

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER DECISION RECORD

The following decision was taken on 21st January 2020 by the Cabinet Member for Culture, Parks and Leisure.

Date notified to all members: 21st January 2020

The end of the call-in period is 4:00 pm on 27th January 2020

Unless called-in, the decision can be implemented from 28th January 2020

1. **TITLE**

Allotment Rent Increases 2021/2022

2. **DECISION TAKEN**

It is recommended that the rent for allotments in 2021/2022 is increased in line with inflation, at 2.0%.

3. **Reasons For Decision**

The recommendation regarding the rents effectively enables us to maintain the status quo.

4. **Alternatives Considered And Rejected**

1. Rents could be left at the same level. However due to inflation this would effectively be akin to a reduction in budget. This was rejected because the current allotment budget is not felt to be larger than needed. A reduction would decrease the level of service and site improvements.
2. Rents could be increased by a larger amount, or pricing could be changed in some way other than a small percentage increase across the board. However based on the results of the consultation questionnaire in January 2018 and discussions at the Allotment Advisory Group, an increase in line with inflation at 2% has emerged as the overall preferred option otherwise it would deter people from renting allotments.
3. Further changes could be made to the discounts. However no suitable alternative changes have been identified at present, although as noted in 2019 it will be necessary to review the impact of Universal Credit on claims for the discount as it is rolled out which may result in a further revision of the Discount Structure in the future.

5. **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None

6. **Respective Director Responsible for Implementation**

Executive Director, Place

7. **Relevant Scrutiny Committee If Decision Called In**

Healthier Communities and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee