

BWG-P-07-16

## *Membership Fees*

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# *What do members think?*

## **Member views**

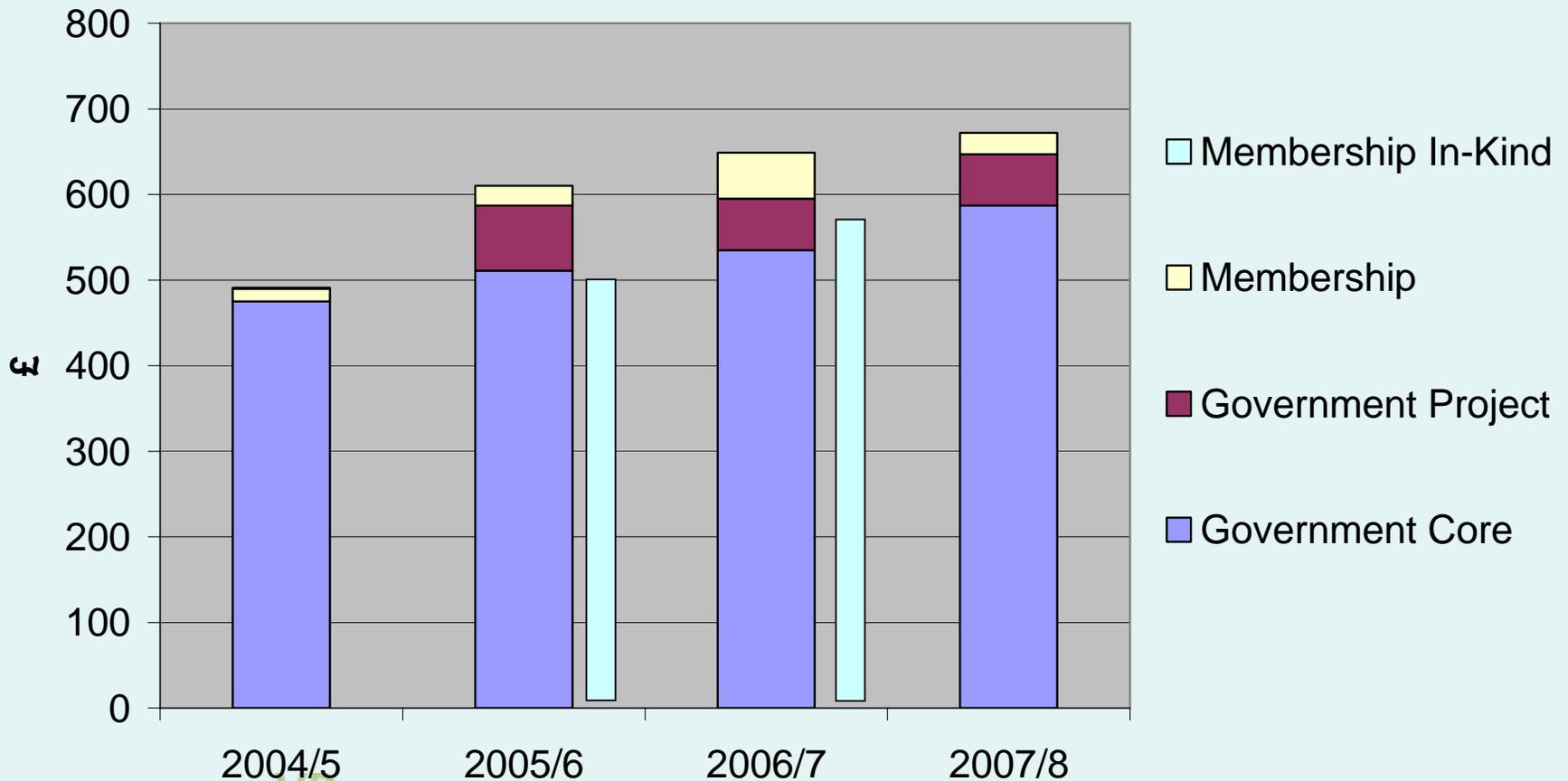
- 20% would pay either readily or reluctantly
- 32% would prefer to make an in-kind contribution
- 37% didn't know
- 15% would leave the Partnership

