



meeting **PUBLIC PROTECTION AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

date **3 November 2003**

agenda item number

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (COMMUNITY PROTECTION)

REGISTRATION SERVICE: **FEES AT APPROVED PREMISES 2004/05**

1. Purpose of the Report

To seek the approval of the Public Protection and General Purposes Committee to an increase in the charges made by the Registration Service for conducting civil marriage ceremonies at Approved Premises in 2004/2005.

2. Issues

- 2.1 The County Council is able to set charges for the Registration Service to conduct civil marriage ceremonies at Approved Premises. Currently there are 33 such venues in Nottinghamshire. The fees for this financial year 2003/2004 are £190 from Monday to Saturday; £260 on a Sunday or Bank Holiday.
- 2.2 Since civil marriage ceremonies can be booked up to twelve months in advance, the Registration Service would prefer to be able to give couples as much notice as possible of any likely increases.
- 2.3 It is therefore proposed to make a small increase in fees from £190 to £200 and from £260 to £280. The Superintendent Registrars have been consulted and agree that this would be a fair and reasonable increase.
- 2.4 The County Council also has the right to charge fees for the application, inspection and approval of venues to become Approved Premises for Civil Marriages. The current level of fees is attached in the Appendix to this report.

3. Statutory and Policy Implications

The report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of Equal Opportunities, Personnel, Crime and Disorder and users. Where such implications are material they have been brought out in the text of the report.

4. Strategic Themes

The activities outlined in the report will assist the County Council in meeting its strategic objectives.

5. Financial Implications

The income from fees at Approved Premises in 2002/2003 was approximately £103,500. The proposed fees increase would generate an estimated extra income of £7,500, but this would be offset by rising salary costs and travelling expenses.

6. Head of Legal Services' Comments (IR 17/10/03)

The statutory rights and powers have been addressed in the body of the report.

7. Director of Resources' Comments (CC/RWK)

The financial implications are set out in the report.

8. Recommendation

- 8.1 That the Public Protection and General Purposes Committee approve the proposed increase in fees contained in this report.

RICHARD HODGE

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (COMMUNITY PROTECTION)

Background Papers: None