

## Environmental Health Housing Enforcement Fees from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2019

The Housing Act 2004 allows Councils to charge for taking enforcement action. Legislation also allows Councils to recover costs for officer's time and expenses needed to determine what works need to be carried out in default.

The Private Sector Housing Service will recover costs and fees when formal action is taken where it is reasonable to expect the owner to pay for the charges in the circumstances. Costs will be charged on the basis of the following table:

### ***Table of Charges for Enforcement Action***

<b>Standard Charge (Per Property)</b>	
a) Single Family Dwelling (SFD) Notices	£425
b) Houses in Multiple Occupation Notices	£637
c) VISA Inspection	£130

<b>Supplemental Fees</b>	
a) Prohibition or Emergency Prohibition Order Served	£159
b) Variation of a Notice	£106
c) Emergency Remedial Action	£159

<b>Fee Calculation</b>	
First Notice	Standard Charge a) or b) plus any supplements
Subsequent Notices	Supplemental fees only

There will be discretion to waive the charge when it is not reasonable to expect a person to pay for the enforcement action taken i.e. where the reason for the charge was outside of the control of the person charged or persons acting on their behalf. Where expenses are to be charged they will be made relating to all stages of enforcement as detailed in Section 49 in the Housing Act 2004.

### ***Recovery of Debts***

Expenses will be recovered in accordance with Section 50 of the Housing Act 2004, by a demand for payment of the charge.

At the time that the demand becomes operative, the sum recoverable together with the interest accrued will, until recovered, be registered as a local land charge on the premises concerned. Interest will be added to outstanding charges at 4% above the current Bank of England base rate annually using a daily compound interval.

**Any enquiries regarding fees should be made directly to the Environmental Health Housing team on 01432 261761.**

#### **How to pay:**

Send your payment to Herefordshire Council, Environmental Health Housing, Environmental Health & Trading Standards, Economy, Communities and Corporate Directorate, Herefordshire Council, 8 St Owen Street, Hereford, HR1 2PJ. Make your cheque or postal order payable to 'Herefordshire Council' or pay by credit/debit card over the telephone.