

COMMITTEE: REGULATION

DATE: 23rd FEBRUARY 2011

SUBJECT: SCALE OF CHARGES

REPORT BY: HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

CONTACT OFFICER: MALCOLM LEETE 01582 457195 EXT. 310

IMPLICATIONS:

| | | |
|------------|---|------------------|
| LEGAL | ✓ | COMMUNITY SAFETY |
| EQUALITIES | | ENVIRONMENT |
| FINANCIAL | | CONSULTATIONS |
| STAFFING | | OTHER |

WARDS AFFECTED: All

PURPOSE

1. To introduce new scale of charges to be applied in respect of the Superintendent Registrar's fee to officiate when civil marriages and civil partnerships take place in Committee Rooms 1 & 2 and The Silver Room at the Town Hall.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

2. Regulation Committee is recommended to approve the new scale of charges for the financial year 2011/12, highlighted and set out at Appendix A to this report.

REPORT

3. This proposal relates to the potential use of the Committee Rooms 1 & 2 and The Silver Room in the Town Hall for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships. The approved venue system is essentially a licensing system under which premises may be approved by the local authority

permitting civil marriages and civil partnerships to be conducted on those premises by Registrars.

4. Subject to availability, ceremonies could be offered on Saturdays and occasionally on Sundays.
5. With regard to fees, in order to attract as many users of the premises as possible, it has been set as £250 for a booking on a Saturday and £300 for a booking on a Sunday.

PROPOSAL/OPTION

6. Regulation Committee can:
 - Accept the proposal.
 - Reject the proposal
 - Defer the proposal for further information.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7. There are the following legal implications to this report as agreed with Clive Tobin, Senior Solicitor in Legal Services on 10th February 2011:

The fees referred to in the proposal include both the use of the Council's premises and the civil marriage itself. Whilst there are limits on the fees that may be charged for a civil marriage, the Council may set the room hire element of the fees at such reasonable rate as it considers appropriate.

APPENDIX

Appendix A – Proposed scale of charges.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100D**

There are no background papers to this report.