

Notice is hereby given that the 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Museums Association will be held digitally and voting will commence on 19 September, with the results announced on 7 October at 1630 at Sain Ffagan Amgueddfa Werin Cymru – St Fagans National Museum of History, Cardiff and via our chosen conferencing platform:

A. Apologies for absence

B. Minutes

To consider and adopt the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 12 November 2024 at 1320 at the Royal Armouries Museum, Leeds and via our website and conference platform.

C. Annual Report and Accounts of the Museums Association

To receive the Annual Report and Accounts of the Board for the year 2024/25.

D. Report on financial position

To receive a report from the board on the estimated financial position and forecast in respect of current and future financial years.

E. Individual membership subscriptions

To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following Ordinary Resolution (see note 1 to agenda). That with effect with 1 April 2026 individual membership subscription rates will be increased as follows:

	2025/26	2026/27
Essential member	£52	£53
Student, Retired, Unwaged, Volunteer, Trustee	£67	£68
Full member, Associate, Fellow	£100	£102

F. Institutional membership subscriptions

To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following Ordinary Resolution (See note 1 to agenda). That with effect with 1 April 2026 institutional membership bands and subscription rates will be increase as follows:

2025/26	Fee
Operating budget	
Less than £109,500	£88
£109,501 – £329,500	£219
£329,501 – £1,098,000	£713
£1,098,001 – £2,196,000	£1,098
£2,196,001 – £10,979,000	£1,976
Over £10,979,000	£2,526
Federations, friends’ organisations and specialist groups	£67
Non-UK member	£219

2026/27	Fee
Operating budget	
Less than £111,500	£90
£111,501 – £336,000	£223
£336,001 – £1,120,000	£727
£1,120,001 – £2,240,000	£1,120
£2,240,001 – £11,198,500	£2,016
Over £11,198,500	£2,577
Federations, friends’ organisations and specialist groups	£68
Non-UK member	£223

G. To adopt the revised Code of Ethics

To consider, and if thought fit, pass the following Ordinary Resolution:
That the Code of Ethics be revised as set out in the Note 2.

H. Auditors

To appoint auditors to the association until the conclusion of the next general meeting of the association at which accounts are laid before members and to authorise the board to fix the remuneration of the auditors.

Notes to the agenda

1. Items E and F

Following an inflationary increase in rates and bands last year, this year with our individual and institutional members reporting significant financial pressure, we propose a rise of 2.0%, which is half the level of inflation. For our institutional members, this sees bands as well as fees increasing, meaning some organisations may pay significantly less.

Increases in individual membership fees are £1 per annum for Essential and Concessionary members and £2 per annum for Full members. Institutional members will pay between £2 and £51 more per annum, with the majority increasing by £4 or less.

2. Item G

The MA has acted as the guardian of UK museum ethics since the first Codes of Practice and Conduct were introduced in 1977. These were updated in 1987, 1991, 2002, 2007 and 2015. The revised Code of Ethics for Museums aims to better changes in the sector and society since the last review in 2014/15.

The new draft Code of Ethics follows a two-year consultation and drafting process from 2023 to 2025. This has been a collaborative piece of work led by a working group, and has included consultation through open surveys and meetings, engagement with key sector bodies and Accreditation partners, an online consultation event with community partners of museums, and consensus-building workshops.

The document being presented at the AGM represents the general consensus of the sector on the ethical standards that are expected of all museums and those who work in and with them. The full version of the Code of Ethics is at page 43.