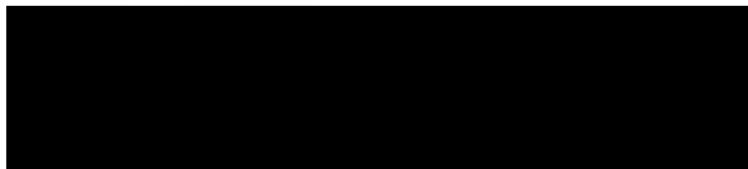


DECISION UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

Subject	Market Pitch Fees
Officer Making the Decision	Nicola Smith, Chief Officer Growth and Investment
Authority for Decision	Scheme of delegations para 2.5 “Each chief officer is authorised to do the following: (a) Take any action on matters relating to the day-to-day administration of services within their remit including the issuing of all notices, licences, orders and other legal action as appropriate.”
Recommendation	The daily pitch fee for a market stall should be reduced from £35 to £28
Alternatives considered and rejected	Not allowing a fee reduction
Decision	Reduce the fee charged to pitch holders to £28 per pitch, per day.
Reason	<p>The Council took over the running of the market in January 2023 from Rugby First who had been operating it on behalf of the Council for a number of years. Under this agreement Rugby First kept the pitch fees to cover the cost of running and managing the market on behalf of the Council.</p> <p>Between 2020-2022 Rugby First reduced the pitch fees for many of the market traders it did so without authorisation from the Council. The Council also learnt that it had individual financial agreements with traders about their fees it did not however have authorisation to do this.</p> <p>An Independent Report into the market was commissioned in 2020 which stated that our pitch fees at £35 were high. When the Council took over the market in 2023 it was decided to keep pitch fees the same so that they could be monitored.</p> <p>In February 2023 CJ Events were appointed to run the market on behalf of the Council. The legal agreement between the parties ensures</p>

	<p>that the responsibility for the collection of fees lies with CJ Events but that the fees charged are set annual and agreed as part of the Council's annual fees and charges schedule.</p> <p>CJ Events approached the Council in the autumn to say that it was struggling to attract new stall holders due to the price of the pitch fee. They suggested a reduction to £28.</p> <p>As all pitch fees are collected by CJ Events to cover the cost of providing the market there is no financial impact on the Council of this reduction in fee.</p>
Date	25 January 2024
Background Papers	None
Decision record kept until	3 years
Background papers kept until	3 years



Signed

Dated 25/01/24