

REPORT TO: HOUSING COMMITTEE – 16 JANUARY 2006

REPORT ON: REVIEW OF CHARGES

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

REPORT NO.: 1-2006

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. This report seeks authority to review charges for Special Needs (Homeless) Temporary Accommodation, Furnished Accommodation, Multi-Storey Launderettes, Stair Cleaning Charges, Heating Charges at Brington Place Sheltered Housing Development and Status Enquiry Fees, all being effective from 3rd April 2006.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Committee agree the charges proposed in this report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1. The proposed increase in charges will generate the income required to offset the increased costs associated with the facilities and services detailed in paragraph 6.

4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1. A number of key themes are affected including access to shelter and security.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1. Access to Council services is available.

6. REVIEW OF CHARGES

6.1. Special Needs (Homeless) Temporary Accommodation

To meet current and estimated future costs of the service the following charges are proposed:

	<u>Lily Walker Centre</u>	<u>Supported Complex</u>	<u>Network Flats</u>
Single Room	£123.46	-	-
Joined Single	£246.91	-	-
1-apartment	£131.11	£134.06	£96.66
2-apartment	£245.63	£203.87	£193.84
3-apartment	£317.76	£342.17	£282.77
4-apartment	£408.32	£397.36	£371.51
5-apartment	£465.41	-	£470.58

Where no charge is shown no facility of the type is available at this time. If required such facilities will be provided and charged pro rata.

6.2. **Furnished Accommodation**

Mainstream Furnished Lets

It is proposed that the weekly charge for furniture be increased as detailed to cover the increased costs in providing the service. This gives the following charges:

Fully Furnished

1-apartment	£36.32 (up £1.06)
2-apartment	£40.94 (up £1.19)
3-apartment	£49.56 (up £1.44)

Charges for part-furnished houses rise by the rate of inflation (3%).

6.3. **Heating Charges – Brington Place Sheltered Housing**

It is proposed that the electricity charge for cooking, lighting, heating and hot water provided to the homes of tenants and warden is increased by 20p per week.

6.4. **Stair Cleaning Charges**

It is proposed that Stair Cleaning charges are increased by 10p per week.

6.5. **Multi-Storey Launderettes**

It is proposed that the charges for Multi-Storey Launderettes be increased to the following:

Auto-Wash	£1.70 (up 5p)
Tumble Drier	£0.90 (up 5p)
Cabinet Drier	£0.90 (up 5p)

6.6. **Status Enquiry Fees**

The fee charged to Banks, Building Societies, etc. for status enquiries will remain at £30.00.

7. **CONSULTATIONS**

7.1. All Chief Officers have been consulted on the content of this report.

7.2. Tenants have been consulted under the terms of Section 25(4) of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001.

8. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1. None.

ELAINE ZWIRLEIN
DIRECTOR OF HOUSING

2nd December 2005