	5%	No
Large Crew	£100.00	£105.00	5%	No
Large Crew < 72h notice	£200.00	£210.00	5%	No
<u>Locational Fees</u>				
Small Crew - 5h	£350.00	£370.00	6%	No
Small Crew - 12h	£700.00	£735.00	5%	No
Small Crew - General Views (half day)	£90.00	£95.00	6%	No
Large Crew - 2h	£200.00	£210.00	5%	No
Large Crew - 5h	£400.00	£420.00	5%	No

Large Crew - 12h	£900.00	£945.00	5%	No
Interior spaces				
Small Crew - 2h	£200.00	£210.00	5%	No
Small Crew - 5h	£400.00	£420.00	5%	No
Small Crew - 12h	£800.00	£840.00	5%	No
Large Crew - 2h	£275.00	£290.00	5%	No
Large Crew - 5h	£550.00	£580.00	5%	No
Large Crew - 12h	£1,100.00	£1,155.00	5%	No
Highways Engineering				
Road accident information for commercial use (exclusive of VAT)	£132.00	£138.50	5%	No
Road accident information for commercial use (exclusive of VAT). Scale of fees applies (per accident)	£2.40	£2.50	4%	No
Road safety audits (exclusive of VAT)				
Safety Comments. Schemes under £30K	£115.00	£120.00	4%	No
Safety Comments. Schemes £30K - £250K	£231.00	£242.00	5%	No
Safety Comments. Schemes over £250K	£346.50	£362.00	4%	No
Stage 1 Road safety audit. Audit Scheme under £30k	£656.25	£685.00	4%	No
Stage 1 Road safety audit. Audit Scheme £30k-£250K	£1,207.50	£1,265.00	5%	No
Stage 1 Road safety audit. Review of external audit. Scheme under £30K	£315.00	£330.00	5%	No
Stage 1 Road safety audit. Review of external audit. Scheme £30K-£250K	£577.50	£605.00	5%	No
Stage 2 Road safety audit. Audit Scheme under £30k	£656.25	£685.00	4%	No
Stage 2 Road safety audit. Audit Scheme £30k-£250K	£1,207.50	£1,265.00	5%	No
Stage 2 Road safety audit. Review of external audit. Scheme under £30K	£315.00	£330.00	5%	No
Stage 2 Road safety audit. Review of external audit. Scheme £30K-£250K	£577.50	£605.00	5%	No
Stage 3 Road safety audit. Audit Scheme under £30k	£892.50	£935.00	5%	No
Stage 3 Road safety audit. Audit Scheme £30k-£250K	£1,522.50	£1,595.00	5%	No
Stage 3 Road safety audit. Review of external audit. Scheme under £30K	£446.25	£465.00	4%	No
Stage 3 Road safety audit. Review of external audit. Scheme £30K-£250K	£761.25	£795.00	4%	No

Traffic Regulation Order (VAT exempt)				
Permanent	£3,255.00	£3,400.00	4%	No
Libraries				
Hire of library premises - general use per hour (community rate for NFPs and charities)		£15.00	na	Existing charge not previously included
Hire of library premises - general use per hour (commercial rate)		£25.00	na	Existing charge not previously included
Hire of library premises - reading group meetings held outside of library opening hours (per hour)		£8.00	na	Existing charge not previously included
Hire of library premises - ICT training for basic ICT skills training, held inside library opening hours (Commercial Rate)		£15.00	na	Existing charge not previously included
Hire of library premises - ICT training per hour for basic ICT skills training, held outside of library opening hours (Commercial Rate)		£25.00	na	Existing charge not previously included
Hire of library premises - ICT training per hour for basic ICT skills training, held outside of library opening hours (Community Rate)		£15.00	na	Existing charge not previously included
Hire of library meeting room - small room (community rate)		£12.00	na	Yes
Hire of library meeting room - small room (commercial rate)		£15.00	na	Yes
Hire of library meeting room - large room (community rate)		£15.00	na	Yes
Hire of library meeting room - large room (commercial rate)		£25.00	na	Yes
Hutton Moor/Campus				
Squash – junior charges apply to 7pm after this time adult charges apply				
Adult Squash	£7.90	£8.30	5%	No
Junior/OAP Squash	£5.50	£5.70	4%	No
Swimming				

