



WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Decision taken by Cllr Mrs Julia Langley Cabinet Member for Housing

The Member has taken the following decision.

The decision will take effect on 01 May 2018.

Title

Setting of Fees for Mandatory HMO (Houses in Multiple Occupation) Licences

Decision Taken

That delegated approval to amend the licence fees for houses in multiple occupation (HMO) following the Government's decision to extend the mandatory licensing, be approved.

Date of Publication

23 April 2018

Reasons for Decision

The definition of a licensable HMO is set to be extended to include all HMOs with 5 or more persons (comprising two or more households) regardless of the number of storeys (at present the current scheme only applies to properties of 3 or more storeys). Within Wycombe district Council's area, this represents a substantial portion of the HMO market, and therefore it is anticipated significant numbers of licence applications will be submitted both proactively during the transition period, and through enforcement action after the commencement date of 1st October 2018.

Government guidance and case law (*Hemmings v Westminster City Council*) makes clear that the process of licensing should be essentially self-funding, and that costs associated with implementation and enforcement should be considered within the fee structure.

Consultation Undertaken

This follows a statutory instrument which was widely consulted on by central government. No additional consultation has taken place regarding the level of fees set.

Officer Contact

Brian Daly, Housing Services Manager

brian.daly@wycombe.gov.uk