

# **CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM CABINET MEMBER MEETING**

## **Agenda Item 54**

Brighton & Hove City Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Review of Fees &amp; Charges 2009/10 – Venues</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>9 December 2008</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Director of Cultural Services</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>David Fleming</b>	<b>Tel:</b> <b>29-2700</b>
	<b>E-mail:</b>	david.fleming@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No		
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All		

### **FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

#### **1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 To set out the proposed Fees & Charges for 2009/10 for the Brighton Centre and Hove Town Hall.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the Fees & Charges as shown in Appendix A and B in order that they can be incorporated into the 2009/10 Revenue Budget and Venues Business Plan.

#### **3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:**

- 3.1 The proposed Fees & Charges for 2009/10 in respect of the Brighton Centre and Hove Town Hall have been prepared on the basis of first achieving the global increase of 2.5% inflation on income budgets, which will automatically be included in the Cultural Services budget block allocation for 2009/10 as part of the 3 year budget process. A further increase of 1.5% above inflation has been added to achieve additional income of £10,000 in order to contribute to the budget savings exercise. This results in an overall increase of 4%. The Cabinet Member should note that while generally the increase is 4%, in some instances for practical reasons figures have been rounded up.

#### **4. FURTHER INFORMATION**

- 4.1 An increase of 2.5% on income budgets will be automatically incorporated into the Cultural Services budget block allocation for 2009/10 in order to comply with the council's budget process.
- 4.2 In 2007/08 a culturally and ethnically diverse range of events were held in the Hove Centre ranging from one day Local and Regional Conferences to Stakeholder Events, Fairs and Bazaars to Citizenship Ceremonies, Bar mitzvahs

to Wedding Receptions, Achievement Awards to Blood Donors and Middle Eastern Dance Festival to Cuban Music. In total, out of 265 events in 2007/08 (2006/07 – 199 events) held in the Great Hall and the Banqueting Suite, 67% were classified as local or community based events (2006/07 – 71%).

## **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 This report covers the room hire charges for commercial venues, current income targets for which are £0.417m for Brighton Centre and £0.236m for Hove Centre. Other income streams exist mainly for entertainment events, which are normally agreed by negotiation at the contract stage.

Overall the income targets (excluding civic free hire) of £1.989m for Brighton and £0.401m for Hove are expected to be achieved in 2008/09.

The raising of fees by an average of 4% is part of the proposed savings package of Cultural Services and is expected to raise £10,000.

With the recent change to VAT announced by the Government, it is to be noted that the charges in the appendices are unaffected. This is because Hove Centre hire fees are VAT exempt (Hove Centre being a civic building) while the charges quoted for the Brighton Centre are exclusive of VAT.

*Finance Officer Consulted:* Peter Francis

*Date:* 27/11/08

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no direct legal implications arising from the contents of this report. The Council must take the Human Rights Act 1998 into account in respect of its actions, but it is not considered that any individual's Human Rights Act rights would be adversely affected by the recommendation or contents of this report.

*Lawyer Consulted:* Bob Bruce

*Date:* 28/11/08

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 Concessionary rates for both weekday and weekend bookings apply at Hove Town Hall to registered charities, Brighton & Hove based non-profit making organisations and local community groups.

An Equalities Impact Assessment on Venues is currently being undertaken and fees & charges are being considered within that remit.

In August this year the council awarded a contract for the Bar & Catering Concession at the Hove Centre. However, due to the number of cultural events held requiring authentic ethnic catering, the council reserved to itself the right to permit organisers the use of the main kitchen at Hove Town Hall for ethnic catering and specialist vegetarian/vegan catering.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no sustainability implications arising from the proposals in this report.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no crime & disorder implications arising from the proposals in this report.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 There are no risk and opportunity management implications arising from the proposals in this report.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 There are no corporate/citywide implications arising from the proposals in this report.

**6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

- 6.1 None considered.

**7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 7.1 To meet income targets for 2009/10 by undertaking an annual review of Fees & Charges in line with the Corporate Fees & Charges Policy.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. Appendix A – proposed Fees & Charges for Brighton Centre 2009/10
2. Appendix B – proposed Fees & Charges for Hove Town Hall 2009/10
3. Appendix C - Fees & Charges Analysis

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

1. None

**Background Documents**

1. Corporate Fees & Charges Policy.

