



Mrs Wendy Lambert
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service
Leigh Road,
Eastleigh,
SO50 9SJ

County Treasurer's
The Castle, Winchester
Hampshire SO23 8UB
Telephone 01962 841841
Fax 01962 847644

Enquiries to Rob Carr

My reference

Direct Line 01962 845137

Your reference

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E-mail rob.carr@hants.gov.uk

Dear Wendy

Fire Service Level Agreements (SLAs) 2012/13

I have attached the final SLAs for Hampshire County Council, County Treasurer's services to Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority, which we have reviewed together and refreshed for 2012/13 pending the development of the wider joint working between the County Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority and Hampshire Constabulary. The SLAs are for:

- The Treasurer to the Fire Authority
- Corporate Finance
- Payments
- Income and Debtors
- Internal Audit
- Payroll
- Pensions.

In discussing the SLAs and charging for 2012/13 we agreed that, given the developing joint working this isn't the time for a significant charging review. As such the overall charge for 2012/13 is based on a historic transaction volume basis and as for 2011/12 we are holding all the overall charge at the current cash level apart from Audit where day rate would be held and charge will vary with agreed audit plan days. We have rebalanced the charges across services to better reflect where the business and costs lie. The charges for 2012/13 are set out below.

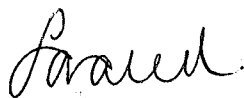
	2011/12 SLA Charge £	2012/13 SLA Charge £	Variance £
Payments - Travel	18,179	17,600	-579
Payments	20,729	8,500	-12,229
Corporate Finance	130,604	131,216	612
Income and Debtors	10,645	1,500	-9,145
Payroll Technical	4,119	6,400	2,281
Pensions	42,933	58,100	15,167
Treasurer	17,007	20,900	3,893
Audit Services	63,085	63,085	-
	<u>307,301</u>	<u>307,301</u>	-

In reviewing the services delivered by the County Treasurer's department over recent years we reflected on the efficiency gains that had been achieved to improve services and hold service charges and also on the areas where workloads had increased because of external changes including particularly changes to the Firefighters pension scheme and the introduction of the International Financial Reporting Standard for 2010/11 statutory accounts. Looking forward beyond 2012/13 we recognised that the development of joint working is focused on us working together to drive out further efficiencies and costs savings in our financial processes for the benefit of all the authorities involved.

We made one specific note for the immediate future. The Audit Services SLA for 2012/13 may be amended following the development and agreement of the internal audit plan for 2012/13 and its agreement by Governance Committee. When the SLA is reviewed we agreed that it would be sensible to include a section on performance monitoring.

I hope this concludes our discussions on the 2012/13 SLAs and that everything is satisfactory.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Pook
Deputy County Treasurer