

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
SPECIAL COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – 21st MARCH 2002
REVENUE BUDGET 2002/03
CHARGES FOR SERVICES

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To request that the Committee approve increased charges for services provided by the department.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 In December 1998, the Policy and Resources Committee approved a policy on charging which was based on the Accounts Commission publication 'The Challenge of Charging' (March 1998). The appendices to this report have been developed in accordance with the principles of this policy, taking into account such factors as current markets, comparable costs of other local authorities and the impact on customer demand.
- 2.2 Appendices 1 to 11 outline the existing and proposed charges for services on a service by service basis.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 It is difficult to accurately predict additional income since there are many factors outwith the control of the Council which can influence income levels during the year but it is felt that the increases, if approved, will meet planning assumptions.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The legislation relating to charges for services where appropriate can be summarised as follows:-
- i) Licensing – Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982
 - ii) Waste Management – Environmental Protection Act 1990
 - iii) Pest Control – Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949
 - iv) General - Local Government (Goods and Services) Act

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This review of charges has been carried out in line with the Council policy on charging for services.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 As part of the normal base budget process for 2002/2003 a number of income lines which relate to charges were increased. This report consolidates the position taking into account relevant factors for each charging area.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- i) consider the proposed charges outlined in Appendices 1 to 11 and approve implementation from 1 April 2002; and
- ii) otherwise note this report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

13TH March 2002

WS/JS

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

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AGENDA