

To: Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board

On: 22nd January 2020

**Report by: Director of Environment & Infrastructure and
Director of Communities, Housing & Planning**

Heading: Fees & Charges – 1st April 2020

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out amendments to fees and charges for services within the Waste and Roads Service of Environment & Infrastructure and the Pest Control Services of Communities, Housing & Planning.
 - 1.2 The Council's Scheme of Delegated Functions delegates to the Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board the power to determine fees for services, where no fee is already prescribed by legislation. The fees & charges and associated services detailed within Appendix 1 of this report have been reviewed.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board approves the fees & charges as detailed in Appendix 1 of this report for implementation on 1st April 2020.
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3. Waste Services – Supply of Bins

- 3.1 The Council supplies bins to residents and businesses and currently charges for this service and bin infrastructure. The majority of bins are purchased as infrastructure for newly built houses. Where charges for the provision of bin infrastructure are currently levied, they have remained unaltered (other than for annual inflation adjustments) for many years and having undertaken a review of charges, including benchmarking with

other Councils, it is proposed that changes to the current fees for the provision of this service are implemented, commencing 1 April 2020.

- 3.2 Renfrewshire's bin infrastructure charges currently only cover the cost of bin purchase and does not cover the administrative, storage and delivery of aspects of that service. The proposal is therefore to include all the costs associated with providing this service with the amended charges set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
- 3.3 Arrangements relating to bin size swaps will continue to be undertaken for free to support residents to recycle and Council tenants' bin infrastructure will continue to be paid for by Communities Housing & Planning Services. If a resident's bin is stolen, on production of a Police Scotland Incident number, a new bin will be provided to the resident affected at no charge.

4. Waste Services – Commercial Waste Charges

- 4.1 The Council's Commercial Waste Service currently does not charge for uplifting recycling or for its disposal. Many years ago, the Council received an income for recyclate and the pricing structure was reflective of recovering the costs for collection and disposal through the income received. The recycling commodity prices have changed and the Council now pays for the cost of disposal and reprocessing of recyclate collected and sets out in Appendix 1 of this report to introduce charges for the collection, and processing of commercial waste recycling.
- 4.2 Where charges for residual commercial waste are levied, they have remained unaltered (other than for inflation increases) for many years and having undertaken a review of charges, including benchmarking with other Councils, it is proposed that changes to the current fees for the provision of this service are implemented, commencing 1 April 2020, as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

5 Roads & Transportation

- 5.1 The Council currently levies charges for accessing and utilising Renfrewshire's public road and footway infrastructure. Where charges for the provision of Roads and Infrastructure services are currently levied, they have remained unaltered (other than for annual inflation adjustments) for many years and having undertaken a review of charges, including benchmarking with other Councils, it is proposed that changes to the current fees are implemented, commencing 1 April 2020 as set out in Appendix 1 of this report.
- 5.2 To support minimal disruption to Renfrewshire's roads network from utility providers and developers, there are 2 new road opening permit application charges proposed for Town Centres and arterial roads. Appendix 2 of this report sets out the defined Town Centre area for Renfrew, Johnstone and Paisley Town Centres where roads contained within, shall be levied with the respective charge, detailed in Appendix 2. If a road opening permit is requested within one of the arterial roads detailed in Appendix 3 of this report, the additional charge for that of a Town Centre road shall also be applied. The charges proposed for road opening permits throughout

Renfrewshire and the specifically for Town Centres and arterial roads through Renfrewshire are to encourage minimal disruption to Renfrewshire road users through swift completion of works and support Renfrewshire's residents, businesses and public transport, in particular bus services to flow through Renfrewshire with minimal disruption.

- 5.3 Fees that are classed as statutory are not considered as part of this process e.g. roads construction consents and footway crossing points. The list of new fees & charges is contained in Appendix 1 to this report.

