

Joint Committee
9 September 2010
Report Title :

Fees and Charges for Private Water Supplies

Report originator	Geoff Carpenter, Environmental Protection Manager (Wychavon)
Background Papers	Water Industry Act 1991 The Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009 Private water Supplies: Technical Manual
Recommendation	That the fees and charges outlined in the report are agreed and recommended for adoption by each partner authority.
Introduction / Summary	<p>The Private Water Supplies Regulations 2009 came into force on the 1st January 2010 and will apply to all private water supplies intended for human consumption including private distribution systems .</p> <p>The regulations impose new monitoring duties and require the local authority to carry out a risk assessment on areas of supply. In addition revised water quality standards and tighter monitoring of certain supplies will also be carried out. Local authorities will have powers to charge for reasonable fees for the services they provide. The purpose of this report is to agree the level of these fees and charges.</p>
Background	<p>A private water supply is any supply which is not provided by a water company, such as Severn Trent Water. The water may come from a spring, a well, a bore-hole or a stream. A private distribution system is where mains water is further distributed by a person other than a water undertaker such as Severn Trent and would typically include systems serving caravan sites.</p> <p>Every home should have a supply of good clean water to be fit for people to live in. It is estimated that there are in the region of 600 private water supplies in Worcestershire affected by the regulations not including private distribution systems.</p>
Report	<p>Each local authority has a responsibility for holding information on all private water supplies in its District.</p> <p>The new Regulations aim to protect public health and require each supply to undergo a risk assessment. The findings of the assessment would determine future sampling frequency and analysis requirements and there may be recommendations for remedial action to reduce the risk of contamination.</p>



The Regulations allow local authorities to charge a fee, subject to prescribed maximum levels to enable reasonable costs of services (lab fees etc) to be recovered.

Proposed Fees and Charges

Risk Assessment	£40 per hr (up to £500 max)
Investigation (each investigation)	£40 per hour (up to £100) max
Granting an Authorisation	£100 max
Sampling (each visit)	£100 max
Analysing a sample	
- taken under regulation 10 (small supplies)	£25 max
- taken during check monitoring	£100 max
- taken during audit monitoring	£500 max

Financial Implications

None

Sustainability

None

Legal implications

Legal requirement to monitor private water supplies and carry out a risk assessment, each local authority will be required to provide the Drinking Water Inspectorate with annual reports to ensure the regulations are being complied with.

