

Appendix A: Comments from the Joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees 29/01/2025

Comment from Committee	Reasons from the Committee	Executive Member/Officer Comment	Recommended Action
Difference in Garden Waste increase from partner North Herts – ie £10 as opposed to £6, and if EH are profiting from this	Are East Herts 'profiting' from garden waste charges given difference to North Herts charges	East Herts charges in line with contract inflation, can't comment on how North Herts charges are set.	Take no action
Using cpi as an index to increase garden waste charging in future years	Using cpi index to increase fees not in line with accepted practice	Change to the recommendation to charge in line with contract inflation	Updated recommendation for future years increases
Possibility of raising income via Enforcement.	Income generation to bridge future budget gaps	Interim Chief Executive indicated that enforcement was introduced a number of years ago using an external company and incurred a lot of bad publicity and negativity for both officers and members	Agreed to review the options available with regards to enforcement and bring forward for Executive consideration
Business rates income and the Charringtons House liability	Pressure on East Herts budgets	East Herts is still liable for business rates until certain conditions of the development agreement have been met.	Take no action
Progress on sale of assets, a lot slower than included in the 2024/25 budget papers	Query regarding progress of asset sales	Sale of assets being reviewed by officer led group.	Take no action

Concerns around BEAM reduced surplus forecast for 2025/26	Reduction from £1.8m surplus to £200k in MTFP for 2025/26.	Review of business plan has been undertaken by Barker Langham. Cinema attendance much reduced from previous business plan.	Take no action
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