

**Ministerial statement on Light Dues  
By (UK) Shipping Minister John Hayes**

**Cut by a further half a penny to 37½p per net registered tonne**

In the House of Commons (Lower House) on 30 March Minister of State at the Department of Transport, John Hayes issued a written ministerial statement:

*‘A strong and growing maritime industry is vital to the economy of the United Kingdom and it is critical that we treasure and protect this vital artery if we are to remain a world-leading maritime centre.*

*‘The work of the General Lighthouse Authorities\*, which provide and maintain marine aids to navigation and respond to new wrecks and navigation dangers in some of the busiest waters in the world, is crucial to underpinning that vision whilst maintaining our vigorous safety record and continuously improving standards of safety.*

*‘Reductions in the three General Lighthouse Authorities’ running costs has already enabled the UK to reduce light dues for three successive years.*

*‘For 2017-18 I intend to cut light dues by a further half a penny to 37½p per net registered tonne. This will mean that light dues will have fallen by 25 per cent in real terms since 2010.*

*‘Light dues rates will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that the General Lighthouse Authorities are challenged to provide an effective and efficient service which offers value for money to light dues payers while maintaining the highest levels of safety for mariners.’*

\* The bodies whose activities are financed by the GLF are the following GLAs: Trinity House; Northern Lighthouse Board and Irish Lights.

**This statement was also made in the House of Lords (Upper House) on the same date by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon.**

The Report and Accounts for the General Lighthouse Authorities for 2015-2016 issued by the Department for Transport is to be found here: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/587379/gla-2016-print.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/587379/gla-2016-print.pdf)