6. Pest Control

- 6.1 The Council has a general duty in terms of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 to keep its area free of vermin and to enforce such duties on owners of land so infested. There are also powers available under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Public Health (Scotland) Act 2008 to ensure insects which are of public health significance e.g. bedbugs and cockroaches are eradicated through the application of approved insecticides.
- 6.2 Renfrewshire Council currently doesn't charge for treating rodents or insects within domestic homes across Renfrewshire. There is a charge for wasps and commercial properties. Not all pests are currently covered by the services provided by the Council to residents.
- 6.3 Where charges for the provision of pest control services are currently levied, they have remained unaltered (other than for annual inflation adjustments) for many years and having undertaken a review of charges, including benchmarking with other Councils, it is proposed that changes to the current fees for the provision of this service are implemented, commencing 1 April 2020.
- 6.4 The proposed revisions to the scheme of charges will have a number of benefits. As well as increasing the range of pests that can be treated by the Council the review of charges will support the recruitment of a further Pest Control Officer to minimise the number of jobs required to be sub contracted to an external contractor and ensure that any income is retained within the Council to support the service delivery. Renfrewshire Council will also look to recruit a temporary student Environmental Health Officer (EHO) in a training capacity to undertake wasp nest treatments during the summer period.
- 6.5 Where call-outs are requested by Council tenants it is proposed that that the charge will be made to the Housing Revenue Account, with there being no requirement for individual tenants to pay. A concessionary rate of charge will be available for other domestic customers in receipt of relevant benefits or tax credits and will be administered in line with the Council's agreed concessions policy. All revised charges will come into effect from 1 April 2020.
