

DECISION NOTICE

Notice is given that the following decision has been taken under the Provisions set out in the Council's Constitution

Decision maker: Cabinet Member Finance and Assets

Date: 25 April 2016

Decision in the matter of: Registration Fees 2016/17 and Ceremony Fees 2017/18

Decision: 1. That approval be given to the following ceremony fees, with the equivalent fees also applying to any Renewal of Vows ceremonies :

		<u>Recommended Fees</u>	
		<u>2017/18</u>	<u>2018/19</u>
Weekday	£485		£500
Sat & Sun	£590		£605
Bank Holiday	£695		£715
Christmas Day and Boxing Day	£835		£850

2. That that the Administration fee and second stage payment for ceremonies each remain at their current level of £100 for 2016/17.
3. That the fees for ceremonies in the Mayor's Reception Room and the Silk Room for 2017/18 be set at £245 for weekdays and £285 for Saturdays.
4. That the fee for licensing a building for Marriage and Civil Partnership be increased from £1550 to £1650 with effect from 1 April 2016.
5. That the fees for the Nationality Checking Service for 2016/17 be set at:
Adult - £75; and
Child under 18 - £40
6. That the fees for a Private Citizenship ceremony for 2016/17 be set at:
Adult £100; and
Child under 18 – nil
7. That the fee for the production of On Demand certificates for 2016/17 remain at £20.

Background:

The majority of fees collected by the registration service are set by central government. The Council has legal authority under legislation to set fees for non statutory services including ceremonies at approved premises, grant of approval for approved premises, naming ceremonies, renewal of vows ceremonies, nationality checking service, private citizenship ceremonies, administration fee for booking ceremonies and on demand certificate service.

The specific power to levy fees for Approved Premises is set out in the Marriages (Approved Premises) Regulations 2011. A specific power to charge was introduced by section 93 of the Local Government Act 2003, which gives relevant authorities the power to charge for discretionary services. Further the new general power of competence contained in the Localism Act 2011 now sits alongside a local authority's power to trade and charge. In common with the LGA 2003 powers, charging for things done in the exercise of the general power of competence is not a power to make a profit from those activities.

Financial advice has been sought on the proposed fees taking into account the full cost of administering the service. The proposed fees for ceremonies will recover the full cost of ceremonies for the year without generating excess fee income.

Background Documents:

The background papers associated with this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer.

Approved:

Signed
Councillor Peter Groves (Cabinet Member for Finance and Assets)

Date:

25 April 2016

Advising Officer:

Signed
Lindsey Parton (Registration Service and Business Manager)