

## **Guidelines for Charging in Sport and Leisure Services**

General guidelines governing the Council's approach to fees and charges are now principally focussed on ensuring that services are sustainable, and operated in a business like manner to maximise delivery efficiency, affordability and equalities impact on service users. This approach will include:

- (a) That the Fees & Charges applied should aim to recover the full cost of the service except where:
  - i) There is an opportunity to maximise income beyond break even by operating in a more commercial manner reflecting market demand;
  - or
  - ii) Designated Officials determine that a Concession or Discount should be made available for specific reasons, e.g. market competition, customer retention, facility condition etc.
- (b) That the standard charges may be flexed by increase or decrease outside the annual Fees and Charges review to maximise opportunity and efficiency; but that the reason for the change is reviewed regularly during the year to ensure that it remains valid and appropriate.
- (c) To make ad hoc discounted charges relating to Corporate Priorities where target groups, families or individuals will benefit directly from a service, in particular supporting reducing health inequalities in key locations, rather than it being a general benefit to the entire community.
- (d) That annual Concessionary charges will be applied to specific activities and promoted as a Member and Non Member option and be open to eligible people living in the Chesterfield Borough community (up to 50% discount) as part of the standard Fees and Charges structure. Eligibility for either concessionary membership option will be open to applicants aged 16+, require verification and be delivered through a category of membership as follows:

## Fees and Charges

- Students in Full Time Education,
- Foster Carers
- Care Leavers aged 17 - 24
- Young People in supported accommodation
- Homeless People
- People with Disabilities (all ages)
- Carer/buddy helping a Disabled person
- Unemployed School Leavers 16-18 years
- Unemployed Asylum Seekers
- Active Service Members
- People in receipt of Employment Support Allowance
- People in receipt of Personal Independence Payment
- People in receipt of Incapacity Benefit
- People in receipt of Attendance Allowance, Mobility Allowance, Disability Living Allowance or Care Allowance,
- People in receipt of Pensions Credit, Job Seekers Allowance or Income Support
- People in receipt of Universal Credit – No earned income

(e) To ensure there is no stigma attached to Concessionary or Discount schemes; all eligible applicants will receive a standard Membership Card as issued to all service users, this will be known as an **Active Chesterfield Card**. A sub membership category known as **Change4Life** will be electronically linked to the Active Chesterfield Card which will automatically apply the appropriate prices either on line or at a service counter where applicable.

(f) The Change4Life sub membership will be available as either part of a full Active Chesterfield Membership package at a discounted rate, or a standard Change4Life card limited to reduced activity prices only.

(g) Juniors under 16 years (based on school year) will be eligible for concessions as part of the Active Chesterfield Family Membership package. Specific charges aimed at Juniors are applied separately in the standard fees and charges eg Junior Swimming.