Adjustments to the BSG's membership dues – effective 1st January 2025

The BSG's current membership dues are a legacy of a pandemic-related initiative to simultaneously preserve the membership base whilst being reflective of the reduced scope of activities that the Society was able to offer during this period of uncertainty. As such, membership dues remain 25% lower than they were pre-pandemic and have remained this way for roughly the last four years. This initiative has been successful – membership numbers have remained stable and healthy and the Society remains vibrant.

As we emerged from the pandemic the BSG quickly returned to a 'business as usual' operating model and for the last two years or so we have offered a full (and ever-expanding) range of activities, opportunities and resources to the membership and wider geomorphological and geoscience communities, all whilst maintaining these suppressed membership dues.

Whilst the Society maintains a stable financial position, many of our activities are not immune to the current inflationary pressures that affect wider society. Further, future uncertainty associated with shifts in the academic publishing landscape will undoubtedly affect the Society – income from Wiley, who publish the Society's journal *Earth Surface Processes and Landforms*, is likely to reduce in the mid-term, making it ever more important that the Society diversifies and looks to rebalance its income streams and seek other sources of support where practical.

In light of the above, the Society will implement an increase to membership dues, effective 1st January 2025. In doing so we will effectively reinstate pre-Covid membership dues, plus a further rise of ~10% to reflect wider inflationary pressures. It was felt that a purposeful, one-off rise could be more amenable to the membership than a series of repeated year-on-year rises (i.e. a more insidious form of subscription 'creep').

Membership dues will increase as follows:

Full member 1 year increase from £30 to £45
PGR 4 yr / Springboard 3 year increase from £40 to £55
Student / unwaged / retired 1 year increase from £12 to £18

We will also introduce a staggered membership model with the aim of reducing financial barriers to inclusion and attracting members from underrepresented countries, who we feel should have equal opportunity to apply for grants and have access to wider BSG resources. This model is shown in Table 1.

If you currently pay by Direct Debit and this renews in 2025, you should not need to do anything – your membership will renew at the appropriate new rate.

Table 1. Current and future membership dues, including country stagger. Income classifications are according to <u>World Bank definitions</u>.

| Membership type | Current | New | New | New | New |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | | High | Upper | Lower- | Low |
| | | Income | Middle | middle | Income - |
| | | country | income | income – | minus |
| | | | minus 20% | minus 40% | 60% |
| Full member 1 yr | £30 | £45 | £36 | £27 | £18 |
| PGR 4 yr / ECR 3 yr | £40 | £55 | £44 | £33 | £22 |
| Student/unwaged/retired 1 yr | £12 | £18 | £14 | £11 | £7 |