

## Operational Decision Record

Publication Date: 10/03/2023	Decision Reference Number: 4889
<b>Decision Title</b>	
Fees Review for Building Control Services	
<b>Decision Value</b>	
Approx. £30,000 per annum (assuming an increase of fees of around 10% on total fees for 2022/23)	
<b>Revenue or Capital Spend?</b>	
Revenue	
<b>Department</b>	
Growth and City Development	
<b>Contact Officer (Name, job title, and contact details)</b>	
Matt Gregory (Job Title: Planning Policy and Research Manager, Email: matt.gregory@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 0115 876 3981)	
<b>Decision Taken</b>	
To increase Building Control fees in line with the attached schedule. If agreed, the new fees will be charged from 1 April 2023.	
<b>Reasons for Decision and Background Information</b>	
<p>The last review of Building Control fees was undertaken in 2019. In the years immediately following this, inflation was historically low. However, this position has changed significantly over 2022/23, and the current level of fees therefore requires review. An around 10% increase in fees for most works are proposed, tempered by a benchmarking exercise against other Local Authority Building Control fees to fine tune the increase, and combined with a reassessment of the work required to undertake BC duties for particular building projects. The recommended schedule of new fees is attached. If approved, the amended schedule will be used to update the corporate schedule of Fees and Charges, and come into effect from 1 April 2023.</p>	
<b>Other Options Considered and why these were rejected</b>	
Not increasing fees - rejected due to the fees no longer reflecting actual costs. Increasing fees by a greater amount - rejected as this would make NCC fees amongst the highest against benchmarked comparators.	
<b>Reasons why this decision is classified as operational</b>	
Value less than £250,000	
<b>Additional Information</b>	

- **It is recommended that you seek and include finance advice where your decision has financial implications.**

Regulation 3 of the Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 enables the Council to set charges for or in connection with the performance of their functions relating to building regulations by way of a scheme made in accordance with the Regulations and to recover those charges from relevant persons. In determining the amount of the charges to be made within a charging scheme, a local authority shall have regard to the overriding objective to ensure that, taking one financial year with another, the income derived by the authority from performing chargeable functions and providing chargeable advice ("chargeable income") as nearly as possible equates to the costs incurred by the authority in performing chargeable functions and providing chargeable advice ("chargeable costs"). The Regulations set out various exceptions and principles for calculating charges and it is assumed that the Corporate Director has had regard to those matters when fixing the charges in the attached Scheme.

Advice provided by Ann Barrett (Team Leader) on 03/03/2023.

The decision to increase Building Control fees as per the attached BC Fees Schedule March 2023 is supported due to high inflation and/or rising actuals. The increase has been benchmarked with other similar Local Authorities and is inline. There is zero cost to Nottingham City Council associated with adopting the new prices. The Proposed fee increase of 10% will bring in an additional £30,000 extra income (calculated on Prior years) per financial year over the previous rates, intended to take effect from 1st April 2023. Once approved this will be reflected in the Budget and Forecast accordingly.

Advice provided by Paul Rogers (Commercial Finance Business Partner (G&D)) on 27/02/2023.

<b>Decision Maker (Name and Job Title)</b>
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Sajeeda Rose (Corporate Director of Growth & City Development)
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<b>Scheme of Delegation Reference Number</b>
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Delegation 4
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<b>Date Decision Taken</b>
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10/03/2023
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