



Dear (River User)

Harbour Dues have increased by 4.5% for 2024 which is less than the 6.7% rise in inflation in the 12 months to September 2023. The Harbour Due rates are set by the Trustees of the Authority and not the office staff. We receive no national government funding but one of the District Councils donates a modest sum, so the bulk of our income has to be generated from leisure and commercial fees and the licensing of works on the river.

We keep costs to a minimum, using external contractors only when absolutely necessary. Our statutes require us to do certain costly jobs which are also for your benefit and safety. These include maintaining and replacing damaged fairway buoys and lights, undertaking risk assessments and training in relation to potential environmental hazards, and keeping a patrol on the river to identify and deal with any risks to navigation. The pilot service for visiting ships is itself cost neutral but the pilot cutter used to board and land pilots makes a small profit which is used to maintain and staff our other two vessels.

We hope this clarifies how constrained we are and shows how your payments, for which we thank you, contribute to making the river a safe and pleasant place for all users.

How to pay your Harbour Dues:

- Click on the link <https://crouchharbour.uk/dues/how-to-pay/>.

January 2024