

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

12TH FEBRUARY 2007

1. **REVIEW OF CHARGES – FIRE CERTIFICATES, PETROLEUM SEARCHES AND SPECIAL SERVICE CHARGES**

Joint report of the Chief Fire Officer and the Treasurer.

RECOMMENDED

THAT the Authority approve the revised charges with effect from 1st April 2007 for Fire Certificates, Petroleum Premises File Searches and for Special Service Charges.

2. **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

This report is submitted to seek the Authority's approval for revised charges for Fire Certificates, Petroleum Premises File Searches and for Special Service Charges.

3. **BACKGROUND**

The current level of charges was agreed at the February 2006 Authority Meeting.

3.1 **Fire Certificates**

The proposed charges have been adjusted to reflect the recommended level of charges as per the LGA Circular 112/06 and estimated firefighters' pay awards for July 2007, and are shown in Appendix I.

3.2 **Duplicate Fire Certificates**

The charges have been revised to reflect the anticipated inflation affecting the Authority up to March 2008. It is therefore proposed that the charges should be increased from £31.00 to £32.00 per certificate, with the additional charge of £1 for each additional plan of a multiple plan certificate unchanged.

3.3 Petroleum Premises File Searches

Taking into account anticipated inflation up to March 2008, it is proposed that the charge should be increased from £38 to £39 per application.

3.4 Duplicate Petroleum Licences

Taking into account anticipated inflation up to March 2008, it is proposed that the charge should be increased from £23.00 to £24.00 per Duplicate Petroleum Licence.

3.5 Special Service Charges

The proposed charges have been increased predominantly to reflect the anticipated firefighters' pay awards from July 2007 and are shown in Appendix I.

4. **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

In preparing this report an initial Equality Impact Assessment is not required and has not been carried out as the matters contained in this report will not lead to and do not relate to a policy change.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The course of action recommended in this report does not raise issues that should be drawn to the attention of the Authority's Monitor Officer.

6. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

These are contained in the body of the report and attached Appendix. The revised changes have been taken into account when preparing the Authority's 2007/08 revenue budget.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Finance Office Files
Authority Report – 13th February 2006

F.J.E. SHEEHAN
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

L.BATEMAN
TREASURER

APPENDIX I

PROPOSED FIRE CERTIFICATE CHARGES 2007-2008

No. of Employees (Bedrooms)	New Certificate	Replacement Certificate	Amended Certificate
Up to 10 (Up to 10)	£129	£64	£58
11 to 50 (11 to 30)	£140	£105	£82
51 to 250 (31 to 50)	£210	£130	£91
251 to 1000 (More than 50)	£303	£231	£91
More than 1000	Actual Cost	Actual Cost	£91

PROPOSED SPECIAL SERVICE CHARGES

Pumping Appliances	£308.00 per hour
Staff Interviews	£112.00 per individual up to 3 hours, thereafter £101.00 per 3 hours or part thereof.
Copy Fire Reports	£37.00
Fire Investigation Reports	£210.00
Chemical Protection Suits	£530.00