Adult Swimming	£5.75	£6.00	4%	No
Junior/OAP Swimming	£3.75	£3.95	5%	No
School Swim	£2.95	£3.05	3%	No
Planning				
Householder & Listed Building - level 3	n/a	£255.00		Yes
Street naming and numbering				
Name or rename an existing property (per unit – VAT exempt)	£55.00	£57.75	5%	No
Name or number a new property (per unit – VAT exempt)	£65.00	£68.25	5%	No
Recombine units within an existing property (per unit – VAT exempt)	£65.00	£68.25	5%	No
Building Control Regularisations:				
Number of new dwellings (where each is less than 300m ²)				
1 dwelling	£912.00	£957.60	5%	No
2 dwellings	£1,271.00	£1,335	5%	No
3 dwellings	£1,629.00	£1,710	5%	No
4 dwellings	£1,917.00	£2,013	5%	No
5 dwellings	£2,194.00	£2,304	5%	No
6 dwellings	£2,506.00	£2,631	5%	No
7 dwellings	£2,657.00	£2,790	5%	No
8 dwellings	£3,003.00	£3,153	5%	No
9 dwellings	£3,326.00	£3,492	5%	No
10 dwellings	£3,638.00	£3,820	5%	No
Garage & car ports up to 40m ²	£350.00	£367.50	5%	No
Garage & carports 40m ² up to 60m ²	£433.00	£454.65	5%	No
Extensions up to 40m ²	£612.00	£642.60	5%	No
Extensions over 40m ² up to 60m ²	£739.00	£775.95	5%	No
Extensions over 60m ² up to 80m ²	£855.00	£897.75	5%	No
Extensions over 80m ² up to 300m ²	£924.00	£970.20	5%	No
Loft conversions up to 40m ²	£490.00	£514.50	5%	No
Loft conversions 40m ² up to 80m ²	£618.00	£648.90	5%	No
Conversion of garage into living accommodation	£308.00	£323.40	5%	No
Underpinning	£357.00	£374.85	5%	No
Renovation of thermal element / installation of solid fuel heating	£155.00	£162.75	5%	No
Replacement windows	£155.00	£162.75	5%	No
Electrical work (non Competent Persons Scheme)	£544.00	£571.20	5%	No
Cost of Works:				
Up to £5000	£297.00	£311.85	5%	No
£5001 – £10,000	£347.00	£364.35	5%	No
£10,001 – £20,000	£445.00	£467.25	5%	No

£20,001 – £30,000	£566.00	£594.30	5%	No
£30,001 – £40,000	£693.00	£727.65	5%	No
£40,001 – £50,000	£814.00	£854.70	5%	No
£50,001 – £70,000	£866.00	£909.30	5%	No
£70,001 – £90,000	£924.00	£970.20	5%	No
£90,001 – £110,000	£982.00	£1,031.10	5%	No
Building Control Regularisations:				
Number of new dwellings (where each is less than 300m ²)				
1 dwelling	£1,095	£1,150	5%	No
2 dwellings	£1,525	£1,601	5%	No
3 dwellings	£1,954	£2,052	5%	No
4 dwellings	£2,301	£2,416	5%	No
5 dwellings	£2,633	£2,765	5%	No
6 dwellings	£3,008	£3,158	5%	No
7 dwellings	£3,188	£3,347	5%	No
8 dwellings	£3,604	£3,784	5%	No
9 dwellings	£3,992	£4,192	5%	No
10 dwellings	£4,366	£4,584	5%	No
Garage & car ports up to 40m ²	£420.00	£441.00	5%	No
Garage & carports 40m ² up to 60m ²	£519.00	£544.95	5%	No
Extensions up to 40m ²	£734.00	£770.70	5%	No
Extensions over 40m ² up to 60m ²	£887.00	£931.35	5%	No
Extensions over 60m ² up to 80m ²	£1,026	£1,077	5%	No
Extensions over 80m ² up to 300m ²	£1,109	£1,164	5%	No
Loft conversions up to 40m ²	£589.00	£618.45	5%	No
Loft conversions 40m ² up to 80m ²	£742.00	£779.10	5%	No
Conversion of garage into living accommodation	£370.00	£388.50	5%	No
Underpinning	£428.00	£449.40	5%	No
Renovation of thermal element / installation of solid fuel heating	£185.00	£194.25	5%	No
Replacement windows	£186.00	£195.30	5%	No
Electrical work (non Competent Persons Scheme)	£653.00	£685.65	5%	No
Cost of Works:				
Up to £5000	£356.00	£373.80	5%	No
£5001 – £10,000	£416.00	£436.80	5%	No
£10,001 – £20,000	£534.00	£560.70	5%	No
£20,001 – £30,000	£679.00	£712.95	5%	No
£30,001 – £40,000	£839.00	£880.95	5%	No
£40,001 – £50,000	£976	£1,025	5%	No
£50,001 – £70,000	£1,040	£1,092	5%	No
£70,001 – £90,000	£1,109	£1,164	5%	No
£90,001 – £110,000	£1,178	£1,237	5%	No

