

# Agenda Item 13

## Supplementary information

This report outlines a revised Pricing and Lettings Policy which the Area Support Team have been requested to amend for the Outer West Leeds on behalf of the Area Committee. These proposals are based on feedback received from members and community groups using the centres.

Assessing the full implications of these proposals to the Authority, to individual Area Committees and to service users is difficult to do as there are many variables and influencing factors (e.g. the range of existing charges and discounts, the number of users, centres and types of organisation using them). There have been significant usage and income variations in centres from year to year.

In view of the issues highlighted above and the delegated responsibilities given to the Area Committees, it is suggested that Area Committees are cognisant of local issues, budgetary implications and priorities of the Committee in setting its local pricing policy.

The main aim of the revised lettings policy is to encourage increased usage of the centres that are reasonable and comparable to other buildings available for hire in the area. Even with the possibility of increased income being generated through this revised policy, there may still be high levels of backlog maintenance costs that need to be addressed. The income will assist with the running costs associated with the buildings in the area, and if or where possible, go towards some enhancements to the centres. If this does not stimulate increased use of the centre there will continue to be budgetary challenges.

There could be some budgetary impact in terms of increased or even reduced income for community facilities. Any increased income can be re-invested into the buildings to make them of a higher standard for all users. If the income levels were to fall, efficiency saving measures would have to be explored to see how these costs could be recovered.

It is important to note Leeds City Council is currently reviewing its policies in relation to community centres. Work is currently in progress and it is likely that there will be further changes in the near future. Any results of revising the pricing policy may need to be reviewed in light of any Council policy changes.

## Recommendations

- To consider and approve the proposed pricing policy changes.