

Note No: A137/05

Protocol Division of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations and has the honour to inform them that the Home Office has recently announced an increase in the charges for applications for leave to remain in the United Kingdom. The Division's Note No. A308/03 of 24 July 2003 refers (copy attached).

The new charges are £335 for postal applications and £500 for a premium service available to personal callers at the Home Office and will be introduced from 1 April 2005. The charges will apply for applications for an extension of stay in the United Kingdom, for settlement, and for residency stamps to be transferred to a new passport. Full details of the new charges and application forms are available on the Home Office website [www.IND.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.IND.homeoffice.gov.uk).

Provided they are not permanent residents of the United Kingdom, diplomatic agents, administrative and technical staff, and service staff of diplomatic missions, and officials of international organisations together with representatives of member states, and their dependants, will be exempt from these charges. However, the charges will, for example, apply to extensions of stay for the private domestic staff of diplomats and others entitled to privileges and immunities. Please continue to send all applications to Protocol Division.

Any application submitted to Protocol Division on or after 1 April 2005 for an extension of stay or change of immigration conditions, where completion of Home Office form FLR(O) is required, should therefore be accompanied by a cheque for £335 made payable to "Home Office Leave to remain". Applications that are refused by the Home Office are non-refundable. Applicants who are exempt from the charge and pay by mistake will receive a refund/ex gratia payment.

Protocol Division avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations the assurance of its highest consideration.

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30 March 2005

