

### 7.2 Membership Costs

This financial year, effective from September 2024, HELOA increased membership fees for the first time since September 2016 by 25% rounded to the nearest pound. This was because the costs to the charity have increased substantially due to over 30% Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation between 2016 and 2023 and the significant increase in over 85% more members over an eight year period (1,045 in 2015/16 to 1,940 in 2023/24 November 2023), in turn requiring increased hours from the two paid members of staff supporting the administration of membership and supporting volunteers, which was not at the time reflected by reasonable increase in fees.

In October 2023, trustees also voted to increase membership fees in line with CPI thereafter. The Consumer Price Index rose by 1.7% in the 12 months to September 2024. Therefore the new membership fees will be as follows, reflecting this, rounded to the nearest pound.

Number of Students	September 2024-August 2025 fees	September 2025- August 2026 fees
FE Colleges	£319	£324
0 - 1000	£319	£324
1001 - 5000	£356	£362
5001 - 10000	£438	£445
10001 - 15000	£475	£483
15000+	£506	£515
Additional Memberships	£43	£44