# CEC Financial Proposals

**Subscription Rates and Financial Position**

Congress is asked to consider and approve the recommendation outlined below.

## Financial Performance – 2025

The Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2025 will report an operating surplus of £401,000, compared with £414,000 in 2024.

However, this statutory figure does not fully reflect the union's financial performance for the year.

The Management Accounts report a significantly higher operating surplus of approximately £5.9 million, driven by:

- Growth in Grade 1 and Grade 2 membership
- Removal of the £1 million additional employer pension contribution
- Substantial income from equal pay settlement advice provided to members

This represents a strong financial outcome and reflects the efforts of the union across all levels. It strengthens our financial resilience and our capacity to reinvest in services and support for members.

## Economic Context

The broader economic environment remains challenging for members. Although inflation has eased from its recent peak, it is perilous and the overall cost of living remains significantly elevated. Essential goods and services—including food, energy, housing and transport - continue to place sustained pressure on household finances.

The CEC recognises that:

- Wage growth in many sectors has not kept pace with cumulative cost increases;
- Real incomes remain under pressure;

- Housing costs, including rent and mortgages, have risen substantially;
- Day-to-day living expenses continue to strain working households.

For many GMB members, these pressures remain acute.

**Affordability of Membership**

Against this backdrop, the CEC believes that:

- Maintaining affordable access to union membership is more important than ever
- Even modest increases in subscription rates would come at a time when many members are making difficult financial decisions.

The union's current financial stability allows it to take a supportive and measured approach.

By holding subscription rates at their current level, the union can help ease financial pressure on members and ensure continued accessibility of membership.

This approach aligns with the union's broader commitment to support members not only through representation and industrial strength, but also through its own financial decisions.

**The Central Executive Council therefore proposes that Congress AGREES:**

Contribution rates be frozen from October 2026, with subscription levels maintained at their current rates.