

This document has been prepared to provide background information in regards to why MRS charges:

- o an application fee, and
- o an annual telephone and data point rental levy, and
- o an annual building and amenities fee.

TELEPHONE AND DATA POINT CHARGES 2009

All associated hardware; servers, routers, hub boxes, ports, patch panels, cabling, wiring, etc that are required to operate both the data and telephone points in each bedroom, wireless connectivity [where provided] and communal phones are managed by Information Technology Services (ITS). The ITS Division is the central information and communications technologies (ICT) group of Monash University.

In order to ensure adequate funding to cover annual operational costs and future upgrades and improvements, ITS charges all users an annual rental fee for each data point and telephone point.

The charges for 2009 have not been confirmed as yet. In calculating the 2009 budget, it is anticipated that the charges levied to MRS [per person/bedroom] will be:

Data point	\$214.50 per annum
Telephone point	<u>\$144.90 per annum</u>
	\$359.40 per annum

BUILDING AND AMENITIES CHARGES 2009

Prior to 2002, when the university moved to a transparent strategic cost management (SCM) budgeting model, MRS was not subject to paying for a range of services necessary for its operation. Maintenance, associated infrastructure costs and depreciation costs associated with the residential buildings and grounds were all absorbed into central university cost lines.

As the university budgeting and financial systems have become more internally transparent, the true costs of providing, maintaining and allowing for future improvements and refurbishments to student accommodation buildings have in part been passed onto the users of those facilities, i.e. the residents.

The charges for 2009 have not been confirmed as yet. In calculating the 2009 budget, it is anticipated that the 2009 charges levied to MRS will be (approximately per person/bedroom):

SCM space charges	\$295.00 per annum
Depreciation costs	<u>\$527.00 per annum</u>
	\$822.00 per annum

Total university telephone & data charges and building & amenities charges for 2009 = \$1,181.40 p.a.

HOW DOES MRS PAY FOR THE ABOVE COSTS ?

Since the move to a SCM budgeting model, MRS has had to absorb the above costs into its operational budget. The costs have been recovered in part (on an annual basis) by way of rental fee increases, reducing operational costs, conference activity and the Application Fee, the Building and Amenities Fee and the Internet and Telephone Point Rental Levy.

The accommodation fees and additional charges for 2009 have been set to ensure that MRS is able to fully cover the costs of its operation including telephone and data point charges, SCM space charges and depreciation costs. In 2009 the charges [per person/bedroom] in addition to the weekly rental fees are:

Application fee	\$ 55.00 per annum
Telephone and Data Point Rental Levy	\$285.00 per annum
Building and Amenities Fee	<u>\$315.00 per annum</u>
	\$655.00 per annum

MRS RENTAL INCREASES FOR 2009

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX. Information from the Australian Bureau of Statistics shows that over the twelve months from September 2007 to September 2008, rents have increased by 8.2% and utilities [electricity, water and gas] have increased by 10.8%, across the weighted average of eight capital cities. We have been advised to allow for a 20% increase in the cost of water for 2009.

By way of contrast, accommodation fees for 2009 across all MRS sites have been increased by less than 6%.