- 6.6 Renfrewshire Council has a range of legislative powers under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, Environmental Protection Act 1990 and Public Health

(Scotland) Act 2008 to control pests should landowners not adhere to their responsibilities.

- 6.7 The list of amended fees & charges is contained in Appendix 1 to this report.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The new fees and charges are set out in Appendix 1 of the report. These fees would apply for financial year 2020/2021.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – In relation to pest control, as the service expands there will be scope to employ an additional Pest Control Officer on a permanent basis and seasonal Student Pest Control Officers on a temporary basis to respond to seasonal pests such as wasps.
3. **Community & Council Planning** – Creating a sustainable Renfrewshire for all to enjoy – eradication of vermin and insects within Renfrewshire will ensure that residents and businesses will not be adversely affected through the presence of pests. The introduction of charges for eradication treatments will allow resources to be appropriately targeted.

Our Renfrewshire is thriving / Reshaping our place, our economy and our future – The increase in fees will allow the Service to direct its budget appropriately.

4. **Legal** – None.
5. **Property/Assets** – The realigned income will allow the Service to ensure its roads, fleet and open space infrastructure is maintained and enhanced.
6. **Information Technology** – None.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website
8. **Health & Safety** – None.
9. **Procurement** – None.
10. **Risk** – there is a risk that by introducing charges for pest control, residents may not address pest issues however, the Service will monitor the situation and will implement enforcement procedures in the event of such circumstances arising.

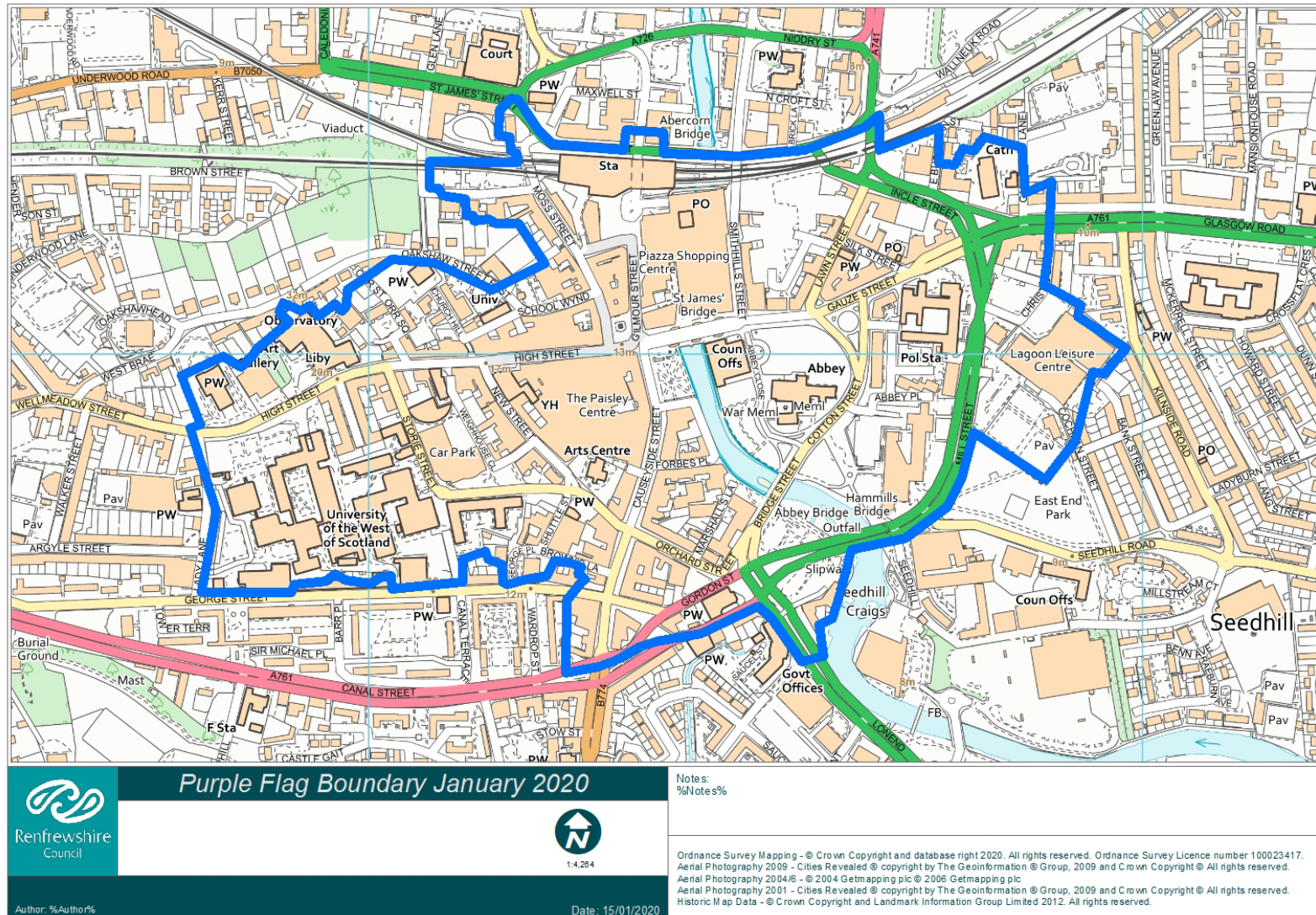
11. **Privacy Impact** – None.
12. **CoSLA Policy Position** – none
13. **Climate Risk** – The positive impact of this report on Climate Risk will be achieved by the reduction in road disruption and associated congestion. The swapping of recycling bins to larger sizes free of charge also assist with increasing the Council's recycling and thereby again achieving a positive impact on Climate Risk.

