

Annual Review of Charges for Special Services

Report of the Treasurer

For further information about this report please contact James Walton, Treasurer, on 01743 258915 or Joanne Coadey, Head of Finance, on 01743 260215.

1 Purpose of Report

This report presents proposed increases in charges made for special services.

2 Recommendations

The Fire Authority is asked to:

- a) consider and decide upon the proposed charges for special services to be applied from 1 April 2024, and
- b) delegate this exercise to officers, with future exceptions referred back to the Authority.

3 Background

Charging for special services is currently permitted by Orders issued under Section 18 parts a, b and c of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004. This report lays out proposed increases to the current tariff of charges.

The charges for special services are reviewed annually.

4 Annual Review

It is proposed that the remaining charges on the tariff are increased by 5%, the pay increase which was awarded to firefighters in 2024/25.

As application of firefighter pay is the standard method of increasing the special services tariff, the Authority is asked to delegate this annual increase to officers, with any future exceptions from this approach brought to members.

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 Initial Impact Assessment

An Initial Impact Assessment form has been completed.

8 Appendix

Revised Special Service Charges 2024/25

9 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service

Special Services Charges 2024/25

Appliances per Hour	Details	2024/25 Net Rate per Hour with Crew	VAT	Total
		£	£	£
(part of an hour to count as a complete hour)	Pumping Appliance	292.44	58.49	350.93
	Special Appliance (ALP, RT, HPU) with pumping appliance	388.03	77.61	465.64
	Utility Vehicles (pod, boat, ranger)	98.43	19.69	118.12
Miscellaneous Charges		Hourly Rate	VAT	Total
		£	£	£
	Search of files (plus document charge, see below) per hour	39.94	7.99	47.93
	Interviews with Service personnel (interview plus travelling expenses) minimum charge	77.04	15.41	92.45
	Room hire (£30 for up to 3 hours, £10 for each subsequent hour)	30.00	-	30.00
Investigation Charges		Charge	VAT	Total
		£	£	£
	Copy of Fire Report (either Incident Reporting System (IRS) report , or Fire Damage Report (FDR1))	91.95	18.39	110.34
	Copy of Fire Investigation Report	379.66	75.93	455.59
	Provision of Fire Investigation Information by Fire Investigation Officer (per hour)	108.76	21.75	130.51
	Scene (subject to copyright) photograph - Capped at £100 for more than 20	4.94	0.99	5.93