

Contact Officer: Richard Dunne

KIRKLEES COUNCIL

CABINET

Tuesday 6th March 2018

Present: Councillor David Sheard (Chair)
Councillor Shabir Pandor
Councillor Peter McBride
Councillor Naheed Mather
Councillor Musarrat Khan
Councillor Viv Kendrick
Councillor Masood Ahmed
Councillor Cathy Scott

Apologies: Councillor Erin Hill (Currently on Maternity Leave)
Councillor Graham Turner

433 Membership of the Committee

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Hill and Turner.

434 Minutes of previous meeting

That the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2018 be approved as a correct record.

435 Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

436 Admission of the Public

It was noted that all agenda items would be considered in public session.

437 Deputations/Petitions

Cabinet received deputations from the following people regarding item 8 Bereavement Services – Fees and Charges Review:

Soyeb Yusuf (Muslim Burial Council of North Kirklees), Abdel Jebar Ahmed and Ayzaz Khaliq ((Huddersfield Muslim Burial Council) and Hasan Badat.

438 Public Question Time

Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 37 the following people asked Cabinet a number of questions as part of the discussion on item 8 Bereavement Services – Fees and Charges Review.

Soyeb Yusuf, Abdel Jebar Ahmed, Ayzaz Khaliq and Hasan Badat.

439 Member Question Time

No questions were asked.

440 Bereavement Services - Fees and Charges Review

Cabinet received a report that covered a review of the fees and charges for Bereavement Services and sought approval to introduce an updated business model and charging structure for the next 5 years.

The report provided details of the current position; the engagement process that had been followed; the proposed business model; the key principles of operation and the impact of the revised service delivery model.

The report advised that the revised charges would come into effect on 1 April 2018 and outlined the implications for the Council, next steps and officer recommendations and reasons.

Cllr Shabir informed Cabinet of an additional proposed recommendation that acknowledged that timeliness of burials and grave depth were important considerations and the Council would therefore look, on a case by case exception basis, to be flexible and accommodating to requests related to faith or cultural issues.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That the fees and charges as set out in Appendix 1 of the considered report be approved.
- (2) That the key principles of operation as set out in section 2.4 of the considered report be approved.
- (3) That the operational changes as set out in paragraph 2.4.10 of the considered report be noted.
- (4) That authority be delegated to the relevant Service Director - Commercial, Regulatory & Operational Services, to benchmark regionally and revise burial charges annually, as outlined in paragraph 2.5.3. of the considered report.
- (5) That the proposal to set up of the forum for continued engagement with stakeholders as set out in paragraph 2.4.12. of the considered report be approved.
- (6) That approval be given to the additional recommendation that acknowledges that timeliness of burials & grave depth are important considerations, and the Council we will look to be flexible and accommodating to requests relating to faith or cultural issues, on a case by case exception basis.

441 Extra Care Housing - Restaurant Facility

Cabinet gave consideration to a report which sought approval to introduce a service charge to contribute towards the cost of providing the onsite restaurant service at the Council's three extra care housing schemes.

The report provided details of the current care and support model; the restaurant facilities; and three options that had been considered for the future of the restaurant services.

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The report advised that following a consultation with tenants and looking at other restaurant models in extra care schemes that it was proposed that a fixed service charge be introduced to support the costs of providing the service.

The report outlined details of how the charge would be implemented, the number of meals that would be provided and the implications for the Council.

RESOLVED -

- (1) That approval be given to the option to implement a service charge for the restaurant facility as set out at 2.10 of the considered report and monitor the impact of the charge.
- (2) That Community Plus and other approaches are used to maximise use of the restaurants by the wider community.
- (3) That alternative delivery options are developed and evaluated.