

## General Meeting November 2025

### ADEPT membership fees – 2026/27

#### Recommendations

The Leadership Team recommends that:

- The annual subscription rate for all membership categories - except combined authorities (see below) - for 2026/27 is increased in line with the Consumer Prices Index for September 2025 (3.8%).
- We increase the membership fee for Combined Authorities as follows: £1,000 with less than 1m population; £1,500 with 1-2m population; £2,000 for 2m+ population. Thereafter the fee will be subject to an annual increase in line with inflation (as above). *NB: see separate paper.*
- We increase the annual Corporate Partner membership fee by £1,000 in order to establish a bursary fund supporting local authority attendance at ADEPT conferences. *NB: see separate paper*

#### 1. Background

At the General Meeting in November 2019, members agreed to a proposal from the Leadership Team to increase the annual subscription rate for all membership categories in line with inflation as indicated by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) for September of the preceding year. This policy would be subject to annual review.

- This policy applied to membership fees for 2020/21, with an increase of 1.7%.
- Membership fees were unchanged for 2021/22.
- Membership fees for 2022/23 were increased by 3%.
- At the General Meeting in November 2022, in recognition of highly constrained financial circumstances facing local government, the annual subscription rate for 2023/24 remained unchanged from 2022/23.
- At the General Meeting in November 2023, due to the high rate of inflation it was agreed to increase the membership fees for 2024/25 by 6.7%.
- At the General Meeting in November 2024, it was agreed to increase the membership fees for 2025/26 by 1.7%.

Table 1 provides the current fee structure for all membership categories.

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MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Local Authority	Combined Authority	Sub-national Transport Body	Corporate Partner	Special Honorary	National Association
FEES	Year 1	£631				
	<u>Thereafter</u>					
	<250k	£697	£243	£1,159	£5,767	£57
	250k-500k	£1,391			(Honorary m'ship is FoC)	£3,471
	>500k	£2,355				

### 2. Rationale for the fee changes

ADEPT membership fees remain extremely competitive compared to similar organisations such as ADASS and ADCS. Whilst local authority membership numbers are static, alternative funding streams are generating income. This includes the partnerships with Proving Services (including delivery of the Carbon Leadership Programme) and Multiverse, delivering webinar series for government agencies, and the popular leadership development courses. Event sponsorship income has taken a hit this year however, which is affecting the bottom line.

We have reviewed the ADEPT offer to Combined Authorities (see separate paper) and propose to increase the membership fee on a sliding scale, as with the membership fee for local authorities.

In addition, we also propose to increase the annual membership fee for Corporate Partners by £1,000 (see separate paper) with a commitment that the 100% of the additional revenue will be set aside and used as a bursary fund to support local authority attendance at ADEPT conferences.

### 3. Recommendation of the Leadership Team

Having reviewed the budget / reserves and recognising inflationary pressures on the Association's costs, the Leadership Team has concluded it is appropriate to raise the annual membership fee for all membership categories except Combined Authorities by 3.8%. This is aligned with the CPI inflation figure for September 2025.

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If agreed, membership fees for 2026/27 will be:

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Local Authority		Combined Authority		Sub-natl. Transport Body	Corporate Partner	Special Honorary	National Assn.
FEES	Year 1	£655						
	<u>Thereafter</u>		<1m	£1,000				
	<250k	£724	1-2m	£1,500	£1,203	£6,986	£59	£3,603
	250k-500k	£1,444	2m+	£2,000				
	>500k	£2,444						

Annex 1 illustrates that the overall increase in membership fees over the past 5 years is below inflation over the same period.

#### 4. Timing

Members are asked to approve the proposal at the General Meeting taking place during the Autumn Conference on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

*Hannah Bartram, Chief Executive Officer and June Meadows, Finance Officer*

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### Annex 1: membership fees since 2019

#### Membership fees 2019/20

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Local Authority	LEP / Combined Authority	Sub-natl. Transport Body	Corporate Partner	Special Honorary	Honorary (retired)
FEES	Year 1	£555				
	<u>Thereafter</u>					
	<250k	£615	£215	£1,025	£5,110	£50
	250k-500k	£1,230				Free
	>500k	£2,085				

#### Membership fees 2020/21

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Local Authority	LEP / Combined Authority	Sub-natl. Transport Body	Corporate Partner	Special Honorary	Honorary (retired)
FEES	Year 1	£565				
	<u>Thereafter</u>					
	<250k	£625	£220	£1,045	£5,200	£51
	250k-500k	£1,250				Free
	>500k	£2,120				

#### Membership fees 2021/22 - Unchanged

#### Membership fees 2022/23

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Local Authority	LEP / Combined Authority	Sub-natl. Transport Body	Corporate Partner	Special Honorary	National Assn.
FEES	Year 1	£585				
	<u>Thereafter</u>					
	<250k	£645	£225	£1,075	£5,350	£53
	250k-500k	£1,290				£3,220
	>500k	£2,185				

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**Membership fees 2023/24 – Unchanged**

### Membership fees 2024/25

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Local Authority	LEP / Combined Authority	Sub-natl. Transport Body	Corporate Partner	Special Honorary	National Assn.
FEES	Year 1	£620				
	<u>Thereafter</u>					
	<250k	£685	£239	£1,140	£5,671	£56
	250k-500k	£1,368				£3,413
	>500k	£2,316				

### Membership fees 2025/26

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	Local Authority	Combined Authority	Sub-natl. Transport Body	Corporate Partner	Special Honorary	National Assn.
FEES	Year 1	£631				
	<u>Thereafter</u>					
	<250k	£697	£243	£1,159	£5,767	£57
	250k-500k	£1,391				£3,471
	>500k	£2,355				