

REPORT OF PLANNING DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

(Meeting held on 8 February 2012)

1. PLANNING DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE BUDGET 2012-13 (REPORT B) (MINUTE NO. 43)

Historically, the fees and charges under the Planning Development Control Committee, relating to planning applications, have been set by Government, with no local discretion. This has not changed, but following an evaluation by a task and finish working group, established by the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel, it has been decided that this Council should follow the practice of the majority of the local planning authorities in Hampshire and charge for pre-application advice. As a consequence, in future, any requests for confirmation as to whether planning permission is required will only be dealt with by way of a formal application, for which a nationally determined fee applies. Under the report to Council from the Cabinet, it can be seen that the budgets have been prepared on the basis of realising a sum of £75,000 from this source in 2012/13.

Following detailed consideration by the task and finish group the following scale of charges is proposed:

Category	£
Householder, minor commercial e.g. adverts, shop fronts	80.00
Small residential 1-3 units or up to 100 square metres of commercial space	250.00
Minor residential 4-9 units or up to 500 square metres of commercial space	500.00
Major residential, 10-25 houses or up to 1000 square metres of commercial development	750.00
Larger residential or commercial schemes	Individually negotiated
Listed building advice	25.00
Tree advice	25.00

Defined standards of service and appropriate timescales will be applied to the pre-application advice service where charges are imposed. In addition, there is no change to the current situation whereby any advice offered by Officers (whether charged for or not) is entirely without prejudice to any decision which may be taken by the Planning Development Control Committee. It is intended that the effect of the introduction of charges, and the scale of charges, will be reviewed frequently.

RECOMMENDED

- (a) ***That £75,000 be raised from charging for pre-application advice, to reduce the overall budget; and***
- (b) ***That the schedule of charges be as set out above***

**Cllr Mrs A J Hoare
CHAIRMAN**