

ANGUS COUNCIL

CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE – 28 FEBRUARY 2013

REVIEW OF FEE STRUCTURE

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this report is to recommend an increase of fees charged in respect of licences issued under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other miscellaneous statutes.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to;-

- (i) approve the revised fee structure contained in [Appendix 1](#); and
- (ii) agree an implementation date of 1 April 2013.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Sections 12 & 15 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 obliges the Council to ensure that the total amount of fees charged by it is sufficient to meet the expenditure incurred in carrying out the functions of the licensing authority under that Act. By reviewing fees on an annual basis large increases such as were previously experienced can be avoided. The last review of fees was carried out on 27 September 2011 at which time an average increase of 5% for both new and renewal applications was approved to take effect from 1 April 2012.
- 2.2 Following a detailed review, a general percentage rise of approximately 3.5% has been identified as being required for the forthcoming financial year. A new fee structure is proposed and is attached at Appendix 1 which, for comparison purposes, also shows the current structure.
- 2.3 Whilst the increase in the proposed new structure for council fees is approximately 3.5% for both new and renewal applications, the variance between figures can be explained in the rounding process as a number of fees have been rounded to provide more manageable figures.
- 2.4 Tayside Fire and Rescue have advised that the Fire Service in Scotland is reforming on 1 April to become a single Scottish Fire and Rescue Service under central government control. As such the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service will have a single scale of charges for the inspection of Houses in Multiple Occupation. These still have to be considered nationally, measured and set. Therefore, at this stage Tayside Fire and Rescue cannot provide proposed charges in respect of the inspection of Houses in Multiple Occupation for 2013/14. A report will be submitted to this Committee when the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service advise of the proposed.
- 2.5 It is proposed that the increased fees, if accepted, will be implemented from 1 April 2013.

3. RISKS

This report does not require any specific risk issues to be addressed.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If approved the review of fees should result in increased income of approximately £5,000 to the Council which will offset increased costs of administering the licensing functions.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Head of Law and Administration and the Head of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

**COLIN MCMAHON
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this report.

L&A/SCH/DT