

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Executive Officer – Strategic Development

REFERENCE: A505

DATE: 14 February 2011

SUBJECT: **Changes to Schedule of Charges – RCN11-02-07**

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council approval for changes to the Schedule of Charges for inclusion in the Draft Annual Plan 2011/2012.

COMMENT/DISCUSSION

Staff recommend making the following changes to the Schedule of Charges:

General

The hourly rate across Council departments has been inflation adjusted to \$134.00 per hour.

Community Services

- Cemetery charges have been inflation adjusted (with appropriate rounding).
- Library charges remain the same.

Engineering

Most of the engineering charges have been inflation adjusted (with appropriate rounding), with the following exceptions:

- Landfill charges increased to help cover some of the loss of income from the reduction in the volume of waste being disposed of, which is most likely due to the downturn in the economic activity.
- Aerodrome landing and parking fees have gone up more than the inflation adjustment.

Environment & Planning

Apart from the inflation adjustment with rounding, the main changes proposed are:

- Clarification that the listed deposits for processing resource consent applications and for carrying out other resource management functions can be increased when required to recover more income upfront and minimise transaction costs and Council's exposure to delays in recovering costs.
- Introduced a charge for replacement registration tags for dogs to cover associated costs.
- Allowed for reduced charges where people build under Department of Building and Housing approved "multi-proof" building consent and where food operators operate under an New Zealand Food Safety Authority accredited food control plan.
- Reduced charge for transfer of consents to better reflect processing effort.
- Reduced deposits for designations and heritage orders to reflect changes to the notification requirements under the Resource Management Act 1991 and modified some other deposits (e.g. roading stopping, Official Information Act certificates).
- Introduced a new (and lessor) fee for kitset type dwellings less than 110m² and included houses greater than 250m² in the same rate as for multi storey dwellings to better reflect processing and inspection effort.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 THAT Council receives this report;**
- 2 THAT the changes to the Schedule of Charges as outlined above be approved for inclusion in the Draft Annual Plan 2011/2012;**
- 3. THAT the attached full Schedule of Charges be included in the Draft Annual Plan 2011/2012.**

S E Hartley
Executive Officer – Strategic Development