

# CABINET

## URGENT BUSINESS

### HEALTH AND STRATEGIC HOUSING FEES AND CHARGES 2008/09 – PORT HEALTH

#### Report of Corporate Director (Community Services)

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
This report has been prepared under the Urgent Business procedure as new charges are required to be set in respect of Port Health work with effect from 1 January 2008.			
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Key Decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Referral from Cabinet Member	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date Included in Forward Plan	N/A		
This report is public.			

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF CABINET MEMBER

- (1) That Cabinet agree to introduce the Port Health fees outlined in the report from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 until Cabinet's decision on the 22 January 2008 on fees and charges comes into effect.

#### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Charges for ship inspections under the Public Health (Ships) Regulations 1979 (as amended) have previously been prescribed by the Department of Health and therefore not part of Lancaster City Council's locally determined fees and charges.
- 1.2 Following the implementation of the International Health Regulations 2005 in June this year and changes to the procedures for ship inspections, the Department of Health no longer sets the charges and therefore future fees and charges need to be determined locally by relevant port health authorities.
- 1.3 The Association of Port Health Authorities (APHA) agreed at its meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> December 2007 to recommend to its members a standard charging regime for the issue of Ship Sanitation Exemption and Ship Sanitation Control Certificates.
- 1.4 APHA hopes that all UK ports will adopt these charges and in doing so consistency in the UK will be promoted.

## 2.0 Proposal Details

- 2.1 It is proposed that the new charges recommended by APHA as shown below should come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008.

### Ship Inspection Charges – as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008

Gross Tonnage	Charge (£)
Up to 3,000	100
3,001-10,000	150
10,001-20,000	200
20,001-30,000	230
Over 30,000	300

With the exception of:

- Vessels with the capacity to carry between 50 and 1000 persons - **£300**
- Vessels with the capacity to carry more than 1000 persons - **£500**

- 2.2 As there has been insufficient time to assess the impact of the new ships inspection procedures and whether the above charges will cover the resources required, the charges will be reviewed over the next 12 months.

- 2.3 It is also proposed to introduce a charge for taking and examining water samples requested by a ship's agent or captain. The charge takes into account officer time, transport to the laboratory and the cost of the examination. The proposed charges are as follows:-

- Water sample as part of sanitation certificate £75.00
- Water sample from Heysham Port £82.50
- Water sample from Glasson Dock £95.00

## 3.0 Options and Options Analysis

- 3.1 The options for Members are:

- To approve the ship inspection charges recommended by APHA together with the new water sample charges.
- To approve a different charge.

## 4.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)

- 4.1 The Officer preferred option is i).

### RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

Fees and charges form an integral part of the budget setting process which in turn relates to the Council's priorities

**CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**(including Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

No impact

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

During 2006/07 the total income from 15 ship inspections was £1,667.

2008/09 will be a transitional year both for Lancaster Port Health Authority and shipping agents on the impact of the new requirements.

At this stage, it is not known how many water samples will be requested.

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Section 151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal Services have been consulted and have no further comments to make

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Email from APHA – Charges for Inspection of Ships.

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