

**SPECIAL ANGUS COUNCIL**

**27 FEBRUARY 2020**

**NEW CHARGES FOR PARKS OUTDOOR LETS**

**REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITIES**

**ABSTRACT**

This report seeks members approval in regard to the scale of charges applied to outdoor lets for concerts, circuses, fairgrounds and community events.

**1 RECOMMENDATION(S)**

It is recommended that the Council:

- (i) Confirm the current scale of charges for parks outdoor lets
- (ii) Approve new charging policy for large scale events

**2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN**

This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the Angus Community Learning and Development Plan:

**PEOPLE**

- Improved physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing

**PLACE**

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Scale of charges as at 1 April 2019

Event	Admin fee	Site hire fee per day ( 100+ attendees)	Daily charge	
			Non-Operating Day	Operating Day
Fairs and Circuses	£63.60		£44.60	£89.20
Commercial Events	£63.60	£103.30		
Community Events	£63.60	£103.30		

Total income from park lets for financial year 2018/2019 and April to October 2019 are attached as Appendices 1 and 2.

### 3.2 Fairs and Circuses

Reference is made to Report No 712/09 of Neighbourhood Services Committee of 8 October 2009 and Report No 516/11 of Neighbourhood Services Committee of 18 August 2011.

The above reports approved locations for Fairs and Circuses in each Angus Burgh. These are currently:-

#### **Circus Locations**

- Carnoustie – Links Parade
- Montrose – East Links
- Forfar – The Myre
- Monifieth – Riverview Park
- Arbroath – Inchcape Park

#### **Fair Locations**

- Carnoustie – Links Parade
- Montrose – Marine Avenue
- Forfar – The Myre
- Monifieth – Riverview Park
- Brechin - Public Park
- Kirriemuir – Martin Park

The administration fee applies to all bookings for fairs and circuses and thereafter charges apply for operating and non-operating days. As a concession to the small fairgrounds of less than 12 units the non-operating charge applies for all days on site. All regular fair operators are written to in January of each year asking them to confirm by end of March their site requirements for that season. Once these have been received any subsequent applications are considered on a first come first served basis for remaining sites - this in accordance with the Council's existing policy of a maximum of two fairs and 1 circus per burgh per annum.

### 3.3 Concerts and Larger Scale Events

Angus has played host to a number of recent high profile events and current policy is to treat these as commercial lets and apply the standard hire charges. Organisers are required to complete a 'safe events pack' which is scrutinised by officers to determine the extent of permits, licenses and supervision required. Organisers may, depending on the size or scale of the event be required to produce an event plan and/or make specific contingency plans to mitigate risks. The larger events bring quite substantial economic benefits to the local community and there is sufficient scope to increase rental income by applying a levy on ticket sales.

### 3.4 Community Events

All parks bookings made by community groups, clubs and charitable organisations are subject to the administration fee. The additional hire fee is only applied where anticipated numbers are expected to exceed 100. This is designed to minimise the financial burden on small local events whilst covering all costs associated with supporting those which regularly attract higher numbers of participants.

## **4. PROPOSALS**

4.1 No changes are proposed to current scale of charges for fairgrounds, circuses, small to medium commercial and all community events.

4.2 For large scale events it is proposed to introduce a levy based on ticket sales which better reflects the size and attendance at the event without being cost restrictive to event organisers. The proposed levy is £1 on every ticket sold and would be applied in addition to appropriate admin and daily charge(s).

## **5. RISKS**

A potential risk is that event organisers no longer consider Angus sites economically viable. Members should be aware of the competition in this sector and that event organisers will seek to secure sites which offer the most advantageous rates and facilities.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Approval of new scale of charges for large scale events will result in additional income from a levy on ticket sales. Based on previous events held in 2019 a concert attracting an average of 4500 attendees would generate additional income of £4500.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Finance and Director of Legal and Democratic Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report No. 712/09
- Report No. 516/11

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List of Appendices:

Schedule 1 Park Let Income 2018 – 2019 Full Year  
Schedule 2 Park Let Income 2019 – 2020 Part Year