

TAUNTON DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE 6 DECEMBER 2006

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

FEES & CHARGES 2007/08

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Bradley

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The proposed fees and charges for 2007/08 are laid out in this report. The Executive is requested to recommend these charges to Full Council.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 The purpose of this report is for the Executive to consider the proposed fees and charges for 2007/08 for the following services:

- Waste Services,
- Cemeteries & Crematorium,
- Licensing.

3 PROPOSED INCREASES FOR 2007/08

3.1 Appended to this report are the detailed proposed charges for each service as outlined above. The recent public consultation "Your Council, Your Views" clearly indicated that the public prefer to see increases in fees and charges, rather than in Council Tax, as a way for the Council to raise income. Therefore, where possible, fees have been increased to take these views into account.

3.2 Waste Services (Appendix A)

The Council is empowered by the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and by Regulations to charge for the collection of certain types of household wastes. These include bulky items, and garden wastes. The council is also empowered to charge for the provision of waste containers. The proposed charges for waste services are shown in Appendix A. The Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) has agreed these charges as the 'harmonised' charges that will apply during 2007/08 in preparation for the integrated service contract.

3.3 Collection charges for waste services provide a mechanism for managing participation. If they are too high there is the possibility that participation will be very low and that citizens may be encouraged to dispose of their waste inappropriately. However, if they are too low the level of participation may require a large amount of resources (trucks and crews) to be used that will significantly increase the costs of the service. The proposed charges for garden wastes have therefore been set to control participation at an optimum level to achieve the SWP pooled recycling and composting targets without incurring excessive whole system costs (that is, including the cost of processing that is incurred by SCC). The proposed collection charges for bulky items provide an incentive for householders to use the free collection service for reusable items provided by Home Furniture Trust.

- 3.4 All charges for waste services are inclusive of VAT. Both garden wastes and bulky items can be taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centres operated by SCC for recycling and/or reuse free of charge.
- 3.5 Cemeteries & Crematorium (Appendix B)
For the Cemeteries & Crematorium service fees have been largely increased by RPI. This will generate an estimated additional £37,400. An exception to this is that an additional £3.00 has been added to the cremation fee, this will generate a further £6,600 and it is proposed that this will be used to fund an increase in the grounds maintenance budget of the Crematorium. The total additional income generated from these increases is therefore £44,000.
- 3.6 Licensing Fees (Appendix C)
Many Licensing Fees particularly those in relation to the Licensing Act 2003 are set nationally, and the majority of income derived from licensing activities results from these fees. However for those licensing fees where there is local flexibility to set an appropriate amount Officers have been working to try and increase fees to ensure that the Council's costs in administering and enforcing such licenses are adequately met from the subsequent income received. However it is not possible to set a standard increase across all areas. As can be seen from Appendix D the activities of the Licensing Unit are many and varied. Each activity has to be considered on the basis of the nature of the activity, location and number of existing traders and other market factors and an individual fee or charge proposed accordingly. Consequently the proposed percentage increases vary, however this variance must be considered in the context of the level of fee.
- 3.7 Licensing fees and charges are delicately balanced, put these rates up too much and this will suppress the market and lead to an overall reduction in activity and therefore a reduction in income. This also may encourage more illegal and therefore unregulated trading; resulting in greater risks to public safety and consequently may result in more costly investigations into this activity by the Licensing Unit. However if the fee is reasonable and affordable, people will be more inclined to pay it, and this will therefore afford a greater level of protection of public safety in the Borough. In summary, income from the proposed increases in fees is expected to generate an additional £6,700 in 2007/08.
- 3.8 Members may recall that in previous years the proposed fees for the Land Charges service are usually contained within this report. The Department for Constitutional Affairs are at present consulting on several significant changes to the way in which local authorities can charge for land charge services. The revised guidance on these changes is awaited and therefore Officers are not yet in a position to be able to advise on their implications or on the resultant fee levels for 2007/08 for this service.
- 3.9 The Review Board considered the proposed fees and charges at their meeting on 30 November, and a verbal update on their comments will be given at the meeting. After consideration by the Executive the proposed fees will be referred to Full Council on 12 December.

3.10 The fees and charges relating to the Car Parks service will be subject to consideration by the Traffic Regulations Orders Panel in January and will be considered by Full Council in February.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Executive are requested to recommend the proposed fees and charges for 2007/08 to Full Council as set out in this report.