## **Key concerns**

- The level of fees
- Retaining the level of government funding
- Preventing larger organisations obtaining disproportionate influence
- Concerns that fees would limit the ability of public sector / SMEs / NGOs to pay and remain active
- The loss of influence through reduced membership numbers and diversity
- How the fees would be structured for trade bodies, public sector organisations and large multi-functional businesses
- The commercial or other benefits of membership

# What do members contribute?

## Income and In-Kind Contributions



## *What will income be used for?*

- ❑ Additional Secretariat resources. Specifically two new posts focussed upon
  - Promoting the purchase of low carbon vehicles
  - Supporting the introduction of new low carbon vehicle technology and assisting UK business benefit from the shift
  
- ❑ Supporting the work programme
  
- ❑ Encouraging member engagement

## *How much and when is it proposed organisations pay?*

- ❑ Small Organisation - £250 per year or 30 hours in-kind contribution
  - Micro-company (Turnover <£1.5M)
  - Not for profit organisations
  - Local authorities and other public sector organisations
- ❑ Medium company (turnover >£1.5M < £50M) - £1000 per year
- ❑ Large company (turnover >£50M) - £5000 per year.
- ❑ Fees introduced from April 2008 for medium and large companies and April 2009 for small organisations
- ❑ The system will be flexible:
  - Medium and large organisations can make an alternative and significant in-kind contribution with the agreement of the Director (e.g., staff secondments or project support)
  - Chairs of Working Groups and the Chair of the Steering Group will be considered to make such an appropriate in-kind contribution
  - The Director will have the authority to exempt, reduce or defer fees in case of hardship or for other good reason.

## *How will in-kind contributions be calculated ?*

- ❑ Attendance at a Steering Group, Working Group or Sub-Group meeting will be equivalent to 5 man-hours effort
- ❑ Providing comments on a major LowCVP document will be equivalent to 3 man-hours effort
- ❑ Other special contributions will be judged by the Secretariat on their merits with advice from members.
  - The average small organisation will be exempted from paying fees in 2009/10 if they attend 3 working group and two sub-group meetings and contributed comments on two documents during 2008/9.

# *What do I get for my money?*

*Membership of LowCVP enable organisations to:*

- ❑ Demonstrate leadership and their serious intent to encourage a low carbon transport future
- ❑ Learn about the direction of UK and European policy developments including advance notice of the direction of thinking from officials
- ❑ Raise and take forward their specific concerns with a wider, and therefore more influential, group of stakeholders
- ❑ Effectively influence the direction of policy and scope of programmes and regulations. LowCVP's consensual, objective advice has been highly influential in shaping UK policy (see Annex I).
- ❑ Input to the content and delivery of the LowCVP work programme to ensure this is focused upon members' key concerns and priorities
- ❑ Ensure their voice, and the outcomes of Partnership initiatives, are effectively heard in relevant EU discussions
- ❑ Engage with and develop effective working relationships with other members including supply chain companies, major fleets and environmental organisations
- ❑ Receive discounts for the LowCVP annual conference and other events endorsed by the Partnership
- ❑ Be informed about unique marketing opportunities for your business
- ❑ Receive timely news updates on key developments, a monthly newsletter and access to the wealth of knowledge within the "Members Only" section of the website.

## *Next steps / Questions?*

- Discussions in working groups
  - Electronic membership survey
    - October
  - Decision by Board
    - November
- Is the proposal fair?**
  - Should fees be voluntary or mandatory?**
    - **Should there be any implication for organisations that do not make an appropriate contribution? If so what?**
  - Should sectors (e.g., SMMT) be able to negotiate a collective agreement on behalf of all their members?**