

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER FINANCE
RESOURCES AND ASSETS
DECISION NOTICE**

At the meeting of the Portfolio Holder for Finance, Resources and Assets held on 7th February 2023 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of the Portfolio Holder are set out below in each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

DNPH.FR.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items on the agenda for this meeting.

DNPH.FR.2 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR REGISTRARS AND CIVIC SERVICES

The Portfolio Holder considered a report that set out proposed changes to non-statutory fees for the Registration Service and changes for room hire at Grimsby Town Hall.

RESOLVED – That the proposed fees and charges as set out in Appendix A be approved.

REASONS FOR DECISION – Usually, all fees and charges within Registrars and Civic Services are reviewed to ensure that they reflect inflationary cost increases of providing the service and to consider benchmarking results locally and regionally. With the current high rates of inflation, to do this would make the service untenable and couples would make alternatives arrangements with regard to their non-statutory choices at another, lower cost district. In North East Lincolnshire, 61% of our income is from ceremonies alone, it therefore has been a balanced decision to increase prices for 2025/2026 by 5%.

The service is confident that it will reach predicted income levels for the current year. However, there is some uncertainty whether income will be achieved over the next two years due to the cost of living crisis. We do have bookings into 2024, but they are only provisional until one year in advance of the ceremony.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – In order for the service to remain competitive, it is proposed that the fees be set, as laid out at the end of the report.