



Guiding principles for setting fees and charges

1. FAIR SHARES

- a) The subsidy from taxpayer to service user should be a conscious choice, not an accident of history
- b) Concessions for services should follow a logical pattern
- c) Fees and charges should not be used to provide subsidies to commercial operators from the council taxpayer
- d) A tough stance should be taken on fee dodging

2. RATIONALITY & PRIORITISATION

- a) Fees and charges policies should reflect key commitments and corporate priorities
- b) Price should be based on 'added' and 'perceived value' as well as cost
- c) There should be some rational scale in the charge for different levels of the same service
- d) There should be some consistency between charges for similar services

3. STABILITY & PREDICTABILITY

- a) The impact of pricing policies should be managed through phasing over time when the impact is high
- b) Policies should fit with the Council's medium term financial strategy (i.e. be affordable to service users and taxpayers)
- c) Fees and charges should generate income to help develop capacity, deliver efficiency and sustain continuous improvement