

RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

SERVICE DIRECTORATE: *Place*

1. DECISION TAKEN

- 1.1 To approve the Fees and Charges as they relate to Greenspace for the 2025/26 financial year for Burials, Football, Events (Including Fairs and Circuses) and Allotments.

2. DECISION TAKER

Sarah Kingsley – Service Director, Place

3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:

27th February 2025

4. REASON FOR DECISION

- 4.1 To review the current Fees and Charges structure as it relates to Greenspace and to consider amendments as appropriate to compensate for inflation, contract changes, or other operational influences.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 No alternative options have been considered. The proposed increases in the Fees and Charges are a minimum proposal that is in line with inflation and contractual price increases incurred to deliver the services being charged for.

6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)

- 6.1 Consultation has been undertaken with the Executive Member for Environment, Leisure and Greenspace, Service Director for Place and Service Accountant.

7. FORWARD PLAN

- 7.1 This decision is not a key Executive decision and has therefore not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

8. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 As part of the Council's Service and Financial Planning annual process, the value of income that could be reasonably generated from the services provided to the public has to be considered to ensure that they can continue and not be a financial burden upon the finances of the authority.

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. The Council can provide burial facilities under the Local Government Act 1972, and their management is governed by the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Act 1977.
- 9.2. The Council has a statutory obligation to provide Allotment services, if it believes that there is a demand, under s23 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908.
- 9.3. The Council has no statutory duty to provide sports or leisure activities or facilities but may do pursuant to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, which enables it to provide recreational facilities as it sees fit.
- 9.4. The services are currently provided at a zero subsidy to the Council in accordance with current policies. The proposed increases in fees and charges would ensure this continues.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1. The proposed level of fees and charges are in line with the assumptions in the 2025/26 budget.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1. The risk is minimal as the proposal is in line with, or below inflation currently and will ensure that these services can continue.
- 11.2. There is a small risk that some elements of the community may not be able to afford the proposed increased charges.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1. The Equality Act 2010 came into force on the 1st October 2010, a major piece of legislation. The Act created a new Public Sector Equality Duty, which came into force on the 5th April 2011. There is a general duty, described in paragraph 12.2, that public bodies must meet, underpinned by more specific duties which are designed to help meet them.
- 12.2. In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of its functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.3. There are no additional equality implications associated with this proposal.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1. The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to this decision.

14. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1. There are no known Environmental impacts that apply to this report.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 15.1. There are no known human resource implications.

16. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 16.1. Table of Fees and Charges and the proposals for 2025/26


17. APPENDICES

17.1 None

NOTIFICATION DATE 28th February 2025

Signature of Executive Member Consulted ... 

Date ...27th February 2025.....

Signature of Decision Taker ... 

Activity	Fees & charges			
	Actual 2024 - 25	RPI 2.8%		Proposed 2025 / 26 Rounded
Allotment				
Full plot	£172.00	£ 4.82	£ 176.82	£ 177.00
Concessionary full plot	£86.00	£ 2.41	£ 88.41	£ 88.00
Half plot	£86.00	£ 2.41	£ 88.41	£ 88.00
Concessionary	£43.00	£ 1.20	£ 44.20	£ 44.00
Outdoor Recreational Facilities				
	Charges are priced per game	RPI 2.8%		
Football				
Per match – Adults with use of pavilion	£61.00	£ 1.71	£ 62.71	£ 63.00
Per match – Junior with use of pavilion	£30.50	£ 0.85	£ 31.35	£ 31.50
Pitches only (no use of pavilion)				
Adults	£41.50	£ 1.16	£ 42.66	£ 43.00
Juniors	£21.00	£ 0.59	£ 21.59	£ 21.50
Training per session				
Adults (no use of pavilion)	£41.50	£ 1.16	£ 42.66	£ 43.00
Juniors	£21.00	£ 0.59	£ 21.59	£ 21.50
Land Licence				
		RPI 2.8%		
Issuing of a land licence to approve an event on NHDC Land	£60.00	£ 1.68	£ 61.68	£ 62.00
Businesses Using NHDC Land				
Use of NHDC land for operating a business such as a fitness groups (per calendar month)	£126.00	£ 3.53	£ 129.53	£ 130.00
Multi Use Games Areas				
		RPI 2.8%		
Adults	£31.00	£ 0.87	£ 31.87	£ 32.00
Juniors	£31.00	£ 0.87	£ 31.87	£ 32.00
Use of Floodlights	£31.00	£ 0.87	£ 31.87	£ 32.00
Fairs and circuses				
		RPI 2.8%		
Concessionary rates do not apply; rates are the same for organisations from in or outside North Hertfordshire.				
Pull on day	Free	Free		Free