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Appendix A

Waste Services Charges 2007/08

GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS	2006/07	2007/08
180 litre green wheeled bin including 25 collections	£15 PA	£20 PA
Paper sacks (sold in bundles of 10)	£5.00	£7.50
As indicated above the proposed increase will harmonise charges with the other Somerset Districts in preparation for the integrated waste collection contract scheduled to commence in October 2007.		

DELIVERY CHARGES FOR WHEELED BINS	2006/07	2007/08
Delivery or exchange of wheeled bins	£15	£15
No increase is proposed for the charge made to customers that choose to have a wheeled bin outside the periods of bulk distribution or that request a larger bin than had previously been provided. This charge transfers the cost of delivery incurred by Council. It is not applied to new residents.		

CADDY LINERS FOR FOOD BINS	2006/07	2007/08
1 x 50:	£4	£5
2 x 50:	£8	£9
3 x 50:	£12	£12
The proposed increases for the compostable food bin liners are to cover the additional costs of postage incurred as a result of the revised postal charges system. A retail network is developing that supply the liners. Some of these outlets sell the liners at less than the prices quoted above. However, it is important that the Council provides a postal service for those residents that cannot access the retail outlets. No income is retained from the sale of caddy liners		

BULKY ITEMS	2006/07	2007/08
1 ST Item	£10	£10
Each successive item (up to a maximum of four)	£2.50	£5
A bulky item is defined as being in excess of 25kgs in weight or greater than either 0.75 m in diameter or 1m in length). There is a maximum of five items per collection at a total cost of £30.		

As indicated above the proposed increase will harmonise charges with the other Somerset Districts in preparation for the integrated waste collection contract scheduled to commence in October 2007. It is not possible to predict the additional income these increases will generate with the available data.

Appendix B

TAUNTON DEANE CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM TABLE OF FEES AND CHARGES



Proposed from 1st April 2007

TAUNTON DEANE CREMATORIUM

TABLE OF FEES AND CHARGES

EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST APRIL 2007

Table of fees and other charges, the payment of which may be demanded under Section 9 of the Cremation Act 1902, by the Taunton Deane Borough Council for the cremation of human remains.

Part 1 - Cremation

For the Cremation:-	£ 2006/7	£ 2007/8
(i) of the body of a stillborn child or of a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one month;	16.50	17.00
(ii) of the body of a child whose age at the time of death exceeded one month but did not exceed sixteen years;	88.00	92.00
(iii) of the body of a person whose age at the time of death exceeded sixteen years;	459.00	479.00
(iv) a surcharge will be made when the service does not take place between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.00 pm Monday to Friday;	53.00	55.00
(v) use of Chapel for additional service time.	124.00	128.00
(vi) Chapel Attendant pall-bearing fee.	14.00	15.00

NOTE:- The Cremation fee includes:-

Use of Chapel, waiting room etc.
Services of organist and use of organ
Services of chapel attendant, which includes playing CDs, tapes, etc.
Medical referee's fee
Disposal of cremated remains in Garden of Rest

Certificate for burial of cremated remains
Provision of Polytainer when required

Part 2 - Urns

Supply of Urn or Casket:-	£	£
Stratford	27.00	30.00
Avon/Stirling	28.00	34.00
Malvern	35.00	38.00
Metal Postal	31.00	34.00

Part 3 - Cremated Remains

(i) Temporary deposit of cremated remains:-		
First month	16.00	17.00
Each subsequent month	20.00	21.00
(ii) Forwarding cremated remains excluding carriage	21.00	22.00
(iii) Collection of cremated remains on a Saturday (when available)	50.00	52.00

Part 4 - Memorials

(i) Entries in Book of Memory:-		
Two line inscription	48.00	50.00
Five line inscription	68.00	70.00
Eight line inscription	93.00	96.00
Flower) with five or eight	43.00	45.00
Badge or Coat of Arms) line inscription only	54.00	56.00
(ii) Memorial Cards:-		
Two line inscription	23.00	24.00
Five line inscription	30.00	31.00
Eight line inscription	33.00	34.00
Flower) with five or eight	46.00	48.00
Badge or Coat of Arms) line inscription only	61.00	66.00
(iii) Miniature Books:-		
Two line inscription	48.00	50.00
Five line inscription	61.00	63.00
Eight line inscription	64.00	66.00
Flower	46.00	48.00

