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Date: *14 March 2014*

NOTIFICATION OF PORTFOLIO HOLDER DECISION

On 13 March 2014, Cllr Vickers, the Planning and Transportation Portfolio Holder, made the following decision. Any member of the Council, who is not a Portfolio Holder, who considers that this decision should be reviewed should give notice to the Monitoring Officer (Grainne O'Rourke) (in writing or by e-mail) to be received **ON OR BY FRIDAY 21 MARCH 2014**.

Details of the documents the Portfolio Holder considered are attached.

DECISION:

To reduce the fees payable for applications for temporary road closure orders under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, that:

- Do not require advertisement; or
- Raise funds for local good causes that directly benefit communities and residents of the District; or
- Are for the enjoyment of local residents, who form the majority of the participants.

to £141, in line with applications under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847

REASON(S):

As set out in the report considered by the Portfolio Holder

ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

As set out in the report considered by the Portfolio Holder

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DECLARED:

None

For Further Information Please Contact:

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Principal Engineer,
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CHARGING FOR TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES FOR SPORTING EVENTS ON THE HIGHWAY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council has accepted advice that it should use the provisions of Section 16 (A-C) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 for temporary road closures for sporting events on the highway. The recently agreed current fees for this (£350 plus actual cost of advertising) have been set to cover the Council's costs.
- 1.2 In response to concerns from local organisations, the current fees have been reviewed to see if they can be reduced for certain types of events.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Until recently most road closures for sporting events on the highway have been made under the provisions of Section 21 the Town Police Clauses Act 1847. The Council was not required to advertise these road closures but a fee was still required to cover the Council's basic costs in administering these matters. The fee for this process has recently been set at £141.
- 2.2 Hampshire County Council has recently advised the Council, as their traffic management partner/agent, that road closures should be made under Section 16 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. This procedure is more time consuming and costly than the procedure under the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 and sometimes requires public advertisement. However, Hampshire County Council has advised that it is not able to subsidise the Council's costs in dealing with these matters.
- 2.3 Previous Government Guidance relating to the procedures under Section 16 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 indicates that public advertisement of the road closure may not be necessary for small sporting events if they are held regularly or if they have a minimal traffic impact. The majority of such events in the District fit at least one of these criteria.
- 2.4 The Council sets its fees for road closures so as to meet its reasonable costs. If the road closure does not require public advertisement (applicants are still required to inform stakeholders in line with established requirements) the Council's costs in dealing with the matter will be lower and so a reduced fee would be appropriate.
- 2.5 In addition, many of the sporting events that take place in the District and require a road closure:
 - either raise funds for local good causes that directly benefit communities and residents within the District; and/or
 - are for the enjoyment of local residents, who form the majority of the participants.

Of these only a few, if any, are likely to require the road closure to be publicly advertised. Thus the financial implications of the Council charging a reduced fee for these local “good causes” event, as well, are minimal.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 It is anticipated that there would be no significant financial implications arising from reducing the fee for those applications for Temporary Road Closures under S16 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act that do not require public advertisement to the same as the fee levied in respect of Town Police Clauses Act 1847 closures, currently £141.

4. EQUALITY, DIVERSITY ENVIRONMENTAL AND CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the fee for Temporary Road Closures for sporting events made under Section 16 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, which do not require public advertisement, be £141.
- 5.1 That the Head of Planning and Transportation be authorised to charge, at his discretion, £141 for Temporary Road Closures made under Section 16 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which do require advertisement, for any sporting events that:
- either raise funds for local good causes that directly benefit communities and residents within the District; and/or
 - are for the enjoyment of local residents who form the majority of the participants;

6. PORTFOLIO HOLDER ENDORSEMENT

I have agreed to the recommendations of this report.

Signed: CLLR F P VICKERS
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 13.03.14

Date:

For further information contact:
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Background papers:
Published Papers.
Files on Transport
Sections computers.

Date on which notice given of this Decion - 14 March 2014

Last date for call-in - 21 March 2014