

FCO ANNOUNCES CHANGES IN CONSULAR AND VISA FEES FROM 1 APRIL 2007

14 March 2007

The fees for passports and chargeable consular services provided by British consular posts overseas are to change from 01 April 2007. On the same date, the fee for legalisation services provided by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London and overseas will change.

These changes will ensure that the full costs of providing services at home and overseas are fully recovered without any claim on public funds and to meet the increasing demand, while maintaining high standards of service.

In addition, UKvisas are to set new visa fees levels from 1 April 2007. The new fees will maintain the UK's competitiveness as a destination for travel, study, trade, migration and investment. UKvisas commissioned extensive customer research in the UK and overseas, and econometric research, to understand better price sensitivity across our customer base. The new fees are backed by consultation on the concept of value pricing and unprecedented market research.

Chargeable Consular Services

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office undertakes 60 chargeable services. Examples include:

registering of British nationals' births and deaths (increased from £64.50 to £92.00)
charging call out fees (increased from £84.50 to £121.00)
administering oaths (increased from £35.00 to £50.00)
solemnising or attending a marriage (increased from £88.00 to £126.00)
arranging a repatriation (increased from £84.50 to £121.00) and
registering a civil partnership (increased from £88.00 to £126.00)

The fees for these services were last increased in July 2005.

Passports

In 2006-07 British consulates overseas will have issued or amended in the region of 450,000 passports and issued 12,000 emergency and temporary passports.

From 1 April 2007 the following fees will apply:

Adult 32 page: £119.00 (up from £91.00)
Adult 48 page: £144.00 (up from £109.00)
Child: £76.00 (up from £59.00)
Emergency: £55.50 (up from £43.50)
Amendments: £97.50 (up from £75.50)
Temporary: £70.50 (up from £55.00)

Passport fees were last increased in December 2005 to cover the costs of the implementation and issuing of new Biometric Passports.

Legalisation Fees

In 2006-07 British consulates overseas and the London office, will have provided in the region of 370,000 legalisation services.

From 1 April 2007 the legalisation fee will increase from £19 to £27. The fees for these services were last increased in July 2005.