Report of the Director of Infrastructure Services

Decision to be taken after 8 March 2011

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS, PLANNING AND ENERGY CABINET MEMBER

CHARGING FOR STREET NAMING, STREET NUMBERING, HOUSE NAMING AND DEMOLITION NOTICES

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

1.1 To obtain approval to charge applicants for street naming and renaming, street numbering and renumbering, house naming and renaming and issuing demolition notices.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 The Council has statutory powers to deal with Street Naming, Street Numbering and Demolitions under The Public Health Acts 1907 and 1925, The Town Improvements Clauses Act 1847 and The Building Act 1984. The role is administered by Building Control in line with other Councils across the country.

2.2 Building Control has for many years charged applicants for providing a building regulation service. However there is currently no charge to applicants for providing street naming, street numbering, and house naming services together with demolition notices

2.3 There is provision under the general power for Best Value Authorities to charge for discretionary services under the Local Government Act 2003. These services fall within this category, and any fees charged will in turn reduce the cost of the Building Control service to the council tax payers.

2.4 Other Councils, such as Doncaster, Leeds and West Lindsey are currently charging for these services. The current charges for Doncaster Metropolitan Council are £53.50 per Demolition Notice, £76.50 for street name (reduced to £25.50 for subsequent roads on the same development submitted at the same time), and £37.50 for house naming and numbering of one property, increased to £53.00 for two or more houses on the same development. These are likely to increase for 2011/12.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 **Option 1 -** to introduce charges for these services on a similar basis to Doncaster Metropolitan Council which, based on figures for 2010 would generate approximately £3,500 in income.

The proposed charges are:

- Demolition Notice £56.00 (no VAT)
- Street Name and Rename £80.00 (no VAT)
- Street Name and Rename (for subsequent roads on the same development subsubmitted at the same time) £27.00 (no VAT)
- House Naming and Renaming (one house) £39.00 (no VAT)
- Street Numbering and Renumbering (one house) £39.00 (no VAT)
- Street Numbering and Renumbering and House Naming and Renaming (two or more houses on the same development submitted at the same time (56.00 (no vat)

3.2 **Option 2** - to continue not to charge applicants directly for the services with costs being met by the Council.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 **Option 1** would mean that applicants pay directly for the service provided, which seems a fairer option. It also has the benefit that the cost to the council could be reduced accordingly. Applicants may feel unhappy in having to pay directly as they do not at present, but this proposal is in line with the approach taken by other councils.

4.2 **Option 2** is to continue as at present. It will have no effect on applicants, but it does not meet the need for the council to look at reducing costs to council tax payers.

4.3 Given the above, Option 1 is the recommended option.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

5.1 Financial

5.1.1 The income generated would reduce the net cost of the service.

5.2 Staffing

5.2.1 There are no staffing implications, as the service is already provided as a statutory service.

5.3 Property

5.3.1 There are no property implications.

5.4 IT

5.4.1 There are no IT implications.

6. OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)

6.1 Statutory

6.1.1 There are no statutory implications.

6.2 Environmental

6.2.1 There are no environmental implications.

6.3 Diversity

6.3.1 There are no diversity implications

6.4 Section 17 – Crime and Disorder, Risk and Other

6.4.1 There are no implications.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

7.1 The Legal Services section were consulted and raised no objection to the proposal.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 To adopt Option 1 and set charges for applicants from 1 April 2011, in accordance with Paragraph 3.1.

DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Church Square House
P O Box 42
Scunthorpe
DN15 6XQ
Author: Martin Salmon
Date: 6 January 2011

Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: Nil