



# Scrutiny Inquiry: Fees and Charges December 2015

## Desired Outcomes

**Desired Outcome** – To have in place a fees and charges policy that will help disadvantaged groups access services that they might otherwise be unable to use. To have a policy which encourages services to look at how their pricing structures and subsidies might be targeted at priority groups in order to help achieve specific council objectives

**Recommendation 1** – That Executive Board agree the proposed changes to The Fees and Charges Policy and Best Practice Guidance

**Desired Outcome** – To ensure fees to do not fall behind market expectations

**Recommendation 2** – That all fees are reviewed annually and the normal expectation is that they would increase by at least the rate of inflation and be implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> January.

**Desired Outcome** – To ensure that the Council does not behind market expectations

**Recommendation 3** – That Directorates review and look at refreshing policies or charging frameworks on an annual basis.

**Desired Outcome** – To ensure a consistent and robust accounting structure for calculating the true cost of services.

**Recommendation 4** – That Directorates ensure that all possible costs in line with CIPFA's Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities are accounted for in relation to those services where legislation states that fees can only recover costs.

**Desired Outcome** – To encourage a robust debate on the services provided, the subsidies they attract and the level of fees charged

**Recommendation 5** – That the Executive Board actively consider the list of potential new fee areas drawn up by this Scrutiny Board and where appropriate request that officers undertaken a full cost benefit analysis.

**Desired Outcome** – To maintain a sustainable Care Service

**Recommendation 6** – That in relation to Non-Residential Adult Social Care Services, the Executive Board considers either increasing of removing the current cap on the amount anyone pays for their services per week.

**Desired Outcome** – To provide a central support on marketing, communications and business acumen to fully maximise income potential

**Recommendation 7** – That Executive Board look at providing a budget to fund work/resources to generate income.

