

Leicestershire County Council Highway Boundary Enquiry Fees

The following costing and charging methodology is based on that set out in the Department for Communities and Local Government and Ministry of Justice consultation paper titled "Local Authority Property Search Services – Charges for Property Search Services" dated January 2008. It will allow the Council to comply with Clause 9 of The Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008 which sets out the basis and justification for the setting of future charges.

Year 2008/9

Income

Based on the following fees

- Written response @ £16.50
- Written response and plan @ £35
- Comprehensive written response and plan @ £45

April 2008 – December 2008 (9 months)	= £18,875
Estimated income April 2008 – March 2009 (based on £1500 per month for January – March 2009, this is a continuation of the income for October 2008 to December 2008)	= £23,375

Costs

From Diary booking report 06/04/2008 – 07/12/08 (8 months)

LH £24,815

However only approximately 80% of this time is chargeable

Estimated costs April 2008 – March 2009 = £29,778

Fee for 2009/10

The income is much less than the costs of providing the service. For the Council to recover their costs in providing the service in accordance with the provisions of the The Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008, the fee must increase.

From April 2008 to December 2008 (9 months) 487 enquiries were made, with a breakdown as follows:

Written response - 8.4%

Written response and plan - 60.1%

Comprehensive written response and plan 31.5%

The estimated number of enquiries for 2008/9 is 649

In 2009/10 the fees will be increased, and estimated income will be as follows:

Written response @ £20.00 x 60 (9.2% x 649)	= £1,200
Written response and plan @ £45 x 336	= £15,120

Comprehensive written response and plan @ £55 x 253 = £13,915
£30,235

The costs are not expected to increase significantly in 2009/10, so the estimated income will cover the costs in providing the service.

Summary

The fee for 2009/10 will be as follows:

- Written response - £20.00
 - Written response and plan - £45
 - Comprehensive written response and plan - £55
- (Any enquiry of more than 7 questions may incur a further fee)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B.D. Roberts', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Brian Roberts
Director of Resources