

LONDON BOROUGHS OF BRENT AND HARROW
TRADING STANDARDS ADVISORY BOARD – 19th NOVEMBER 2003
REPORT NO. 7/03 FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TRADING STANDARDS

FOR INFORMATION

TITLE OF REPORT: **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT 1985: FEES**

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report informs Members of the fees proposed to be charged during 2004/2005 under the Weights and Measures Act 1985.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Members consider and comment on the attached schedule of fees.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The attached fees will increase the Weights and Measures income by approximately 14%. Following government deregulation, however, manufacturers are now allowed to verify their own equipment. This may result in a reduction of income to the consortium.

4.0 **STAFFING IMPLICATIONS** - None relevant.

5.0 DETAIL

5.1 Under the Weights and Measures Act 1985, Inspectors of Weights and Measures must charge fees for the verification of certain equipment to be used for trade. This would include such items as petrol pumps, scales, measures of length, measures of capacity etc. In order to provide some consistency across the country, the Local Authority Co-ordinating Body on Food and Regulatory Services (LACORS) recommend a schedule of fees each year. Until 1998, the consortium agreed to adopt the LACORS fees, which were adjusted slightly to provide a more common sense approach on some items.

5.2 For the last three years the fees charged have been in excess of those recommended by LACORS. This year it is proposed that the fees are increased again above the rate of inflation. The fees detailed in the schedule attached would maintain the consortium fees more in line with those authorities that have departed from LACORS recommendations and it is estimated this would provide income of £18,830 per annum.

6.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

6.1 Details of Documents
LACOTS Chief Trading Standards Officer Circular

Any person wishing to inspect the above should contact John Taylor, Director of Trading Standards, 249 Willesden Lane, London NW2 5JH, telephone 020 8937 5500.

JOHN TAYLOR
DIRECTOR OF TRADING STANDARDS

