

## Appendix F – Fees & Charges Schedule – Exceptions

There is a proposed an overall increase of 2% in the Council’s fees and charges from April 2025. All Fees and Charges are considered on an individual basis when considering the applicability of this increase and as a result exceptions can occur based on a number of factors including:

- Consideration of market factors such as current and projected demand for services and how this might relate to price either in isolation or compared to other service providers,
- The cost of delivering the service which may not be directly aligned to inflation,
- Exceptional circumstances such as the COVID-19 pandemic,
- Fees and charges which are set by statute and so are not influenced by Council policy.

These factors may result in individual charges that fall above or below the recommended 2% inflationary increase.

Notable exceptions are listed and explained in the table below and can be referenced to the full schedule of fees and charges in Appendix E.

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Pest Control	<p>A review of fees in this service was undertaken when setting the charges for the next financial year and a number of charges were increased due to the increase in price of initial treatment to enable full cost recovery.</p> <p>Fees have been uplifted by 3%</p>	22-24
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Leisure	<p>Leisure in Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed fees are increased between 2.5%-6% for Tennis and Golf so that the inflation rate is comparable to the GLL expenditure budget inflation.</li> </ul> <p>Sport Centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fees for Swimming, Badminton, Hard Play Area (Adults) is proposed to rise between 4.5%-6.8%, although</li> </ul>	5-9

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
			<p>they still remain the cheapest option compared to competitors in the area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs for table tennis are proposed to rise by 96%-97% as the 2024/25 charge was for 30 mins, but the new charge relates to 1 hour as that is the minimum time allowed to book.</li> <li>• For Coached activities and Fitness Gym charges, they have been proposed to increase by between 2.5% and 3% so that inflation rate is comparable to the GLL expenditure budget inflation.</li> <li>• Soft Play charges per child over 2 years old and Additional Adult have been removed from the Council's schedule as under the contract, prices are to be set by the supplier. Charges will be published by the leisure provider.</li> </ul>	
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Parks	Fees have been uplifted by 3% for Ice House events and exhibitions, as well as donated benches and trees charges	11
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Events	<p>The following fees have been uplifted by 3%, which is a +1% increase from the original 2% uplift:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events and Promotions in Parks and Public spaces</li> <li>• Events and Promotions on the Highway</li> </ul>	17-20
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Cemeteries	For Non-Resident Grave purchase, 3x the resident fee has been applied, proposing a 5% increase. When the non-res fees were raised a couple of years ago, the increase was incorrectly applied as +50% on the existing non-resident fee rather than an exact 3x the resident fee. We are proposing to correct that this year.	11-15

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
			Contractor costs are expected to increase by 5% for Grave Removal and Replacement, so charges are proposed to increase in line by 5%.	
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Museums	<p>Entry Charges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Admission charges for Adults and Children are proposed to be frozen as they have been benchmarked across industry as is at top level of ticketing fee imposed by similar institutions.</li> <li>• Concession tickets for 65+ entry are withdrawn and this demographic will be charged at full adult rate to increase income</li> <li>• Concession tickets for students and young people are proposed to be held at £9 to encourage uptake and keep in line with youth initiatives and other cultural organisations.</li> </ul> <p>Tours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fees for Single and Joint Guided Tours are proposed to increase by between 18%-20% as fees were frozen last year, and the increase reflects the needed resource to deliver the service.</li> <li>• Fees for Private and Public Evening tours are proposed to increase by between 6%-17%, reflecting cost of keeping house open, tour guides and staffing.</li> <li>• Self-guided tours, school visits and family events are proposed to be frozen as they have been benchmarked across industry as is at top level of ticketing fee imposed by similar institutions</li> </ul> <p>Lettings</p>	15-17

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charges for lettings (room hire and events) are set to increase for most activities by between 4%-7% as the change has been benchmarked against other similar services, following an analysis of the increased cost of providing these services.</li> <li>• The cost of Dinner in Leighton's Dining Room is proposed to increase by 6.7% as this is an exclusive package so the charge reflects the value</li> <li>• Dinner in the Garden Room has been withdrawn</li> <li>• The cost of a reception in the Garden Room is proposed to rise by 33% as it was frozen last year, due to the business being developed. (More narrative TBC)</li> <li>• Weddings at Leighton House - a new package so charge is frozen at £8,400 while business is being developed.</li> </ul>	
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Commercial Waste	<p>Recycling and Waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs related to recycling collection and disposal are to be frozen for the second year in a row to encourage increased recycling rates by businesses.</li> <li>• Nil uplift proposed for new containers as the charge covers the costs and the new bin contract has offset increased costs elsewhere.</li> <li>• Charges for general waste collection and disposal are proposed to increase by 3% mirroring the anticipated increase in costs</li> </ul> <p>Fees for the following services have been uplifted between 2.7%-3.7%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bagged Waste and Recycling</li> <li>• Wheelie Bin Waste and Recycling</li> <li>• Paladins/Chamberlain</li> </ul>	4-5

