

Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Amendment to Statutory Fees – Registration Service
Decision Maker:	Kathy Freeman, Strategic Director, Resources
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Sean McMahon Cabinet Member for Customer Services
ELT Lead:	Mark Duff, Director of IT, Digital & Customer Services
Report Author and contact details:	Louise Roast, AD Customer, Registration & Bereavement Services
Policy context:	This decision proposes that new Statutory fees chargeable in the Registration Service are noted and that the Councils published fees & charges schedule is updated
Financial summary:	Implementing the new statutory fees & charges is expected to generate approximately £10k of additional income per year. Any additional income generated will contribute to the overall financial position of the Registration Service.
Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Sub Committee:	Overview & Scrutiny Board
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	<i>The decision will be exempt from call in as it is a Non key Decision</i>

Non-key Executive Decision

The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council x

Place an X as appropriate

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

This report recommends the noting and amendment to the published fees and charges in light of a notification by the Home Office that there is an increase to some statutory Fees and Charges in the Registration Service, effective from 6 April 2026.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Part 3.3.3 of the Constitution:

Specific powers of the Strategic Director of Resources

1.9 To implement approved fees, charges, rents etc. and to ensure that proper arrangements exist for their collection.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Registration Service charges for the services it provides and its fee structure consists of a mixture of statutory and non-statutory charges. Non Statutory fees are set by the Council whilst statutory charges are set by the Home Office, (of which the General Register Office is part).

Local Register Offices must charge the statutory fees set nationally for core registration and certificate fees, but can charge its own charges for discretionary services.

The Havering Registration Service has been advised of some increases to statutory fees, effective from 6 April 2026, has implemented them, and is now seeking permission for the published fees and charges schedule to be updated.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Not updating the published fees and charges schedule was considered and rejected.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

None

Non-key Executive Decision

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Louise Roast

Designation: AD, Customer, Registration & Bereavement Services

Signature:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Louise Roast', is written over the signature line.

Date: 29.7.26

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Council is required by the Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Fees) (Amendment and Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2026 to adjust the relevant fees as set out in this report. The publication of the updated fees schedule appropriately records the adjusted fees to be paid by members of the public and aids transparency.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This report recommends amending the published fees and charges in light of a notification by the Home Office that there is an increase to some statutory Fees and Charges in the Registration Service, effective from 6 April 2026.

Civil Registration Fees were last increased in 2024, The Home Office noted that this was with the intention of bringing most of them in line broadly with the cost of recovering the service. At the time they noted that further increases for Marriage and Civil Partnership fees would be required to bring them closer to cost recovery level. As a result, these fees increased by 10% on 6th April 2026.

Implementing the new statutory fees and charges is not expected to generate more than £10,000 per year. This is based on the 24/25 demand levels and price increases for the highest demand areas as per the table below.

Item	Current fee £	Fee from 6 April 2026 £	increase in fee £	estimated demand £	estimated additional income £
Recording a notice of marriage—					
(a) where both parties to the proposed marriage are exempt persons within the meaning of section 49 of the Immigration Act 2014	42.00	46.50	4.50	1623	7,303.50
(b) in any other case	57.00	63.00	6.00	376	2,256.00
Registrar attending marriage at a register office*	56.00	62.00	6.00	53	318.00
Total				2052	9,877.50

**This relates to basic statutory weddings rather than 'Approved Premise' weddings offered at Langtons*

There is little demand for most of other services with increased fees and charges and with the relatively small price increase additional income is not expected to vary significantly from that estimated above. Any additional income generated will contribute to the overall financial position of the Registration Service.

**HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS
(AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)**

None

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to: (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010; (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and; (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not. Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy, and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socioeconomics and health determinants.

No group or individuals, with or without Protected Characteristics set out in the Equality Act, will be negatively impacted by the scheme. If future consultation reveals any detrimental impact, then this will be addressed and mitigated as needed.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

None

HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

None

BACKGROUND PAPERS

List of revised Fees. <C:\Users\LouiseRoast\OneDrive - London Borough of Havering\Fees 2627\FINAL-Annex-list-of-LRS-Fees-1.pdf>

Non-key Executive Decision

--

APPENDICES

None

Non-key Executive Decision

Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

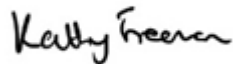
Decision

Proposal agreed

Delete as applicable

Details of decision maker

Signed



Name: Kathy Freeman

Cabinet Portfolio held:

CMT Member title: Strategic Director of Resources

Head of Service title

Other manager title:

Date: 30.07.26

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Committee Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____