REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES – SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADVISORY BOARDS

Item PE 10/034 referred from Planning and Transportation Advisory Board minutes of 17 November 2010

PE 10/034

DISCRETIONARY PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL FEES

The report of the Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure set out the reasons for not making changes to the current planning and building control discretionary fees.

Members were also advised of the recent announcement of a consultation paper seeking views on proposed changes to the planning application fees regime. It was proposed to move responsibility for setting fees to local planning authorities and allow them to set higher fees for retrospective applications. The closing date for the consultation was 7 January 2011 and the Director of Planning, Transport and Leisure would report the matter to the extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet in December.

RECOMMENDED: That no changes be made to planning and building control discretionary fees for the reasons set out in the report.

Item LEM 10/040 referred from Local Environmental Management Advisory Board minutes of 23 November 2010

LEM 10/040

REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE FEES AND CHARGES

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Director of Health and Housing, Director of Finance and Cabinet Member for Environmental Services which proposed fees and charges for the provision of services in respect of food certificates, stray dog redemption fees, household bulky refuse collection, rats and mice and contaminated land monitoring.

RECOMMENDED: That the scale of charges for condemned food certificates, exported food certificates, stray dog redemption fees*, contaminated land monitoring, household bulky refuse collection and rats and mice be approved with effect from 1 April 2011 as detailed in the report.

[* Revised proposal in supplementary report to Cabinet on 12 January.]

Item LAA 10/056 referred from Leisure and Arts Advisory Board minutes of 13 December 2010

LAA 10/056

LEISURE SERVICES - REVIEW OF CHARGES 2011/12

The joint report of the Chief Leisure Officer and the Director of Finance outlined charging proposals in respect of Poult Wood Golf Centre, Tonbridge Cemetery, Tonbridge Castle Council Chamber and weddings, the Summer Playscheme, pitch hire for Sportsgrounds in Tonbridge and car parking at the Council's two Country Parks. It was noted that proposed charges for the Council's indoor leisure facilities were reported separately.

Members were advised that consideration had been given to a range of factors in bringing forward the proposed charges and were reminded that significant concessions were given to specific groups including senior citizens, young people and people with disabilities, ensuring that the Council's leisure facilities were accessible to all. Attention was drawn to the significant challenge facing Poult Wood Golf Centre in a highly competitive and declining market.

The Advisory Board recognised the current difficult economic position and supported the wide range of concessions available within the charging structure, which were essential to ensure the Council's leisure facilities and services remained available and attractive to all.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the proposed charges for Poult Wood Golf Centre, as detailed at Annex 2 of the report, be agreed and implemented with effect from 1 April 2011;
- (2) the proposed pitch hire charges for Tonbridge Sportsgrounds, as detailed at Annex 3 of the report, be agreed and implemented with effect from 1 April 2011;
- (3) the proposed charges for Tonbridge Cemetery, as detailed at Annexes 4 and 5 to the report, be agreed and implemented with effect from 1 April 2011;
- (4) the proposed charges for Tonbridge Castle Chamber and the associated list of concessionary users, as shown at Annexes 6, 7 and 8 of the report, be approved and implemented from 1 April 2011;
- (5) the proposed charges for Weddings in 2012/13 at Tonbridge Castle be agreed, as detailed in Annex 9 of the report;
- (6) the proposed charges for the 2011 Summer Playscheme, as detailed at Annex 10 of the report, be approved; and

(7) the charges for car parking at Leybourne Lakes and Haysden Country Parks be reviewed at a future meeting of the Car Parking Charges Advisory Board.

Item LAA 10/057 referred from Leisure and Arts Advisory Board minutes of 13 December 2010

LAA LEISURE SERVICES BUSINESS UNIT - REVIEW OF CHARGES 10/057

The Chief Leisure Officer and the Director of Finance outlined the charging proposals in respect of Larkfield Leisure Centre, Angel Centre, Tonbridge Swimming Pool, Tonbridge Farm All Weather Area and Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground Games Hut. The Board's attention was drawn to the need for the charging proposals to be considered within the context of the Leisure Services Business Unit draft revenue estimates which would be reported to the Finance and Property Advisory Board on 5 January 2011. The overall impact of the proposals outlined in the report was estimated to result in additional income to the Leisure Services Business Unit of £46,900 in 2011/12.

RECOMMENDED: That the scale of charges for the Council's leisure facilities, as set out in Annexes 1-3 of the report, be implemented with effect from 1 April 2011.

Item FP 10/007 referred from Finance and Property Advisory Board minutes of 5 January 2011

FP REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES 2011/12 11/007

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Central Services Director, Director of Finance and Information Technology Manager on those fees and charges which fell within the remit of the Cabinet Member for Finance together with any others for which there was no appropriate Advisory Board.

RECOMMENDED: That

- (1) the current photocopying charges be retained at £0.10 (inclusive of VAT) for each page of the same document or additional copies of the same page plus postage as appropriate;
- (2) the annual charges for agendas and reports supplied via the post be maintained at £45 (inclusive of VAT) for Area Planning Committees and £32 (inclusive of VAT) for all other meetings;
- (3) in respect of recovery of legal fees payable by third parties, the Council's charges continue to follow the rates published by the Secretary of State as set out at paragraph 1.4.1 of the report;
- (4) the table of proposed licensing and registration fees set out in

Annex 2

Annex 2 to the report be adopted with effect from 1 April 2011; and

(5) the table of proposed administrative charges for street naming and numbering services set out at paragraph 1.6.3 of the report be adopted with effect from 1 April 2011.