

# KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

David Brazier, Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment

**DECISION NO:**

14/00006

**For publication****Subject:**

Fees & Charges for Highways & Transportation 2014/15

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Transport & Environment, I agree to the proposed adjustment of existing fees and charges, and the introduction of a charge for pre-application advice, commencing April 2014.

**Reason(s) for decision:**

KCC recovers its reasonable costs supplying certain services; this prevents the Authority subsidising external organisations who then re-charge clients.

Service fees & charges are reviewed annually, they were held for three years during the economic downturn. In June 2012 a small increase was approved, this was effective for 18 months.

Officers have undertaken a review of charges to determine whether:

- costs are being recovered
- how they compare with fees charged by other Highway Authorities
- services are charged by other Authorities but not by KCC

The effective date for agreed changes to fees and charges is April 2014; it is proposed to increase fees in line with the 2013 retail price index of 3%, unless fees are not covering reasonable costs. To retain fees and charges at current levels will result in respective services being subsidised to the detriment of core frontline operations.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

On 21<sup>st</sup> January 2014 the Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee RESOLVED that the proposed adjustment of existing fees and charges, and the introduction of a charge for pre-application advice, as set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to the report, be noted. It was recommended that the fees for Minibus Driver training and reassessment were not increased, this recommendation was agreed by the Cabinet Member.

**Any alternatives considered:**

The only alternative is to hold fees at the detriment of frontline service.

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:**

None

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signed

31.1.14  
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date