

**MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS AND ASSOCIATED  
INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARDS**



**Disposal of Increased Rates and/or Volume of Discharge Arising  
From Development**

Under the above Drainage Authorities' byelaws, consent to discharge any increase in flow or volume is required from the relevant Authority before any such increase may be discharged into watercourses within the Authority's catchment.

To cover the cost of dealing with any increased rates or quantity of discharge the Authority will require contributions in respect of all works as a condition of giving such discharge consent. These contributions do not include for works which may be necessary to provide a satisfactory connection between the watercourses directly maintained by the Authority and the proposed outfall (eg, works to intervening private ditches).

The contributions, which are reviewed quarterly in accordance with the retail price index, are as follows:

- i) For new/increased surface water discharge a charge per hectare of impervious area or the actual cost of works immediately required, to deal with the resulting additional rates/volumes of run-off, whichever is the greater. ***For rates see the fees document on our website at [www.middlelevel.gov.uk](http://www.middlelevel.gov.uk).***
- ii) For new/increased effluent discharge from waste water treatment works/sewers or similar installations, or of surface water where the discharge cannot properly be related to a specific impermeable area a charge per cubic metre of the volume discharged per day or the actual cost of works immediately required, to deal with the resulting additional rates/quantities of discharge, whichever is the greater. ***For rates see the fees documents on our website.***

A minimum charge of £300 will be payable in the event of the total contribution calculated as above being less than this sum.

The actual contributions will be required by the Authority before any discharge commences and will be calculated by reference to the date on which payment is actually received by the Authority.

Where however, in the case of surface water drainage arising from development, the full extent of the impermeable area created by that development will drain only to soakaways which have received the prior approval of the local planning authority, consent to discharge such drainage is not required, but a certificate of approved use of soakaways must be submitted and supported, when requested, by suitable supporting evidence. Further guidance can be found in our 'Standard Advice' document. This is however, conditional on the proper performance of such soakaways and on such soakaways' properly attenuating flows and applicants are advised that should a soakaway later be shown not to provide the proper level of attenuation a new/increased discharge will be deemed to be made and a discharge contribution will be payable in accordance with (i) and (ii) above. The Authorities reserve the right to call for technical evidence showing the proper working of the soakaway and to investigate such working as they may deem appropriate.

Please submit your application for discharge consent, and/or certificate of approved use of soakaways, as appropriate, using the relevant application forms.

**NB: Applicants are advised that due to the double pumping arrangements within the Warboys, Somersham and Pidley IDB, a different contribution rate is payable in respect of discharge within that IDB.**