

Committee(s): Police	Date: 18 th May 2017
Subject: Fees and Charges 2017-18	Public
Report of: Commissioner of Police Pol 31-17	For Decision
Report author: Michelle King, Financial Services Director	

Summary

This report seeks Member's approval to the Fees and Charges Policy for the financial year 2017/18, in accordance with Financial Regulations. The Force has taken a different approach this year and has drafted a specific policy in relation to charging for police services which it will review annually and present to your Committee for approval.

In previous years the Force followed the charging rates used by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) for Private Services and adopted the schedule of rates determined by the MPS for the provision of market non-competitive activities.

The Force seeks to maximise opportunities to charge at appropriate rates for the services it provides over and above general policing services, particularly in recent times of austerity and core budget reductions.

The Force has taken the decision to set its' own charging rates for various activities as set out in the appended policy.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Members :

- Agree the attached Charging policy and rates for 2017-18.

Main Report

Background

1. The Force has an obligation to review all Fees and Charges levied annually. There are many competing demands on police resources and it is important that we recognise that meeting those demands often has a significant cost implication. The key principle of the Fees and Charges Policy 2017-18 is to ensure that the Force can properly balance resources to provide a level of policing that is fit for purpose by making appropriate decisions on when and what to charge for police services.
2. There are some functions that the Force performs and services that it offers, beyond day to day policing and there are powers in law for PCC's and Police Authorities to recover the costs of this additional policing under the provision of "Special Police Services". In other areas there are opportunities for the City of London Police (CoLP) to provide goods and services that are relevant to CoLP's roles, skills and expertise, for example in Economic Crime.
3. In previous years the Force followed the charging rates used by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) for Private Services and adopted the schedule of rates determined by the MPS for the provision of market non-competitive activities. The Force has taken the decision to set its' own charging rates for various activities as set out in the appended policy.
4. This policy is intended to offer a clear charging framework that will be of value to Force Managers who may incur costs connected with policing.

Current Position

5. Powers to recover costs for policing services from third parties are provided under Section 25 of the Police Act 1996.
6. 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:
 - a. Market competitive goods and services – where charges are set in accordance with "what the market will bear".
 - b. Market non-competitive activity – which is essentially a by-product of core policing activity.
7. The Force has taken a different approach this year and has drafted a specific policy in relation to charging for police services which it will review annually and present to your Committee for approval.

Recommendation

8. The Force adopts the new Charging Policy appended at Appendix 1.

CONCLUSION

9. The Force seeks to maximise opportunities to charge at appropriate rates for the services it provides over and above general policing services, particularly in recent times of austerity and core budget reductions. The attached charging policy will contribute towards mitigating the effects of these reductions.

Appendices

Appendix 1: City of London Police Charging Policy 2017-18

Contact:

Michelle King,

Financial Services Director

Michelle.king@cityoflondon.pnn.police.uk