

## Annual Review of Charges – Special Services

### Report of the Treasurer

For further information about this report please contact Keith Dixon, Treasurer, on 01743 260202 or Joanne Coadey, Principal Accountant, on 01743 260215.

#### 1 Purpose of Report

To present proposed increases in charges made for special services.

#### 2 Recommendations

The Fire Authority is asked to approve that the proposed charges for special services be applied from 1 April 2009.

#### 3 Background

Charging for special services is currently permitted by Orders issued under Section 19 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. This report lays out proposed increases to the current tariff of charges.

#### 4 The Fire Authority's Current Charges

The tariff of charges currently in place for special services is reviewed annually.

Following a full review of charges both regionally and nationally in December 2007, it was found that this Authority's tariff was not out of line with other authorities. As a result, the tariff of charges was increased for inflationary purposes only for 2008/09.

This approach is proposed for the tariff for the financial year 2009/10, based on the pay award for operational staff awarded in July 2008.

## 5 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report other than those discussed within the report

## 6 Legal Comment

The Fire Authority has the power to impose special charges only in certain circumstances.

## 7 Equality Impact Assessment

Officers have considered the Service's Brigade Order on Equality Impact Assessments (Personnel 5 Part 2) and have decided that there are no discriminatory practices or differential impacts upon specific groups arising from this report. An Initial Equality Impact Assessment has not, therefore, been completed.

## 8 Appendix

Revised Special Service Charges 2008/09 to 2009/10

## 9 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Implications of all of the following have been considered and, where they are significant (i.e. marked with an asterisk), the implications are detailed within the report itself.

Balanced Score Card		Integrated Risk Management Planning	
Business Continuity Planning		Legal	*
Capacity		Member Involvement	
Civil Contingencies Act		National Framework	
Comprehensive Performance Assessment		Operational Assurance	
Efficiency Savings		Retained	
Environmental		Risk and Insurance	
Financial	*	Staff	
Fire Control/Fire Link		Strategic Planning	
Information Communications and Technology		West Midlands Regional Management Board	
Freedom of Information / Data Protection / Environmental Information		Equality Impact Assessment	*

**Special Service Charges**

<b>Appliances</b>	<b>2008/09</b> <b>Net Rate per</b> <b>Hour* With Crew</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2009/10</b> <b>Net Rate per</b> <b>Hour* With Crew</b> <b>£</b>
Pumping Appliance	209.92	215.06
Major Appliance	278.53	285.35
Special Appliances	70.66	72.39
Utility Vehicles	70.66	72.39

\*part of an hour to count as a complete hour

<b>Miscellaneous Charges</b>	<b>Hourly Rate*</b> <b>£</b>	<b>Hourly Rate*</b> <b>£</b>
Preparation of (New/Amended) Fire Certificates	50.18	51.41
Search of files (+ document charge, see below)	28.67	29.37
Interviews with Brigade personnel  (Charge is based on interview plus travelling expenses incurred) Minimum charge	55.30	56.65
Copy of Means of Escape Certificate  Minimum charge – based on preparation time	50.18	51.41

\*charge per hour and pro rata

	<b>Charge</b>	<b>Charge</b>
Replacement Fire Certificate	50.18	51.41
Copy of Fire Report	50.18	51.41
Copy of Fire Investigation Report	245.76	251.78
Copy of Fire Regulations	6.45	6.61