Following day, provided operations for at least one week	Free	Free		Free
Remaining days	£600.00	£ 16.80	£ 616.80	£ 620.00
Sundays when not in operation	£300.00	£ 8.40	£ 308.40	£ 310.00

Burials continue on next page

The fees, payments and sums set out below apply where the person to be interred or in respect of whom the right is granted, is or immediately before his/her death was an inhabitant of the district of North Hertfordshire, or was such an inhabitant within 5 years prior to the date of their death, subject to their removal from the district being for the purpose of hospitalisation, nursing or recuperative care, or for pursuing a course for further education. In all other cases, the fees, payments and sums will be double. Those in parts 1 and 3 will not be double where the Exclusive Right of Burial was acquired at a single fee as set out in part 2.

PART 1. INTERMENTS

The fees indicated for the various items of Part 1 include the digging of the grave and apply only when the interment is made between the hours of 9.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday. At all other times the costs of interments will be doubled, with the permission of the Burials Registrar.

1. For the interment in any grave of the body for which the Exclusive Right of Burial has been purchased:

I. For all persons under the age of 18 years (including stillborns)

Whose parents (or one of them) are at the time of the interment are

Inhabitants of North Hertfordshire No Charge

2.8%

2024 - 25

**2024 - 25
RPI**

**2025 - 26
Proposed**

II. A person whose age at the time of death exceeds 18 years

Single depth burial (5ft.) £ 912.00 £ 25.54 £ 937.54 **£ 938.00**

III. A person whose age at the time of death exceeds 18 years

Double depth burial (7ft.) £ 1,344.00 £ 37.63 £ 1,381.63 **£ 1,382.00**

IV. A person whose age at the time of death exceeds 18 years

Treble depth (9ft.) £ 1,918.00 £ 53.70 £ 1,971.70 **£ 1,972.00**

2 An extra amount for the interment £ 197.00 £ 5.52 £ 202.52 **£ 202.00**

For the interment of cremated remains in a grave or vault for which the

Exclusive Right of Burial has been purchased £ 320.00 £ 8.96 £ 328.96 **£ 329.00**

PART 2. EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS OF BURIALS IN EARTHEN GRAVES.

1. For an Exclusive Right of Burial for a period of 50 years in an earthen grave 9 feet x 4 feet (2.75m x 1.25m) £ 1,333.00 £ 37.32 £ 1,370.32 **£ 1,370.00**

2. For an Exclusive Right of Burial for a period of 50 years in an earthen grave 2 feet by 2 feet (60cm x 60cm) £ 444.00 £ 12.43 £ 456.43 **£ 456.00**

REQUEST TO TRANSFER THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL £ 64.00 £ 1.79 £ 65.79 **£ 66.00**

PART 3. MONUMENTS, GRAVESTONES, TABLETS AND MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS.

For a right to erect or place a memorial on a grave or vault in respect of which The Exclusive Right of Burial has been granted.

NOTE: Where the interment as in Part 1.1 the rate of Exclusive Rights will be Reduced by 50%.

1. a memorial stone including base not exceeding 3 ft.6 ins. in height. £ 499.00 £ 13.97 £ 512.97 **£ 513.00**

2. a vase of natural stone not exceeding 12 ins. In height £ 178.00 £ 4.98 £ 182.98 **£ 183.00**

3. a tablet on any grave or vault (15 ins x 12ins ashes plots and 24 ins x 18 ins tablet section) £ 170.00 £ 4.76 £ 174.76 **£ 175.00**

4. a full-size kerb (where permitted) £ 500.00 £ 14.00 £ 514.00 **£ 514.00**

5. a full-size kerb incorporating a headstone (where permitted) £ 1,000.00 £ 28.00 £ 1,028.00 **£ 1,028.00**

The fees indicated include the first inscription.

For each additional inscription the fee is payable of £ 76.50 £ 2.14 £ 78.64 **£ 79.00**

SUPPLEMENTARY FEES AND CHARGES

Additional fee for use of Cemetery Chapel, Hitchin £ 76.50 £ 2.14 £ 78.64 **£ 79.00**

Additional fee for use of Cemetery Chapel, Wilbury Hills £ 175.00 £ 4.90 £ 179.90 **£ 180.00**