

<p>Committee(s) Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee – For Discussion</p> <p>Highgate Wood Consultative Group – For Discussion</p> <p>Queen’s Park Consultative Group – For Discussion (By Email)</p> <p>Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen’s Park Committee – For Decision</p>	<p>Dated: 9 October 2017</p> <p>1 November 2017</p> <p>1 November 2017</p> <p>15 November 2017</p>
<p>Subject: Fees and Charges 2018/19</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p>Report of: Superintendent of Hampstead Heath</p>	<p>For Discussion/ Decision</p>
<p>Report author: Yvette Hughes – Open Spaces Department</p>	

Summary

This report sets out the proposed fees and charges for a range of facilities and services provided at Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood & Queen’s Park for 2018/19.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- The Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee, Highgate Wood Consultative Group and Queen’s Park Consultative Group discuss the proposed fees and charges for 2018/19, as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.
- The views of the Hampstead Heath Consultative Committee, Highgate Wood Consultative Group, and Queen’s Park Consultative Group be conveyed to the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen’s Park Committee at their November 2017 meeting.
- The Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen’s Park Committee agree the proposed fees and charges for 2018/19, as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

Main Report

Background

1. Charges for the wide range of services, recreation and sporting facilities provided in all the City Corporation's Open Spaces are reviewed annually, to ensure that prices and ticket options are relevant and appropriate. The current 2017/18 charges for Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park were approved by the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee in November 2016.
2. The income generated from fees and charges contributes to the cost of providing sports and recreational facilities across Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park.

Current Position

3. The Sports Advisory Forum have been consulted on the proposed sports charges for 2018/19.
4. The proposed fees and charges include concessionary rates, offering a 40% discount on the standard adult charge.

Proposed Charges 2018/19

5. It is proposed that the majority of charges for 2018/19 be increased by 2.6% in line with Consumer Price Index (CPI), with rounding to aid cash handling. Consequently, this may represent a marginally higher or lower percentage uplift.
6. It is proposed that the Car Parking Charges for 2 and 4 hours be increased by 2.6%. However, it is also proposed that the charge for additional hours (over 4 hours) be increased by 8% to deter commuter parking on Hampstead Heath.
7. Highgate Wood Metro Blind Cricket Team Support Scheme recognises a 50% discount on the changing room hire charge. This is to support the team developing blind cricket in line with the City of London Open Spaces Department Sports and Physical Activity Framework.
8. It is proposed that a new Block Booking charge is introduced for the Parliament Hill Athletics Track and associated infield. The hourly charge of £22.56 will be applicable to sports clubs undertaking group coaching and training sessions, for periods of ten consecutive weeks or more.
9. The Superintendent is continuing the review of the Commemorative Bench arrangements, and a draft charging framework will be discussed with the Consultative Committees in 2018. It is therefore proposed that the current charges are maintained until this has been completed.
10. It is proposed that the charges for the Bathing Ponds at Hampstead Heath are retained at their current rates. Following discussion with the Sports Advisory Forum it was noted that there are a number of practical improvements which need implementing. These include updated signage

and improved payment arrangements. The Superintendent will work with the Swimming Forum over the winter period to address these practical issues.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

11. The provision of sports facilities supports the City Together Strategy theme, *'A World Class City which is vibrant and culturally rich'*. Linked to this is the associated Open Spaces Strategic Aim: *'Improve the health and wellbeing of the community through access to green spaces and recreation'*.
12. The current Management Plan states the Overriding Sports Objective is *"to work collaboratively in maintaining and developing the existing sports facilities and activities in response to changing demands ensuring appropriate provision for all sections of the community"*.

Financial Implications

13. The City's Financial Regulations require all Departments to recover full costs when setting charges to persons or external organisations, or submit reasons to the appropriate service Committee when that objective is not met. It is therefore at the discretion of individual spending Committees to determine the actual level of fees and charges relative to the services they provide, after taking into account local considerations and priorities.
14. The target income budget for the service in the 2018/19 financial year will be set at £1.45m (including café lease income of £306,000). This represents a net increase of £106,000 on the budget set for the 2017/18 financial year. This increase also reflects the proposed lease sums relating to the new three year café leases.
15. As stated, the proposed price changes reflect an uplift of 2.6%. This has been rounded for ease of transactional processing.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Proposed Fees and Charges for 2018/19

Background papers

- Open Spaces Department Sports and Physical Activity Framework

Yvette Hughes

Business Manager - Open Spaces Department

T: 020 7332 3977

E: yvette.hughes@cityoflondon.gov.uk