

**Fees & Charges Scrutiny Review**  
**Review & Petitions Committee, item 4**

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Review &amp; Petitions</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>8 February 2006</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Fees &amp; Charges Scrutiny Review</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Tracy Turner, Executive Manager, Strategy &amp; Performance, 01799 510402, John Dyson, Chief Accountant, 01799 510310</b>	Item for decision

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**Summary**

A scrutiny investigation into fees and charges had commenced under the Resources and Environment Scrutiny Committee. The document sets out how the Review & Petitions Committee may take the investigation forward.

**Recommendations**

The Committee are asked to allocate interested members of the Committee to the Fees & Charges investigation team.

**Background Papers**

None.

**Impact**

Communication/Consultation	There are a variety of communication and consultation approaches to the Council's various fees and charges and the proposed review will look at whether these are effective
Community Safety	There are no specific community safety implications contained in this report
Equalities	There are no specific equalities implications contained in this report, although the proposed review will examine any such effects
Finance	Fees and charges are a key element of the Council's budget and the review will examine any financial implications of proposed changes
Human Rights	There are no specific human rights implications contained in this report
Legal implications	The legal basis of any fees and charges will be considered as part of the proposed review

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Ward-specific impacts	The Council's fees and charges have a wide-ranging effect on all Wards. No specific issues can be highlighted at this stage
Workforce/Workplace	There are no specific workplace or workforce issues contained in this report

**Situation**

- 1 The Resources & Environment Scrutiny Committee considered a scoping report for a scrutiny investigation into fees and charges at their meeting on 12 October 2006. Attached at Appendix A is the original scoping report for this investigation, together with an issues paper.
- 2 Since October officers have sourced a significant amount of comparative data on fees and charges and charging policies from other authorities. This data is currently being collated, together with current UDC charges and charging policies.
- 3 The Committee will want to consider the output of this exercise at its next meeting in April. It is suggested that a number of members will want to join the current lead member Cllr Flack to formulate a report to come back to the next meeting.

**Risk Analysis**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Likelihood</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigating actions</b>
Failure to gather relevant information to inform the review	Low	High	Development of structured process, involvement of appropriate officers, and challenge by Members
Difficulty of implementation of any radical review outcomes	Medium	Medium	Clear and logical basis of analysis, including use of consultation responses