Badge or Coat of Arms	65.00	66.00
Subsequent inscriptions		
Per line	15.00	16.00
Flower	40.00	41.00
Badge or Coat of Arms	52.00	54.00
(iv) Cornish Granite tablet for a ten year period		
Standard memorial tablet	286.00	296.00
Memorial tablet with vase	330.00	342.00
Provision of flower container in existing tablet	45.00	47.00
Cost of renewal 50% of current fee	143.00	148.00
(v) Memorial plaque for a five year period	200.00	206.00
Cost of renewal 50% of current fee	100.00	103.00
(vi) Baby memorial plaques for a ten year period	65.00	67.00
<u>Part 5 - Other Fees and Charges</u>		
(i) Certified extract from Register of Cremations	14.00	15.00
(ii) Floral Arrangements:-		
Small arrangement	31.00	32.00
Large arrangement	36.00	37.00

NOTE:- The charges in Part 4 and 5 (ii) include VAT

CEMETERIES

TABLE OF FEES AND CHARGES

EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST APRIL 2007

Table of fees and other charges fixed by the Taunton Deane Borough Council for and in connection with burials in the Taunton Deane St. Mary's, St. James and Wellington Cemeteries.

The fees indicated for the various parts set out below apply where the persons to be interred or in respect of who the right is granted is, or immediately before this death, was an inhabitant of Taunton Deane District, or in the case of a stillborn child where one of the parents is or at the time of the interment was such an inhabitant or parishioner. In all other cases the fees, payments and sums will be doubled with the exception that those set out in Parts 3 and 4 will not be so doubled.

Interment fees out of normal hours will be doubled.

Part 1 - Interments

The fees indicated for the various heads of this part include the digging of the grave but do not include the walling of a vault or walled grave.

	£ 2006/7	£ 2007/8
1. For the interment in a grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has not been granted:-		
(i) of the body of a stillborn child or a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one year;	99.00	103.00
(ii) of the body of a child or person whose age at the time of death exceeded one year.	259.00	268.00
2. For any interment in a grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted:-		
(i) of the body of a stillborn child or a child whose age at the time of death did not exceed one year:-		
at SINGLE depth	112.00	116.00
at DOUBLE depth	134.00	139.00
at TREBLE depth	150.00	155.00

(ii)	of the body of a child or person whose age at the time of death exceeded one year but did not exceed ten:-	£	£
	at SINGLE depth	218.00	226.00
	at DOUBLE depth	257.00	266.00
	at TREBLE depth	278.00	288.00
(iii)	for the body of a person whose age exceeds ten years:-		
	at SINGLE depth	321.00	340.00
	at DOUBLE depth	378.00	400.00
	at TREBLE depth	428.00	450.00
3.	For the interment of cremated remains:-		
(i)	in Garden of Remembrance (where cremation has not taken place at Taunton Deane Crematorium)	43.00	45.00
(ii)	in any grave in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted	81.00	84.00
(iii)	Saturday interment (when available)	78.00	81.00
(iv)	To witness interment in Garden of Rest when cremation has taken place at Taunton.	16.00	17.00

Part 2 - Exclusive Rights of Burial in Earthen Graves

1. Taunton Deane Cemetery:-

For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave 2.3 m by 1.2 m

(i)	in Division L	380.00	400.00
(ii)	in Division A	436.00	450.00
(iii)	in Division B	408.00	430.00
(iv)	Cremated remains grave 78 cm by 76 cm	278.00	288.00

2. St. Mary's and St. James Cemeteries:-

For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave 2.6 m by 1.2 m

408.00	430.00
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3. Wellington Cemetery:-

£	£
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For the exclusive right of burial for a period of 75 years in an earthen grave

(i) 2.3 m by 1.2 m	408.00	430.00
(ii) 1.2 m by 0.6 m	278.00	288.00

The fees indicated in Part 2 include the Deed of Grant and all expenses thereof.

Part 3 - Memorials and Inscriptions

For the right to erect or place on a grave or vault in respect of which an exclusive right of burial has been granted.

