

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Council Meeting – 2 February 2011

To and receive the following recommendation to the Council from the Executive.

Councillor John Williams

Fees and Charges 2011/2012

The Executive has given consideration to the proposed fees and charges for 2011/2012 for the following services:-

- Cemeteries and Crematorium – It is intended to increase the main cremation fee by £20 to £570 and make minor increases for other charges within the service. It is estimated that this will generate additional income of £44,000;
- Waste Services – It is proposed to increase the cost of 10 garden waste sacks from £20 to £25;
- Land Charges – No increase is proposed;
- Housing and Deane Helpline – It is proposed to increase all charges by 4.6% which is likely to generate additional income of £59,000 for the Housing Revenue Account. Council housing rents will be set early in 2011 once the subsidy determination has been issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government;
- Licensing – Although many of the Licensing fees are set nationally, it is intended to raise local fees to generate a further £3,850.
- Planning – It is proposed to increase pre-application advice and charges which will generate additional income estimated at £10,000.

The results of previous public consultation events such as “Your Council, Your Views” have 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. The Corporate Scrutiny Committee also considered this matter at its meeting on 18 November 2010.

It is therefore **recommended** that the fees and charges for 2011/2012 in respect of Cemeteries and Crematorium, Waste Services, Housing and Deane Helpline, Licensing and Planning be agreed.