

# Councillor Couros - MoN - Outdoor Dining Fees

Tuesday, 24 October 2023  
Council

**Council Member**  
Councillor Mary Couros

Public

**Contact Officer:**  
Ilia Houridis - Director City Shaping

---

## MOTION ON NOTICE

**Councillor Mary Couros will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:**

That Council requests for administration to:

- 1) conduct a survey for all hospitality businesses in the city and north Adelaide to assess the impact of the introduction of outdoor dining fees on their operations.
- 2) bring a report back for consideration, no later than 3months, with the results of survey and benchmarking Adelaide outdoor fees and policy against other capital cities and larger councils in Australia.

---

## ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

1. As part of the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget, outdoor dining fees were reinstated from 1 October 2023.
2. Outdoor dining fees had been waived in some format since 2016/17 for a range of reasons which pre-date COVID-19, but continued throughout the pandemic to support the hospitality industry.
3. Benchmark data regarding outdoor dining fees in South Australian Metropolitan and Capital City Councils was presented to Council during workshops and reports in the leadup to the draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget.
4. When presented to Council in May 2023, the data showed City of Adelaide's rates for outdoor dining were some of the lowest amongst all Capital City Councils, and lower or competitive against other SA Metropolitan Councils. The link to this information is available here: [Attachment A for 202324 Business Plan Budget - Fees and Charges 202324.pdf \(modern.gov.com.au\)](#).
5. Following endorsement of the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget, Administration have been engaging with all outdoor dining permit holders to provide notice of fees being reinstated, and conducting an audit to ensure appropriate fees are invoiced.
6. Invoices were sent out in September 2023, with further engagement occurring with many business owners seeking alterations to their outdoor dining space. These reviews of their outdoor areas have resulted to changes in their fees. This work is currently ongoing.
7. Should the motion be successful, it is recommended that any surveying of permit holders is scheduled to allow sufficient time for the impacts of fees to be assessed.
8. If supported, it is suggested that sufficient time is allowed to understand the impact of the reintroduction of these fees, noting typically a review of this nature would occur approximately 12 months following implementation, through a report to Council.

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or prices have been obtained:	
Public consultation	If supported, engagement and consultation will occur with outdoor dining permit holders.
External consultant advice	Not applicable
Legal advice / litigation (eg contract breach)	Not applicable
Impacts on existing projects	Not applicable
Budget reallocation	\$510k was the forecast budget for outdoor dining fees in the 2023/24 budget. If supported, it is anticipated the engagement and report can be delivered within existing resources.
Capital investment	Not applicable
Staff time in preparing the workshop / report requested in the motion	3 months to allow for engagement, assessment of results and development of report.
Other	Not applicable
Staff time in receiving and preparing this administration comment	To prepare this administration comment in response to the motion on notice took approximately 5.5 hours.

---

- END OF REPORT -