1. In any "Traditional Section":-

(i) a flat stone, kerbstone or any other form of memorial;	148.00	153.00
(ii) a headstone or cross with base, bases or tablet;	132.00	137.00
(iii) an inscribed stone vase.	50.00	52.00

2. In any "Lawn Section":-

(i) a headstone;	132.00	137.00
(ii) an inscribed vase.	49.00	52.00

3. Cremated remains flat tablet 132.00 137.00

4. Each removal of memorial for additional inscriptions. 50.00 52.00

Part 4 - Other Fees and Charges

1. Certified extract from the Register of Burials.	16.00	17.00
2. Burial service in Crematorium Chapel (fee includes the use of Chapel, organ and the organist's fee);	125.00	128.00
3. Register search.	16.00	17.00

FEES & CHARGES 2007/8	LICENSING UNIT	
SERVICE	05/06 FEE	06/07 FEE
Gaming Machines	£250.00	£250.00
Gaming Machines - Section 34	£32.00	£32.00
Lotteries- new	£35.00	£35.00
Lotteries - renewals	£17.50	£17.50
Sex Establishment-Grant	£11,000.00	£12,000.00
Sex Establishment - renewal	£6,000.00	£6,500.00
Sex Establishment Licence Variation or Transfer		£95 + £600 if determined by the Licensing Board
Skin Piercing Registration-Premises	£50.00	£50.00
Skin Piercing Registration-Individual	£50.00	£50.00
Admin - uncleared cheques	£25.00	£35.00
Admin charge - request for info	£25.00	£35.00
Duplicate Licence	£10.00	£12.00
Street Trading -Market House,High St,Castle Bow,North St (non food)	£1,500.00	£1,600.00
Street Trading -Market House,High St,Castle Bow,North St (food)	£1,500.00	£1,800.00
Street Trading - Paul St, Billet St	£960.00	£960.00
Street Trading - Laybys	£1500 - £2200	£1500 - £2400
Mobile Traders	£250.00	£250.00
Permanent Site private land	£250.00	£275.00
Daily rate	£10-£50 per day	£20 - £50
Promotional Events	£100.00	£120.00
Pavement Cafes Less than 10m2	£150.00	£175.00
Pavement Cafes less than 20m2	£200.00	£225.00
Pavement Cafes less than 30m2	£300.00	£350.00
Pavement Cafes less than 40m2	£350.00	£400.00
Pavement Cafes - new grants in excess of 40m2	£500.00	£600.00
Hackney Carriage Vehicle Licence	£140.00	£150.00
Private Hire Vehicle Licence	£140.00	£150.00
Change of number plate	£25.00	£25.00
Meter Test	£14.00	£15.00
Replacement Plate	£14.00	£15.00
Internal Identification Sticker	£3.00	£3.00
Photo fee	£2.00	£2.00

SERVICE	05/06 FEE	06/07 FEE
Private Hire Operator Licence	£75.00	£80.00
New Drivers Licence	£95.00	£100.00
Additional Knowledge Test	£17.50	£17.50
Driver renewal 1 year	£75.00	£80.00
Driver renewal 3 year	£200.00	£220.00
Replacement badge	£8.00	£10.00
Advertising on Vehicles		£35.00
Certified copy of Motor Salvage Operator Register		£35.00
Pet Shop Licence	£100.00	£105.00
Animal Boarding Licence	£100.00	£105.00
Home Boarding License	New Fee	£30.00
Dog Breeding	£100.00	£105.00
Dangerous Wild Animals	£135.00	£140.00
Riding Establishments	£135.00	£140.00
Zoos	£500.00	£500.00

Appendix C**CEHO RECOMMENDED % INCREASE 07/08**

0 - Fixed By Statute

0 - Fixed By Statute

0 - Fixed By Statute

0 - Fixed By Statute

0% (£12,000)

0% (£6,500)

0% (£50)

0% (£50)

0% (£35)

0% (£35)

25% (£15)

5% (£1680)

13.3% (£2,040)

0% (£960)

0% (£1500 - £2400)

10% (£275)

9.1% (£300)

25% - 10% (£25 -£55)

12.5% (£135)

14.3% (£200)

11.1% (£250)

10% (£385)

10% (£440)

10% (£660)

10% (£165)

10% (£165)

20% (£30)

10% (£16.50)

33.3% (£20)

66.6% (£5)

50% (£3)

CEHO RECOMMENDED % INCREASE 07/08
12.5% (£90)
10% (£110)
0% (£17.50)
12.5% (£90)
9.1% (£240)
50% (£15)
0% (£35)
0% (£35)
4.8% (£110)
4.8% (£110)
0% (£30)
4.8% (£110)
7.1% (£150)
7.1% (£150)
0% (£500)