

Directorate / Service Area		Officer undertaking the assessment
Economy, Transport and Environment Cross-Directorate		Name: Celia Melville.....
Service / Document / Function being assessed		Job Title: Head of Policy and Business Development
B/R.7.013	Increase highways and road safety charges to cover costs	
B/R.7.016	Expand the range of fees in Growth & Economy	
B/R.7.030	Registration income generation/cost recovery	
Business Plan Proposal Number (if relevant)	As above	
Aims and Objectives of Service / Document / Function		
<p>Review fees and charges to ensure that the full cost of providing services is covered.</p> <p>The Business Plan 2013/14 outlined the need to review charges in ETE as part of a longer term strategy to ensure that we align our charging policies. The aim of this review is to ensure that we put in place charges that are appropriate to support and improve service provision.</p> <p>This links to the County Council's Strategic Objectives of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the local economy for the benefit of all and; • Helping people to live independent and healthy lives. 		
What is changing?		
<p>Registration and Coroners service Changes to locally set fees from 1 April 2014.</p> <p>Growth and Economy Introduction of fees to ensure the County Council is able to continue to engage to provide discretionary pre-application advice relating to new development proposals which come forward in advance of the developers applying for planning permission. And secondly to revise existing fee paying services operated by the Growth & Economy Service.</p> <p>Highways and Road Safety Changes to fees and charges from 1st April 2014 following an extensive review.</p>		
Who is involved in this impact assessment?		
<p>e.g. Council officers, partners, service users and community representatives.</p> <p>Celia Melville, Head of Policy and Business Development Graham Amis, Lead Business Development Officer Richard Lumley, Traffic Manager Matt Staton, Lead Road Safety Officer Louise Clover, Service Support Manager & County SR Kirstie Blencowe, Registration Operations Manager Rachel Middleton, Senior Coroners Officer Officers form the following Service teams: Growth & Economy - transport, planning and archaeology, Transport Infrastructure Policy and Funding Service District Council partners</p>		

What will the impact be?

Tick to indicate if the impact on each of the following protected characteristics is positive, neutral or negative.

Impact	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Age		✓	
Disability		✓	
Gender reassignment		✓	
Marriage and civil partnership		✓	
Pregnancy and maternity		✓	
Race		✓	

Impact	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Religion or belief		✓	
Sex		✓	
Sexual orientation		✓	
The following additional characteristics can be significant in areas of Cambridgeshire.			
Rural isolation		✓	
Deprivation		✓	

For each of the above characteristics where there is a positive, negative and / or neutral impact, please provide details, including evidence for this view. Describe the actions that will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts and how the actions are to be recorded and monitored. Describe any issues that may need to be addressed or opportunities that may arise.

Positive Impact
NA
Negative Impact
NA
Neutral Impact
<p>Increases in fees and charges will impact on those who pay them, but the following key principles have been adopted. These will help to mitigate against the risk of disproportionately affecting any particular groups of people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The user pays • The Council accept some risk by setting realistic charges • Use benchmarking to mitigate risk • Ensure that that all aspects of overheads are included, and that this is done in a consistent way • Recognise that if we do not ensure full recovery of costs, services to the public will need to be reduced • It may be necessary to introduce a charge for a service in order to retain that service • Uprate fees and charges by RPI each year where it is appropriate to do so <p>There will no impact on the community, either positive or negative, following a review of the highway charges. The increases are in line with those permitted by the associated legislation and substantiated by bench marking against other Local Authorities, and are required in order to ensure organisations working on the highway network give sufficient thought to the works they are carrying out. In turn this allows us as the Highway Authority to better manage the highway network and minimise disruption to road users and conform to the Network Management Duty placed on us under the 2004 Traffic Management Act.</p> <p>Registration and Coroners services charges are those that are utilised on a very infrequent basis by customers, on average a few times for either service at most in a customer's lifetime. Therefore any increase in locally set fees has a minimal impact on end users.</p>
Issues or Opportunities that may need to be addressed
<p>The charges will be reviewed on an annual basis. Any issues that arise will be dealt with separately through usual feedback mechanisms within Services and will be built into the ongoing review.</p>

Community Cohesion

If it is relevant to your area you should also consider the impact on community cohesion.

NA