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Euro Bin Waste and Recycling</li> <li>• Domestic Bin Hire</li> <li>• Bin Repair (Non-RBKC Container)</li> <li>• Container Steam Cleansing</li> <li>• Commercial Bulky Waste Collections</li> <li>• Skip &amp; Compactors</li> </ul>	
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Street Cleansing	All charges have been uplifted between 2.9%-3.1%	3
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Private Street Sweeping	<p>Charges per hour for Sweeping on weekends have been increased by 3.2%-3.4%</p> <p>Charges per hour for Gullies for all days have been increased by 2.9%-3.8%</p>	5
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Cleaner, Greener and Cultural Services	Garden Waste	Nil uplift proposed for annual subscription and additional garden waste bag collection as the charge covers cost of service, and increases in cost have been offset by claiming VAT back since last year	5
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Planning and Place	Building Control	The cost for Demolition notices, Temporary structures and some Building control fees are proposed to increase by 5% to allow for extra ongoing costs of competence and validation of surveyors	25
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Planning and Place	Local Land Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fees for photocopying/printing A4 has been removed</li> <li>• Fees for photocopying/printing A3 has been uplifted by 42.9%</li> <li>• All other charges have increased between 2.6%-6.4%</li> </ul>	25-26
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Planning and Place	Street Naming and Numbering	All charges have been increased between 2.9%-3.2%	26
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Planning and Place	Planning Policy	All charges have been increased between 2.7%-5.3%	26

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Planning and Place	Development Management	All charges have been increased between 2.9%-3.0%	26-27
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Planning and Place	Planning Applications	Charges for the Fast Track Service has increased by 3%	27
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Planning and Place	Planning Advice Charges and Planning Performance Agreements	All charges have increased by 2.9%-3.0%	27-31
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Transport and Regulatory Services	Parking Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resident Parking Permits -This charge is based on CO2 emissions and as the council is freezing the £1 g/km charge, the inflationary increase of 4% across the full cost of the average annual permit is achieved by an increase of 14.5% in the base permit price.</li> <li>The cost of parking suspensions is set to increase by 4%, with the exception of suspensions up to 5 days duration where the charge is set to be frozen.</li> <li>The cost of visitor parking is set to increase by 4%.</li> </ul>	40-47
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Transport and Regulatory Services	Private Sector Housing	<p>Additional and Mandatory HMO Licensing Fee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After a review of the previous charging model for HMO Licensing completed September 2024, a new charging scheme has been applied, proposing notable uplifts of 198% for Administrative Fees up to 5 units, and 40% for Enforcement Fees over a 5 year scheme.</li> </ul> <p>Empty Homes Exemption certificates are proposed to increase by 35% following a review by the OSU team advising that time taken to administer certificate is 1.25 hours, and VAT is variable</p>	34

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
			<p>depending on number of years property is vacant, increasing the cost.</p> <p>Hourly Rates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hourly rates for service of notices, orders and HMO licensing for officers and managers are proposed to decrease by 12-13% as reduced employer contribution reduces the hourly rate</li> </ul>	
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Transport and Regulatory Services	Environmental Health	<p>Officer Hourly Rates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hourly rates for Head of Service, Manager and Officers are proposed to decrease by between 7-10.5% as reduced employer pension contribution has reduced their hourly rate</li> <li>Admin Officer rates are proposed to rise by 7.6% as a grade review has removed all grade C posts, and are now all grade D.</li> </ul>	32
Environment and Neighbourhoods	Transport and Regulatory Services	Highways	<p>Technical approval of highways for Category 0-3 are forecasted to increase by 2.7-2.8% as there is expected contract indexation of the external supplier</p> <p>The Road Layout search fee has been withdrawn for 2025/26 due to lack of use.</p> <p>The cost for Placing Amenities on Public Highways for Banners and Erection of Temporary Signs has increased by 3%</p> <p>The cost for Regulation and Enforcement services has increased by 3%</p> <p>The cost for Search Fees (Highway status Enquiries has increased by 3%.</p>	36-38

Directorate	Department	Service	Notes on Proposed Exception	Appendix E Page Number
Chief Executive	Communities	Registrars	Ceremony Attendance and Room Hire Fees for the Harrington Room, Kensington Town Hall Mayor's Parlour, Rossetti Room, Small Hall, Main Hall, Cadogan Suites, and other approved venues are proposed to increase above the recommended 2%. Fees which have an increase between 2.5-3.5%, are reflective of increasing staffing costs whilst remaining competitive. Fees which have been increased between 4.65-5.7% are proposed so that they can accurately cover the cost of delivering the ceremony.	63-69
Children's Services	Education	Early Years Service	All fees have been uplifted by 4%, this is still below other local nurseries day rates. Increases in weekly food and other costs have increased more than 4% and there is no extra for meals to all children if they access only the funded offer or if their child attends a nursery for additional hours. Parents are aware that the nursery rate can increase on an annual basis.	62
Children's Services	Libraries and Archives	Libraries and Archives	<p>Reproduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The 20% proposed increase to Reference Image production costs is to keep in-line with the self service fee.</li> </ul> <p>Archives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed increase of 4% is due to a bi-annual increase of £2 as per the long term contract agreement</li> </ul> <p>Room Hire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed increases of 4.8% are to keep in-line with service costs</li> </ul>	58-61
Resources and Customer Delivery	Legal and Governance Services	Legal Services	A 4% uplift has been applied to Mortgages and Charges to increase cost in line with process costs	49
Resources and Customer Delivery	Customer Delivery	Corporate Safety	Uplift of 2.5% has been applied to Category C	50-51



<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Notes on Proposed Exception</b>	<b>Appendix E Page Number</b>
			Uplift of 3.2% has been applied to Category D for 3.75 hr days	
Resources and Customer Delivery	Customer Delivery	Council Tax	Costs for Summons have been increased by 10.7%, and Liability have been decreased by 16% as per demand and process costs	50
Resources and Customer Delivery	Customer Delivery	Conference and Events	Uplifts between 3-18.8% have been applied across charges for Kensington Town Hall, Chelsea Old Town Hall and Orangery	51-56