

DATE: 15TH JULY 2020

Executive Board Member:	Portfolio:
Cllr. Peter Hughes-Griffiths	CULTURE, SPORT & TOURISM

LEISURE CHARGES 2020-21

Recommendations / key decisions required:

- To approve the attached Leisure charges framework report.

Reasons:

- The draft charges report was presented to Community Scrutiny Committee on the 16th January, as part of the full budget consultation and construction process for 2020/21.
- Full Council signs off the final budget for 2020/21.
- EBM sign off is required for the final version of the detailed charges report.

Directorate Communities Name of Head of Service: Ian Jones	Designation: Head of Leisure	Tel No. 01267 228309 01267 228393
Report Author: Richard Stradling	Business & Projects Manager	E Mail Address: IJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk RStradling@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Declaration of Personal Interest (if any):

Dispensation Granted to Make Decision (if any):

DECISION MADE:

Signed:

DATE: _____

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER

The following section will be completed by the Democratic Services Officer in attendance at the meeting

Recommendation of Officer adopted	YES / NO
Recommendation of the Officer was adopted subject to the amendment(s) and reason(s) specified:	
Reason(s) why the Officer's recommendation was not adopted:	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER DECISION MEETING
FOR CULTURE, SPORT & TOURISM
DATE: 15th JULY, 2020

LEISURE CHARGES 2020-21

Introduction:

This report details charges for 2020-21, comprising:

- Cultural Services (Arts and Theatre venues)
- Sports & Leisure venues (Leisure Centres & swimming pools)
- Outdoor Recreation (Country Parks, including the Millennium Coastal Park; Pendine Beach car park; and Pendine Outdoor Education Centre)

Rationale

Factors taken into consideration for the annual charges review are:

- Corporate income and charging policy
- Previous years' charges
- Corporate income targets and inflation
- *Demand / usage trends
- Comparative charges in neighbouring authorities and facilities
- Council's business / social objectives
- Performance of venues in previous years
- Three-year business / budget planning process
- Implications of capital investments
- *Current economic climate
- Energy costs and projections
- Charges are upper thresholds and may be discounted, with approval from 2 service officer and the Head of Service

****N.B. The sign-off for this report has been delayed due to the unprecedented outbreak of Covid-19 and it's impact across the World. As such, it must be appreciated that charges for this year, will have to reflect the availability of services and facilities as government guidelines dictate and social distancing measures allow.***

For example, we are looking to apply a Fine Amnesty for Library returns, aligned with national sector policy on this matter. It is proposed as part of the council's covid19 recovery planning, that users who have overdue books will be able to return them free of charge to any Carmarthenshire library from 1st July 2020 until 31st March 2021. The amnesty on fines will apply to all Carmarthenshire library books and non-book items – it is also proposed to wipe/cancel historical charges allowing for lapsed users to return as service users. The initiative is aimed at ensuring everyone has access to free library services across

Carmarthenshire, removing barriers to joining and service utilisation.

Given the dynamic nature of managing the pandemic, it is proposed that this year's charging report be used as a core framework for charges that allows managers to work from in applying associated season or annual membership and general charges, applying the principle of adjustments being agreed and signed off by 2 senior service officers and the HoS to ensure accountability and flexibility.

Format of report

Where charges differ significantly from previous year, an explanation is provided. Charges are rounded up / down to nearest 10p.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES – copy of charges report

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Ian Jones

Head of Leisure

Policy and Crime & Disorder	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Organisational Development	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES

3. Finance

The attached charges report form part of the income generating plan for the leisure division for 2020-21.

It is acknowledged that multiple factors will play a part in the service's ability to charge and generate income this financial year, and probably next. With staff being furloughed and loss of income claims to be resolved, regular monitoring throughout the year will assist in delivering a best possible financial return for these services by year end.

SPJ

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Ian Jones

Head of Leisure

1. Scrutiny Committee – Community Scrutiny committee, date tbc.

2. Local Member(s) - N/A

3. Community / Town Council - N/A

4. Relevant Partners - N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations - N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

[Corporate income and charging policy - March 2017](#)