
FEES AND CHARGES: BUILDING CONTROL AND LICENSING SERVICES

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides for the adoption of changes to fees and charges that apply to the Building Control and Licensing Services unit. The specific changes were outlined in the Draft Long Term Plan. They are being presented at this time to ensure that officers have sufficient time to implement the changes as at 1 July 2006.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Agree to recommend that the Council agree to the fees and charges as outlined in appendix one and that these apply from 1 July 2006.*

3. Background

The Revenue and Financing Policy guides the Council's decisions on how to fund its activities. Changes to fees and charges were identified as part of the review of the policy earlier this year. Changes were proposed for a number of activities.

Those that relate to the Building Control and Licensing Services unit are presented here for approval. These relate to the following activities:

- Building Control and Facilitation (1.4.2)
- Public Health (6.5.3)

These are being presented at this time to ensure that the fees and charges can be implemented in line with legislation. The Dog Control Act and Food Hygiene Regulations require dog registration and food premises to be completed by 1 July. The Dog Control Act also requires all registration fees to be advertised one month prior to registration.

The need to agree these changes ahead of other items within the Draft Long Term Plan was noted by the committee in October 2005 as part of its consideration of a paper on the *Long Term Council Community Plan: Process*.

The proposed changes to fees and charges were specifically outlined in the Draft Long Term Plan for consultation. The fact that the changes were proposed was also noted in the summary, online, in the April APW, the Rates News and in an editorial within the *Our Wellington* page.

The written submissions closed on May 12 2006.¹ One submission directly addressed the proposed fee changes for Building Control and Facilitation. The submitter expressed a view that the current compliance costs of building alterations were excessive particularly given the delays that can arise². No submissions mentioned changes to the Public Health fees. There have been no requests for oral hearings relating to these fees.

5. Conclusion

Changes to fees and charges were identified as part of the review of the Revenue and Financing Policy. These have been open for public comment as part of the Draft Long Term Plan. Having considered those comments the committee is now asked to adopt the changes for implementation on 1 July 2006.

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¹ There were few submissions on these proposed changes a greater number were received on other fee changes (such as parking) indicating the open nature of the consultation process.

² Submission #1349