

The Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008

Background

All Local Authorities are required to conform to the Local Authorities (England) (Charges for Property Searches) Regulations 2008 ("the Regulations") when setting charges for either providing access to property records, or answering enquiries about a property.

The County Council does not apply charges for providing access to property records, which are required to complete Property Search (CON29) enquiries. The County Council does apply charges for answering enquiries about a property. All enquiries are currently channelled through the relevant District or Borough Council, with the County Council only an answering department to the overall Property Search process.

Transparency Requirements

Section 9 of the Regulations state that during each financial year, a local authority must publish a statement setting out the following:

1. A reasonable estimate of the total cost in granting access to property records in respect of the unit charge for the following financial year.
2. Information relating to costs, requests and income from charges and recharges made when charging for access to property records.
3. The total income from charges made to answer enquiries about a property.

Statement

In answer to the three elements above below the Council makes the following statement:

1. **Nil** – the Council does not currently charge for granting access to property records.
2. **Nil** – the Council does not currently charge for granting access to property records.
3. The total income generated based on 8842 enquiries received between 01/04/2016 and 31/03/2017 was **£152,650** (that costs vary depending on the information requested).

Declaration

This statement is approved by the person having responsibility for the administration of the financial affairs of the local authority under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972(4).

Name (Print): CHRIS TAMBINI

Position: Director of Finance

Signed:



Date: 19 June 2016