

Key Decision Details

Decision Name	DISCRETIONARY CHARGES IN PLANNING INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC PROTECTION
Date of Decision	17 June 2025
Decision maker	Cabinet

The Cabinet has noted the contents of the report.

Additionally, the Cabinet has recommended to Council

Describe the Decision taken

- (a) that the review of Discretionary Charges within Planning, Infrastructure and Public Protection be endorsed, and authority be delegated to the Head of Planning, Infrastructure and Public Protection, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and Executive Councillor for Finance & Resources, to implement changes; and
- (b) that authority be delegated to the Head of Planning, Infrastructure and Public Protection, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and Executive Councillor for Finance & Resources, to undertake the following, for the current financial year:
 - i. Introduction of new fees
 - ii. Modification of existing fees
 - iii. Updating/adjusting of fees
 - iv. Waiving of fees

What were the reasons for taking the Decision?

The Council is committed to continue the Development Management Improvement programme to improve the performance of the planning service as outlined in the Corporate Plan 2023-2028 and is committed to following through on the recommendations of the Planning Peer Review.

The Council recognises the important responsibilities it must undertake in monitoring BNG within the district but acknowledges this will be a financial burden. Therefore, appropriate monitoring fees must be imposed.

What alternative options were considered and rejected?

Two options were considered:

- **Option 1:** Review and update discretionary fees in line with peer review recommendations – *recommended*.
- **Option 2:** Maintain current fees – *not recommended*, as it risks financial shortfalls and missed opportunities for local biodiversity investment.

Conflict of interest and dispensation

N/A

Is the decision a Key Decision?

Yes

Was the decision included in the Forward Plan

Yes

Was the decision subject to the urgency proceedings?

No

List the background papers to any report considered by the Decision Taker

16.1 Huntingdonshire
Corporate Peer Review
[Corporate Plan](#)

16.1 Huntingdonshire
Planning Services Peer Review
[Agenda for Development
Management Committee on
Monday, 19 May 2025, 7:00 pm
- Huntingdonshire.gov.uk](#)

16.2 PAS BNG guidance for
Local Authorities [Biodiversity
Net Gain \(BNG\) for Local
Planning Authorities | Local
Government Association](#)

Person Making this report

Clara Kerr, Head of Planning,
Infrastructure & Public
Protection

Decision will be effective the day after call-in expires. Call-in expires on

26 June 2025

Accompanying Documents

4 - Discretionary Planning
Service Fees Full Council
Report
O&S Comments for June
Cabinet - Discretionary Fees-
Planning & Public Protection