

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Police Committee	15 December 2016
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Public</b>
Annual review of Fees and Charges 2016/17	
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>For Decision</b>
Commissioner of Police                      Pol 59-16	
<b>Report author:</b>	
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## **Summary**

The City of London Police (CoLP), have in previous years adopted the Fees and Charges as set out by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS). In addition, we have also sought approval for the continuing use of the same hourly charge rates for Private Services provided by the CoLP with that calculated by the MPS, and the adoption of the schedule of rates determined by the MPS for the provision of market non-competitive activities. However for 2016/17 it should be noted that at the point of preparing this report, the Fees and Charges and Special Service estimates, normally provided by the MPS, have not yet been submitted to their respective Committee for final approval and as a result the MPS continue to operate on the 2015/16 rates

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Members:

- a) in parity with the MPS, agree to continue to operate at the 2015/16 rates
- b) agree to review the fees and charges and special service rates, subject to the MPS figures for 2016/17 being approved through their appropriate Committee

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. The Force has an obligation to review all Fees and Charges levied annually. This review is undertaken by adopting the MPS tariff of fees and charges, as they are under an obligation to review their changes also.
2. Since 2006, Members approved the selected use of MPS rates for similar services provided by the City of London Police. The rationale for adopting this policy is set out below, and still applies.

### **Current Position**

3. Powers to recover costs for policing services from third parties are provided under Section 25 of the Police Act 1996.
4. Section 15 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides the legislative powers to charge for the supply of goods and services to a third party. These goods and services fall into two categories:
  - Market competitive goods and services – where charges are set in accordance with “what the market will bear”.

- Market non-competitive activity – which is essentially a by-product of core policing activity.
5. In addition to Special Services of Police Charges for 2016/17, this will also cover the charges for the use of Custody by the UK Home Office Immigration Enforcement (H.O.I.E.) formerly UK Borders Agency (UKBA). On 1 April 2013, the UKBA ceased to exist, with responsibility split between two Home Office Commands. It is proposed that the Force continues to adopt the MPS rates which are based on the Home Office and ACPO (NPCC) national formula.

### **Options**

6. The Force currently adopts the MPS schedule of hourly rates for Private Service and market competitive goods and services. This approach was adopted because the City of London Police works in partnership and collaboration with the MPS on a number of operations including core policing services covered by mutual aid agreements and for private services, for example, policing football matches. In addition, both forces have similar cost drivers for many services.
7. The alternative is for the City of London Police to set its own fees and charges. However, the two forces have similar cost bases for salaries and London rates for accommodation, and the MPS rates are calculated to recover full costs. If the City of London Police were to raise its charges above those levied by the MPS it is likely that less total revenue would be generated, as potential clients would probably choose to contract the MPS. The CoLP elects not to charge less than the MPS as we would fail to cover our full costs. Finally, the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) Guidance states “It should be remembered that there is a balance to be struck between precision and materiality, whilst striving to maintain a consistent approach to the charging methodology”.

### **Proposals**

8. The MPS fees and charges for 2016/17 have still not been approved by their appropriate committee and they are therefore still operating on the 2015/16 rates.

### **Conclusion**

9. The Force seeks to achieve consistency with the MPS on its Fees and Charges so as not to create competition within the London area and will continue to adopt the MPS Fees and Charges for 2015/16 until such time as the revised rates for 2016/17 are approved through the MPS committee structure. Members can therefore expect to receive a report later in this financial year updating the changes to the current fee and charges.

### **Appendices**

None

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