**REPORT TO:** 

**COMMUNITY SERVICES** 

COMMON!! SEKAICE

DATE OF

MEETING:

COMMITTEE 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2002

CATEGORY:

DELEGATED

AGENDA ITEM:

REPORT FROM:

**DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE** 

**OPEN** 

**MEMBERS'** 

CONTACT POINT:

CHRIS MASON (5794)

DOC:

SUBJECT:

**ALLOTMENT RENTS** 

REF:

WARD(S)
AFFECTED:

ALL

**TERMS OF** 

REFERENCE:CS07

# 1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That Members approve the proposed price increases in allotment rents

### 2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To approve allotment rents for 2002/2003

#### 3.0 Executive Summary

3.1 Allotment licenses require that any notification of price changes need a minimum of 3 months notice. It is proposed for 2002/2003 to increase allotment rents by 2.8% giving a new rental rate of £12.65 per plot.

#### 4.0 Detail

4.1 It is a requirement of our license agreements with individual plot holders and allotment associations that 3 months notice needs to be given for any increase in rates. It is therefore proposed to increase annual rental fees by 2.8% as detailed below:

**Current Rate** 

Rate for 2002/2003

£12.30

£12.65

4.2 While the majority of sites continue to have good occupancy levels there are some sites were usage levels gives cause for concern. In 2001/2002 no rent was received from Thorntree Lane Allotments because work was being undertaken on the site by a developer (Members may recall that usage of Thorntree Lane has traditionally been decreasing over recent years). In exchange for permission to lay a sewer across the site the developer was required to undertake a certain amount of improvement works including the provision of stoned footpaths, storage space and the creation of a vehicular access. The Allotment Association have reconstituted themselves, and it is hoped that the improvements to the site together with the efforts of the new association and the close proximity of new houses will play a part in generating new

9

interest in the site.

4.3 A report will be produced in spring/ early summer to update Members on current occupancy levels at other sites

### 5.0 Financial Implications

5.1 Increasing allotment rents based on current occupancy levels would generate an additional Income of £50 per annum.

### 6.0 Corporate Implications

6.1 None

## 7.0 Community Implications

7.1 Provision of allotments continues to be a key element of community provision.

#### 8.0 Background Papers

None