

Resource Management Charging Policy Review 2009 Summary

Background

Greater Wellington is reviewing its Resource Management Charging Policy as part of its 2009/10 Annual Plan process. The policy was adopted in 1997 and last revised in 2008, and forms the basis for determining charges. A number of charges need to be updated to more accurately reflect the cost of Greater Wellington's consent processing and compliance monitoring work. The proposed changes take effect from 1 July 2009.

Summary

The following summary presents the highlights of the draft charging policy review.

- An increase in the charge out rate from \$100/hr to \$105/hr – an increase of 5% since 2008.
- Application fees increased to more accurately reflect the actual cost of processing consent applications.
- The full cost of consultants to process resource consents is charged to applicants only where specialist expertise is required. In all other cases the standard charge-out rate of \$105/hr applies.
- Additional charges for consent processing may include a small standard charge for travel time associated with any application related site visits.
- No change to the customer service charge of \$35 per consent, except for remitting charges for bore permits.
- Changes to most compliance monitoring charges, with increases reflecting a minimal standard charge for travel time connected with inspections. Costs may decrease for consent holders whose activities have minor effects on the environment. In these cases consent holders may be able to self-monitor their consents and avoid compliance inspections.
- Enabling additional compliance monitoring on non-complying consents to be charged.
- The basis for State of the Environment (SOE) monitoring charges has changed with more equitable charges across all resource consents in 'stressed' local environments to better reflect the costs of Greater Wellington's SOE monitoring programme. Consent holders continue to pay only a portion of all SOE monitoring costs.
- No changes to SOE charges for all other consent types.

- All inspections for non-complying environmental incidents (related to unconsented activities) incur a minimum standard charge.
- The costs of inspections to ensure compliance with enforcement orders and abatement notices are charged.
- Charges are included for responding to requests for information under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Next steps in the process

The consultation and decision process for the draft Resource Management Charging Policy follows the 2009/10 Annual Plan process. The following steps outline the process.

Steps	Dates
Public notification	23 March
Submissions close	24 April
Submissions heard by Council	13 - 15 May

How to make a submission

If you would like to make a submission on the proposed changes to the Draft Resource Management Charging Policy, you can:

- Use our online submission form [10 year plan](#)
- Email us ltccp@gw.govt.nz
- Fax us on 04 385 6960
- Write to us at:
LTCCP Submission
Greater Wellington
PO Box 11646
Manners Street
Wellington 6142

For more information

For further information and to view or download the draft charging policy go online to: [Greater Wellington - Fees](#) Please be aware that it is 90 pages long and contains colour and graphics.

If you would like to see the draft charging policy but are unable to download it, please visit our Greater Wellington office at 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington; or our Masterton Office at 34 Chapel Street. Additional copies of the draft charging policy will be available.

Contact details:

If you would like to talk with someone about the Draft Resource Management Charging please contact a member of the Greater Wellington team:

- Masterton: Stephen Thawley 06 370 5684 or
- Wellington: Environment Help Desk 04 802 0355