



| Agenda Item | Scale of Charges 2023/24 | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|--------------|
| Council/Committee | Finance and Governance Committee | | |
| Meeting Date | 25 October 2022 | Report Writer | Alison Brown |
| Summary | To approve an increase in the scale of charges from 1 April 2023 and establish a proposed methodology for future years. | | |
| Strategic Priorities | 3 Robust with resources | | |
| Budget Codes and Costs | Various | | |
| Environmental Implications | None pertaining to this report. | | |
| Equality/Inclusion Implications | None pertaining to this report. | | |
| Supporting Documentation (if any) | Proposed Scale of Charges 202/24 | | |



Background

The scale of charges should be reviewed annually prior to the budget preparation; this process has not been actioned in the last three years on a formal basis although additional charging mechanisms have been agreed at committee level.

Detailed Considerations

The scale of charges for 2022/23 has been reviewed and rates have been increased by 8.8% based upon the CPI from July 2022. Rates have been rounded to the nearest 5p/50p/£1 dependant upon the type of charge. Market rent charges were reduced by 75% on 1 September 2020 to encourage stall holders to return; this was a temporary measure, however, market rates are still at the discounted rate.

Financial Implications

Energy and other costs are continuing to increase at an exceptionally high inflation rate. The rental income generated at Newton Leys Pavilion, Fenny Stratford Community Centre and the Spotlight Resource Centre, needs to reflect the additional costs required to provide the service.

Recommendation

The Town Council adopt the proposed scale of charges from 1 April 2022 and agrees a policy whereby, the scale of charges are increased every year on the 1 April on the basis of the published CPI from the previous July.

The Town Council continues with the 75% discount on market rates from 1 April 2023.