

COMMUNITY SAFETY AND HOUSING PORTFOLIO DECISION RECORD 24 September 2010

The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

The Mayor, Stuart Drummond (Community Safety and Housing Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Damien Wilson, Assistant Director (Regeneration and Planning)
Sylvia Pinkney, Public Protection Manager
Jeff Mason, Head of Support Services
Garry Hutchison, Building Control Manager
Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

9. The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 1998 – *Building Control Manager*

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of Report

To update the Portfolio Holder of the position in respect of Building Control charge levels and to seek agreement for the proposed new charges with effect from 1 October 2010.

Issues for Consideration

The 1998 Regulations have been replaced by 'The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010' introducing a new more flexible approach to setting charges based on the actual surveyor input time for chargeable work. This should allow Local Authorities to compete more effectively with Approved Inspectors (private building control providers to win work.

The latest charge Regulations require authorities to set charges at such a level to fully cover their relevant costs for fee earning work. The charging system is based on the Council achieving full cost recovery for the chargeable element of the service each year (break even) and an appendix to the report detailed the proposed costs, which were similar to those already in place although there were now more categories for non domestic work. Building Control charges will be reviewed every year.

The new Regulations must be implemented and in force by 1 October to enable the Council to continue to charge for its Building Control service.

Decision

The Portfolio Holder formally adopted the proposed new Building Control Charges Scheme to commence on 1 October 2010.

10. Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2009/10 – Year End Indicator Performance – Head of Support Services

Type of Decision

Non key.

Purpose of Report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against Performance Indicators identified in the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2009 for the year to the end of March 2010.

Issues for Consideration

The progress against key performance indicators contained in the Regeneration and Planning Departmental Plan 2009/10 was outlined to the Portfolio Holder.

Three Performance Indicators had not achieved their target:-

- NI 20 – Assault with injury crime rate
- RPD P102 - Percentage of properties licensed as a percentage of estimated licensable premises
- RPD P103 – Percentage of applications received (under selective licensing scheme and as a % of estimated licensable properties)

The Portfolio Holder was assured that measures had been put into place to address these issues including an electronic system to assist in issuing reminders for licensed premises. It was clarified that there was funding in place for any licensed premises which were the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order to be re-imbursed. A further report would be brought to the Portfolio Holder on selected licensing.

Decision

The progress on key Performance Indicators was noted.

The meeting concluded at 10.09 am.

PETER DEVLIN CHIEF SOLICITOR

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