List of Background Papers: None

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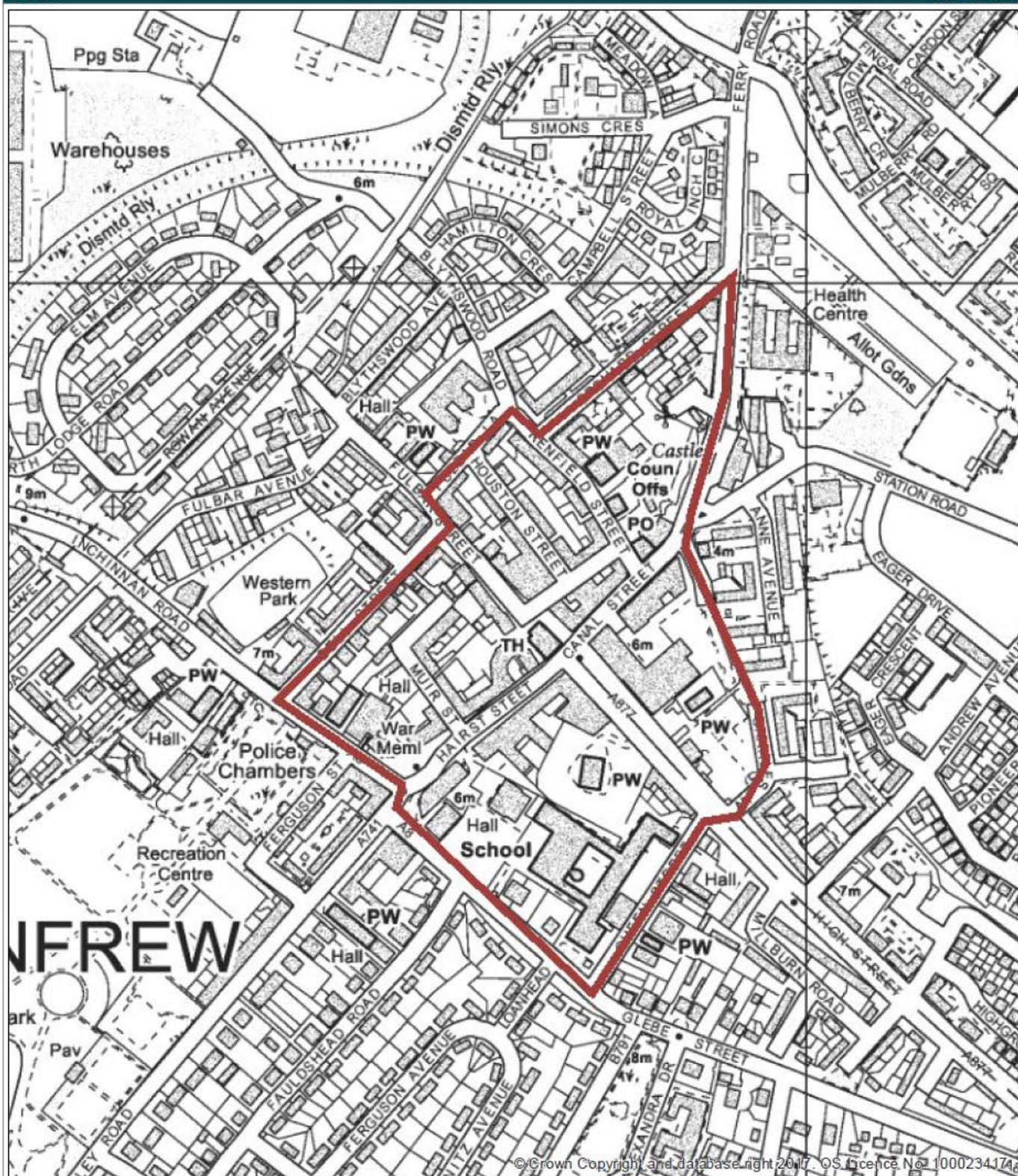
Description	Current Charge	2020/21 Charge
Waste Services		
Supply 140L Bin	£19.00	£39
Supply 240L Bin	£22.50	£48.50
Supply 360L Bin	£56.30	£97
Supply 1280L Bin	£327.70	£375
Residual Trade Waste Collection 140L	£2.95	£4.35
Residual Trade Waste Collection 240L	£3.80	£5.30
Residual Trade Waste Collection 360L	£5.15	£7.30
Residual Trade Waste Collection 1280L	£14.95	£36.40
Recyclate Trade Waste Collection 140L	No charge	£2.00
Recyclate Trade Waste Collection 240L	No charge	£3.75
Recyclate Trade Waste Collection 360L	No charge	£5.60
Recyclate Trade Waste Collection 1280L	No charge	£17.40
Food Waste Trade Waste Collection 140L	No charge	£4.30
Roads		
Road Occupation & Scaffolding Permits (building works)	£57.25	£150
Road Adoption Plans	£62.65	£180
Road Opening Permit - First week of opening	£145.05	£300
Road Opening Permit - Charge for each additional week or part week thereafter	£72.55	£350
Road Opening Permit Town Centre & Arterial Roads	No charge	£650
Road Opening Permit Town Centre & Arterial Roads – Charge for each additional week or part week thereafter	No charge	£700
Portable traffic light permits	£54.95	£130
Footway crossing permits and works	£72.55	£100
Skip permits	£35.15	£50
Switch on/off traffic signals	Recovery of direct costs	Full cost recovery
Road Occupation Permit– Non building works	£57.25	£150
Pest Control – Domestic		
Rats, mice, insects, wasp nests	£42.30	£60
Pest Control – Commercial		
Rats, mice treatments (including VAT)	£102.70	£154.20
Rats, mice treatments (excluding VAT – e.g. Council Offices and Council premises)	£85.75	£128.50
Inspection and treatment up to 2 hours, all materials and travel costs and up to two follow up or clearance visits if required. Any additional work will be charged at a rate of £45 per hour plus VAT	£60.45	£90.50
Insects - excluding wasps (including VAT)	£68.70	£103
Wasps nests (including VAT)	£42.30	£72

Paisley Town Centre



Author:

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Notes:

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Renfrew Road, Paisley (A741).

Ferguslie, Paisley (A761)

Hurlet Road, Paisley (A726)

Greenock Road, Paisley (A726)

Glasgow Road, Renfrew (A8)

Paisley Road, Renfrew (A741)

Main Road, Elderslie (B789)

Southbar Road, Erskine (A726)

Barnsford Road, Paisley (A726)

Inchinnan Road, Renfrew (A8)

Bridgeway, Erskine (A726)

Glasgow Road, Paisley (A761)

Greenock Road, Inchinnan (A8)

Arkleston Road, Paisley

Caplethill Road, Paisley (B774)

Kilmacolm Road, Bridge of Weir (A761)

Glenpatrick Road, Elderslie

Gleniffer Road, Paisley (B775)