ewpcclerk@gmail.com

From:	admin@leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk
Sent:	07 December 2023 11:25
То:	admin@leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk
Subject:	IMPORTANT INFORMATION: LRALC Subscription Fees 2024-25
Attachments:	LRALC Membership Fee Bandings 2024-25.docx
Importance:	High

Dear member council,

You will remember from the editorial in LRALC's most recent newsletter (see here) that the LRALC board of directors have been considering a "fees reset" for membership of LRALC. One factor, but not the only one, which drove the fees reset was a need to apply an appropriate increase in the total income received through membership fees to secure a sustainable funding model for LRALC to operate within. You currently have access to two full time professional advisers plus an administrator to look after your council's needs. Without this fees reset exercise, we would have had to make substantial reductions in the resources and services available to you, our valued members. As we advised, this was discussed at Monday's board meeting.

The December meeting is the meeting where the fees are agreed every year, and we immediately communicate this information in order for member councils to include the figures in their own budgets. We had hoped to publish the proposed fee structure in November so that councils could get an indication of the fees under the proposed new structure but chose not to so due to the potential for councils to receive information which would not reflect the final model. This proved to be the case as the proposed funding model, using a per-elector formula, was replaced in its entirety by a new banded structure as the board felt it provided a much fairer basis for councils of all sizes.

Please find attached the new fees structure for 2024-25 which will be applied to our membership invoices next April. We will, as always, collect the electorate data from the District/Borough Councils so there will not be a need to submit any information to LRALC yourselves.

We are confident that we've struck the right balance with the fees reset which will enable us to continue to offer the large range and quality of services accessible through LRALC membership of which we are so proud. I will remind you that in addition to on-demand query management and training, you also have access to support in many areas including communications, finance, legal advice and employment guidance as standard features of your membership. If you were to pay for each of these separately, it would add a substantial amount to your budget line for professional services.

As Chief Executive, I am extremely confident that your membership offers exceptional value for money. If your council were to take advantage of all of the services available to it, you would save considerably more than the amount you pay to us in membership. And even if you don't have need for all of our services, the value to your councillors and officers in peace of mind knowing that this support is available is immeasurable.

Regards,

Jake



LRALC

Jubilee Hall, Stadon Road, Anstey, Leicester, LE7 7AY Tel 0116 235 3800 Email <u>admin@leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk</u> Web <u>www.leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk</u>

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