
Leisure Centre Fees and Charges 2017

Committee considering report:	Council
Date of Committee:	8 December 2016
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Graham Jones
Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	10 November 2016
Report Author:	Jim Sweeting
Forward Plan Ref:	C3099

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To implement the contractual requirement for an annual price review for 2017 for the leisure contractor to come into effect from 1st January 2017.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Council approve the proposed increase in Fees and Charges as outlined for the leisure management contract.

3. Implications

- 3.1 **Financial:** There are no direct implications to the Council's own budgets from the contractor implementing any increase in Fees and Charges. Within the terms of the Leisure Contract, the contractor retains all income. An income share arrangement is specified within the contract should end of year surpluses be above a certain threshold
- 3.2 **Policy:** The Leisure contract was changed in 2010/11 to accommodate a review of Fees and Charges prior to January of the following and subsequent years. This now forms a condition of the contract between West Berkshire Council and Legacy Leisure
- 3.3 **Personnel:** None
- 3.4 **Legal:** Agreement to any increase in leisure Contract Fees and Charges will be formally recorded through an exchange of letters and will be included in the Council's published schedule of Fees and Charges for 2017/18
- 3.5 **Risk Management:** None
- 3.6 **Property:** None
- 3.7 **Other:** None

4. Other options considered

- 4.1 The Fees and Charges for the Leisure Centres are set by the leisure contractor, the proposals outlined are those which have been presented by Legacy Leisure as part of their Business Plan for the West Berkshire contract for 2016. Consideration is given to the level of fees and charges set by local competitors in the industry.
- 4.2 The contractor was invited to consider an increase in fees and charges above the rate of inflation however it was considered this would make the centres uncompetitive and increase the potential for a fall in income received.

5. Executive Summary

- 5.1 In establishing their proposed fees and charges for core activity at leisure centres for 2017 the contractor has outlined the standard (non card holder) prices as outlined in Appendix C. Once discounts as set out in 5.2 are applied it results in an average increase of 1.6% in the charges applied to West Berkshire Card holders in line with the Retail Price Index at the end of the Contract year (June 2016).
- 5.2 To make it simpler for customers to understand the benefits of being a West Berkshire Card holder it was agreed in December 2016 that the discount applied to West Berkshire Card holders would change from a basic 10% to flat rates applied as follows:
- (a) £1.00 for adult activity
 - (b) £0.50p for junior activity
 - (c) £5.00 for team sports

It is not proposed by the contractor to change the level of discount received by West Berkshire Card Holders in 2017.

- 5.3 Benchmarking against other authorities indicates that the discounts applied for West Berkshire card holders are in line with other Local Authority leisure centres in the neighbouring area

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 When the proposed fees and charges are benchmarked against surrounding Local Authority owned facilities it is seen that charges in West Berkshire are at the lower end of the comparison thus representing good value for money to West Berkshire residents.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A - Supporting Information
- 7.2 Appendix B – Equalities Impact Assessment
- 7.3 Appendix C – Maximum Fees and Charges Proposed for ‘Core Activity’ at the Leisure Centres for 2017