

Report of	Meeting	Date
Corporate Director (People)	With Executive Member for Resources Councillor Alan Cullens	29/02/08

PEOPLE DIRECTORATE FEES AND CHARGES 2008/2009

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is to agree the fees and charges for services overseen by the People Directorate, for the period 2008/2009.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. To approve the fees and charges for 2008/2009 as set out in the Appendix to this report, with effect from 1 April 2008.
3. To note that the Corporate Director (People) has negotiated a 1% support charge with Community Leisure Services which is anticipated to provide an income of £25,000 per annum.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF REPORT

4. The report recommends fees and charges for 2008/2009. The detailed breakdown of the proposed fees and charges is included in the Appendix to this report. The report outlines the various issues affecting fees and charges which provides context to some of the recommendations. The report also explains the introduction of a 1% support charge that the Council will make to Community Leisure Services. Finally, the report also makes reference to the changes to fees and charges at Duxbury Park Golf Course.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

(If the recommendations are accepted)

5. To agree fees and charges for 2008/2009 in order to maximise income and to ensure we deliver the social objectives around increasing access to services.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

6. Other levels of increase and reduction have been considered but did not meet the twin objectives of maximising income and delivering social objectives around increased access, as well as the recommendations contained in this report do.



CORPORATE PRIORITIES

7. This report relates to the following Strategic Objectives:

Put Chorley at the heart of regional economic development in the Central Lancashire sub-region		Develop local solutions to climate change.	
Improving equality of opportunity and life chances	3	Develop the Character and feel of Chorley as a good place to live	
Involving people in their communities		Ensure Chorley Borough Council is a performing organisation	3

8. As mentioned above, this report seeks to maximise income for the Council and also ensure that there are no cost barriers to people to access People Directorate's services.

BACKGROUND

9. The setting of fees and charges for services provided by the People Directorate is an annual process. The setting of fees and charges is a delegated decision.

FEES AND CHARGES 2008/2009

10. The recommended fees and charges for 2008/2009 are shown in the Appendix to this report. In arriving at the recommendations for fees and charges, our existing fees and charges were compared to similar facilities, neighbouring authorities and competitors in the voluntary, community and private sectors.
11. Where the previous year's prices are consistent with the market, an inflationary increase has been added and rounded up for ease of cash handling.

DUXBURY PARK GOLF COURSE

12. The fees and charges for Duxbury Park Golf Course are set by Glendale, therefore they are not part of this report. The fees and charges at Duxbury Park Golf Course need to remain consistent with similar pay as you play facilities in the North West. This is monitored via separate meetings with Glendale. For information, Glendale are proposing to freeze their charges for 2008/2009 and introduce some new pricing categories, for example, a reduced membership for 19 – 25 year olds and the introduction of a nine hole fee. Officers are of the view that Glendale's proposals will have a positive impact on the development and usage of Duxbury Park Golf Course.

INDOOR LEISURE

13. Officers have been in discussion with colleagues from Community Leisure Services to explore the potential to maximise income from fees and charges.
14. Community Leisure Services are firmly of the view that fees and charges should be increased by an inflationary amount and rounded up for ease of cash handling. There are some variations to this formula for increasing fees and charges and these are proposed to iron out anomalies in the fees and charges for indoor leisure facilities. For example, removing different pricing for the same activity in different centres.
15. Community Leisure Services have pointed out that the Passport to Leisure admission, of 65p, is significantly lower than neighbouring authorities. We plan to review the Passport during 2008/009. However, we have recommended that the 65p entry fee increase to 75p. This is above inflation but still compares well to other areas.

16. Community Leisure Services' suggested fees and charges are included within the Appendix to this report. The additional income generated by this increase is retained by Community Leisure Services.
17. As part of our discussions, Community Leisure Services have suggested that we charge them a 1% support fee. It is anticipated that this will provide an income to Chorley Council of approximately £25,000 per year. However, it is dependent on Community Leisure Services achieving their income projections and could vary depending on trade during the year.

COMMUNITY CENTRES

18. Community Centre charges have in the main been increased by inflation. However, following above-inflation increases for externally funded agencies and commercial hires last year we have seen a fall in usage. It is proposed the fees and charges for these two groups remain at the same level as 2007/2008 in order to recover some of this lost business.

IMPLICATIONS OF REPORT

19. This report has implications in the following areas and the relevant Corporate Directors' comments are included:

Finance	3	Customer Services	
Human Resources		Equality and Diversity	
Legal		No significant implications in this area	

COMMENTS OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (TRANSFORMATION)

20. Any additional income generated by the fees and charges proposed within this report has been factored into the budget for 2008/2009.

JAMIE CARSON
CORPORATE DIRECTOR (PEOPLE)

There are no background papers to this report.

Report Author	Ext	Date	Doc ID
Jamie Carson	5815	22 February 2008	Fees and Charges 2008-09