

EMAIL RECEIVED FROM THE OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Thank you for being a member of OALC; a service that provides advice, information and training to its members.

As you may be aware, OALC has only two sources of income, member subscriptions and training. Over the last few years OALC have been running at a loss (c. -£5k in 2023 and estimated to be the same again in 2024). We have been using reserves to continue to provide these services to our members but, this is clearly not a sustainable way of managing the association.

At our AGM held on the 15th July we discussed the position and had majority support from the attendees to make changes to the subscription in 2025/26 to bridge this gap.

This communication is to give you advance notice of this proposal which will be put to an online extraordinary general meeting on 7th October 2024 at 12 noon.

As a member body you will have one vote at this meeting, or you can return the attached postal vote which can either be scanned and sent back by email or sent in the traditional way. Your council will need to have discussed and resolved its position at a meeting in order to exercise this vote. Votes must be returned by 4pm on Friday 4th October.

This will give all members the opportunity to include the new subscription level in their budgeting process.

In terms of background, the [Office for National Statistics Consumer Price index](#) reported an annual average raise of 7.9% in 2022, 6.8% in 2023 (17.2%). OALC only raised their portion of the subscription* by (7%) a 10% deficit.

*The minimum payment threshold raised by 12% over the same time period so still a 5% deficit.

This year we are proposing a 7% increase to our portion of the subscriptions and are introducing new minimum payment thresholds as follows:

Less than 501 electorate your subscription will be £180 + VAT

Electorate of 501 to 750 your subscription will be £200 + VAT

Electorate of 751 to 1000 your subscription will be £250 + VAT

Electorate of over 1001 the standard calculation will apply. (24.11p per electorate which is made up of NALC 8.34p and OALC 15.77p) +VAT

Your subscription for 2025/26 will be based on the electorate figures obtained from the District/City Councils in January 2025.

If you have any questions or comments please do get in touch.

