

HMO AND CARAVAN SITE LICENSING FEE CHARGES FOR 2025/26

Item HP 24/41 referred from Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee of 3 December 2024

Consideration was given to the proposed fees for licensing of houses in multiple occupation (HMOs) and caravan sites for permanent residential use with effect from 1 April 2025.

In bringing forward the charging proposals for 2025/26 consideration had been given to a range of factors, including the Borough Council's overall financial and market positions, trading patterns, the current rate of inflation and customer feedback. A set of guiding principles for the setting of fees and charges had also been taken into account and were summarised in 4.1 of the report.

Particular reference was made to the Borough Council's significant and challenging financial position and as it was becoming increasingly difficult to achieve further expenditure savings to meet the targets in the Savings and Transformation Strategy it was essential that opportunities to maximise income were taken.

***RECOMMENDED:** That

- (1) the proposed fee for licensing of HMOs (representing an increase of 3.5%) as detailed in 5.1.6 of the report be approved;
- (2) the proposed fee for caravan sites for permanent residential use (representing an increase of 3.5%) as detailed in 5.2.3 the report be approved
- (3) the proposed fees be implemented from 1 April 2025

***Recommended to Cabinet**