

From **1 April 2026**, the UKRG membership year will change to run from **1 April to 31 March**, aligning with the tax year. Existing members do not need to take any action now. When your current membership ends, you will be offered a short transitional renewal (7 or 19 months) to move onto the new cycle. Membership fees will reflect the new rates from 1 April 2026. Full details are set out below.

Dear Members,

As the UKRG is now registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG), we are making a small number of operational changes to support the smooth running of the organisation.

One of these changes is a transition to a new membership year.

### **WHY IS THE MEMBERSHIP YEAR CHANGING?**

Currently, the UKRG membership year runs from 1 September to 31 August. This does not align with the UK tax year and creates ongoing challenges for financial administration.

From **1 April 2026**, the UKRG membership year will instead run from **1 April to 31 March**, aligning with the tax year and supporting clearer, more efficient financial management.

### **MEMBERSHIP FEES INCREASE**

As part of this change, the previously announced membership fee increase (originally scheduled for June 2026) will now take effect slightly earlier, from **1 April 2026**.

We recognise that changes to fees and timing can be sensitive, and we have worked carefully to ensure the transition is as fair and straightforward as possible.

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### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?**

Your experience during the transition depends on when your current membership expires. In all cases, **you do not need to take any action right now**.

#### **If your membership expires on 31 August 2026:**

- You will receive a reminder in June/July 2026.
- On 1 September 2026, you will be invited to renew your membership.
- You will be able to choose one of the following renewal options:
  - 7-month membership, expiring 31 March 2027
  - 19-month membership, expiring 31 March 2028
- Fees will be calculated using the new membership rates (see fee table below).
- After your membership expires in March 2027 or March 2028, you will be able to renew for one or two years, as usual.

### **If your membership expires on 31 August 2027:**

- You will receive a reminder in June/July 2027.
- On 1 September 2027, you will be invited to renew your membership.
- You will be able to choose one of the following renewal options:
  - 7-month membership, expiring 31 March 2028
  - 19-month membership, expiring 31 March 2029
- Fees will be calculated using the new membership rates (see fee table below).

After your membership expires in March 2028 or March 2029, you will be able to renew for one or two years, as usual.

### **HOW CAN I CHECK WHEN MY MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES?**

You can find your membership expiry date by logging into your account on the UKRG website:

1. Click “My Account” (top right corner)
2. Select “My Subscription” from the left-hand menu
3. The date shown as “Next Payment Date” is your membership expiry date

### **WHAT ABOUT NEW MEMBERS?**

Anyone joining the UKRG from 1 April 2026 will be able to choose:

- a 1-year membership, expiring 31 March 2027, or
- a 2-year membership, expiring 31 March 2028

New members will pay the new membership rates.

### **STUDENT MEMBERSHIP**

To support those at the beginning of their careers, we are pleased to introduce a reduced membership fee for individuals who are:

- currently enrolled in a UK-based museum or heritage-related course
- undertaking an internship in a UK-based museum, gallery, or heritage organisation
- volunteering in a UK-based museum, gallery, or heritage organisation as a primary activity or as part of a transition into employment in the sector

This category is intended for those for whom study, volunteering, or internships represent their main professional focus, rather than activities undertaken alongside full-time employment in another field.

Members in this category will continue to have access to the full range of benefits, including:

- attendance at UKRG events
- access to the membership list
- access to online resources
- eligibility to apply for UKRG travel bursaries

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP / SUPPORTER MEMBERSHIP

The UK Registrars Group is proud to represent the diversity of the Registrars, Collection Managers and other museum professionals working in the United Kingdom, Europe and worldwide, as well as the companies which supply services to the museum and gallery sector in general. To facilitate the exchange of expertise, best practice and new thinking between its members, from April 2026 UKRG will introduce a new category of Associate Membership.

Associate Membership will be offered to government agencies, sector bodies and subject specialist networks whose primary role is to support the Galleries, Museums, Heritage, Archives and Libraries sectors. It will offer the same benefits as a Standard Corporate Membership, including the option to regularly attend and participate in UKRG Events.

Associate Membership will not impact individual or corporate membership, and individual and corporate members should continue to renew their membership in the normal way. Please note that the current category of Supporting Member will be phased out from April 2026, and existing Supporting Members will be transferred to an individual membership from April 2026 for the remainder of their membership. We will contact existing Supporting Members individually to discuss.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Individual/Supporter Membership: Delphine Charpentier, Membership Secretary ([membership@ukregistrarsgroup.org](mailto:membership@ukregistrarsgroup.org))
- Corporate and Associate Memberships: Daniel Smernicki, Corporate Officer ([corporate@ukregistrarsgroup.org](mailto:corporate@ukregistrarsgroup.org))

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

The tables below summarise the transitional options and fees described above.

Existing members – current expiry 31 August 2026:

Renewal period	Membership end date	Individual membership fee	Online membership fee	Student membership fee
7 months	31 March 2027	£20	£9	£10
19 months	31 March 2028	£40	£19	£20

Existing members – current expiry 31 August 2027:

Renewal period	Membership end date	Individual membership fee	Online membership fee	Student membership fee
7 months	31 March 2028	£20	£9	£10
19 months	31 March 2029	£40	£19	£20

New members (joining from 1 April 2026):

<b>Membership length</b>	<b>Membership end date</b>	<b>Individual membership fee</b>	<b>Online membership fee</b>	<b>Student membership fee</b>
1 year	31 March 2027	£35	£15	£17.50
2 years	31 March 2028	£50	£24	£25

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## **FAQ**

### **Why is this change happening now?**

Now that UKRG is registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee, aligning the membership year with the tax year is necessary to ensure clear, compliant, and sustainable financial management.

### **Will I lose any months of membership?**

No. The transitional membership options (7 or 19 months) are designed to ensure that all members receive continuous coverage and move fairly onto the new membership cycle.

### **Why are membership fees increasing earlier than planned?**

The fee increase was already scheduled for June 2026. Aligning it with the new membership year (from 1 April 2026) allows the transition to be implemented cleanly and consistently.

### **Do I need to take action right now?**

No. You will be contacted directly when it is time to renew, with clear instructions and options relevant to your membership.

### **I am a supporter member, what will happen to my membership?**

Your supporter membership will be moved to an individual membership for the remainder of your membership period. You do not need to take any action, and the Membership Secretary will contact you to confirm the transfer of membership.

If you have any questions or would like help understanding how this change affects you, please don't hesitate to contact us at [membership@ukregistrarsgroup.org](mailto:membership@ukregistrarsgroup.org) – we're very happy to help.

Thank you for your continued support of the UKRG.

Warm regards,

**The UKRG Committee**