

Report to Environment and Licensing Committee

Subject: Mobile Homes Fees Policy 2014

Date: 28th March 2014

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1. Purpose of the Report

To inform Members about changes in legislation which allow the Council to introduce charges for Mobile Homes sites, and to seek the approval of Members of the Policy and scale of fees.

2. Background

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 was amended by the Mobile Homes Act 2013. The changes by the 2013 Act come into force on 1st April 2014. These include powers for local authorities to charge fees for licensing functions in respect of "*relevant protected sites*". Relevant protected sites are typically known as residential parks, mobile home parks, Gypsy Roma and Traveller sites and so on.

The Act introduces some important changes, which includes the ability for Councils to charge fees. There is an expectation that councils will inspect sites annually and use the additional powers to ensure compliance with site licence conditions. The council can charge a fee for different licensing functions, serve enforcement notices and publish any site rules relating to a site.

3. Proposal

It is proposed that the Mobile Homes Fee Policy 2014 and the fees as shown in appendix 1 is approved so that the Council can recover the cost incurred from licensing mobile homes sites in the Borough.

4. Resource Implications

There are two mobile homes sites on the Borough and if approved the proposed policy will generate approximately £2,000 of additional income to cover the costs incurred by the Council from regulating the mobile homes sites. The fees and charges are limited to full cost recovery.

5. Recommendation

1. That Members approve the Mobile Homes Fees Policy 2014.
2. That Members approve the fees and charges set out within the Mobile Homes Fees Policy 2014.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Gedling Borough Council Mobile Homes Fees Policy 2014

Appendix 2 – Equalities Impact Assessment