Events				
Control Room Operator Hourly Rate (For Event Control Room)	£0.00	£18.50		Yes
Highways Network Management				
Cultivation of the Highway	£175.00	£183.00	5%	No
Section 171 Excavation of the Highway Licence	£220.00	£231.00	5%	No
Licence to locate scaffolding or mobile elevated work platform on the highway	£82.00	£86.00	5%	No
Mobile elevated work platform and scaffolding licences (less than five working days notice)	£112.00	£117.00	4%	No
Skips, hoarding and fencing, building materials on the highway	£71.00	£74.00	4%	No
Skips, hoarding and fencing, building materials on the highway (less than 5 working days notice)	£101.00	£106.00	5%	No
Retrospective licence to locate skips, scaffolding, hoarding, fencing, building materials or objects on the highway	£142.00	£149.00	5%	No
Mobile elevated work platform licences (less than 5 working days notice)	£112.00	£117.00	4%	No
Retrospective permission for scaffolding or mobile elevated work platforms and on the highway	£165.00	£173.00	5%	No
Licence to over-sail the highway using a Tower or Mobile crane	£170.00	£178.00	5%	No
Retrospective licence to over-sail the highway using a Tower or Mobile crane	£341.00	£358.00	5%	No
Banners/projectiles application fee	£82.00	£86.00	5%	No
Banners/projectiles application fee (less than 5 working days notice)	£112.00	£117.00	4%	No
Banners/projectiles retrospective fee	£165.00	£173.00	5%	No
Dropped kerb vehicle access domestic application	£220.00	£231.00	5%	No
For applications with planning approval where access arrangements have been stipulated/agreed at the planning stage.	£165.00	£173.00	5%	No
Retrospective	£330.00	£346.00	5%	No
New vehicular access from the highway multiple residences and commercial premises	£1,210.00	£1,270.00	5%	No

New vehicular access from the highway multiple residences and commercial premises (Retrospective)	£1,760.00	£1,848.00	5%	No
Road Opening Licence New Apparatus	£470.00	£493.00	5%	No
Road Opening Licence Existing Apparatus	£320.00	£336.00	5%	No
Additional Fee for Retrospective Road Opening Licence (S50) New or Existing Apparatus.	£150.00	£157.00	5%	No
Road Opening Licence (S50) Inspection fee for additional 200m length	£170.00	£178.00	5%	No
Additional charge for Road Opening Licence (S50) applications (new or renewal) with less than 4 weeks' notice	£150.00	£157.00	5%	No
Application for temporary traffic signals	£35.00	£36.00	3%	No
Temporary signage for housing developments 4 signs or less	£80.00	£84.00	5%	No
Temporary signage for housing developments 5 - 8 signs	£150.00	£157.00	5%	No
Temporary signage for housing developments 9 or more signs	£250.00	£262.00	5%	No
Approval of temporary event signage	£84.00	£88.00	5%	No
Order giving less than 12 weeks notice	£2,470.00	£2,593.00	5%	No
Order giving 12 weeks notice	£1,370	£1,438	5%	No
Closing each extra road or for each additional temporary restriction required – (up to a max of 10 roads and/or restrictions combined – more than 10 roads and/restrictions combined will be subject to negotiation	£220.00	£231.00	5%	No
Assessment of temporary event signage (fee does not apply to charitable/national events events)	£84.00	£88.00	5%	No
Amendment to a TTRO under section 14 or 16a RTRA	£250.00	£262.00	5%	No
TTRO 16a Standard Charge	£800.00	£840.00	5%	No