

# ***London Borough of Bexley***

## **News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**02 November 2016 / PR 8397**

### **VIEWS SOUGHT ON PROPOSED CHARGING STRATEGY**

Local people and organisations are being invited to comment on proposals by the London Borough of Bexley for a new approach to charging for Council services.

“Our aim is to agree a strategy that will be fair and flexible and that is transparent, so that residents and businesses are clear what they will be charged for every service,” said Cllr Don Massey, the Council’s Cabinet member for Finance and Corporate Services. “We need an approach that allows us to set appropriate charges and predict our income more easily. We are also keen to offer people easier ways of paying.”

The proposals the Council has published for consultation include a draft Charging policy and a draft Lettings policy, which aims to establish a clear and consistent approach to the letting of all Council premises.

All the proposals are based on the principle agreed following a previous public consultation, that people using non-statutory services should meet the cost of these services, rather than any being met by all Council Tax payers.

The draft policy also includes a clearer and more consistent policy on concessionary charges.

If approved, the new policies would be expected to generate between £0.6m and £1.2m million of extra income next year, increasing to £2.4m to £3.6m in 2019/20.

To have your say, please complete the online survey at [www.bexley.gov.uk/budget2017](http://www.bexley.gov.uk/budget2017) or ask for a printed copy of the survey at your local library.

The deadline for responses is 23 December 2016.

All the feedback will be considered as part of the Council’s budget-making process in the spring. The final agreed proposals will take effect from 1 April 2017.

**‘ENDS’**

**Please contact: John Ferry on 020 3045 4867  
[john.ferry@bexley.gov.uk](mailto:john.ferry@bexley.gov.uk)**

