IN THE EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS AUTHORITY
AUCKLAND

AA 206A/08
5093785

	BETWEEN	MERE BIRCH Applicant
	AND	PASSAGE SOFTWARE LTD Respondent
Member of Authority:	Yvonne Oldfield	
Representatives:	Barry Hayes for Applicant Geoff Nightingale, director for Respondent	
Submissions received:	2 July 2008 from Applicant 3 July 2008 from Respondent	
Determination:	14 July 2008	

COSTS DETERMINATION OF THE AUTHORITY

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[1] In a determination dated 13 June 2008 I awarded Ms Birch total remedies of $500.00 in respect of her personal grievance. She now seeks a contribution to costs of $1,000.00. I have been told that she is legally aided but not what obligations she will has in respect of repayment of her grant of legal aid. For the respondent Mr Nightingale notes that the meeting took only three hours and asserts that it was extended by unnecessary questioning from the applicant's representative. On the basis that Ms Birch's award of compensation was 7% of her original claim he submits that any costs award should be no more than 7% of the costs claimed that is $70.00.

[2] In the absence of any information about the actual costs in this case I fall back on a "tariff based" approach. Given the narrowness of the issues and the brevity of the meeting I consider a contribution of $500.00 to be consistent with prevailing practice. **The respondent is ordered to pay to the applicant the sum of $500.00 as contribution to her costs.**

Yvonne Oldfield
Member of the Employment Relations Authority