## Letter to members regarding an increase in the daily fee

You may remember receiving a letter from Mike Clark at the beginning of this year explaining that the current high level of inflation has impacted on the running costs at Elizabeth House. The cost of food and energy are major expenditures for Elizabeth House and we cannot avoid the impact of dramatic increases.

Those of you who attended the AGM, or read the accounts that were sent out ahead of the AGM, will be aware that Elizabeth House incurs a deficit between income and expenditure each month. A large part of the deficit is covered by income from grants, donations and legacies and these are very important sources of income. The finances at Elizabeth House are currently strong and the charity is financially viable, but the monthly deficit has been increasing due to inflation.

As trustees we have to ensure that we make decisions in the best interests of our members and we are committed to make sure that they continue to be able to afford the benefits of membership. At this point in time, the Annual Membership Fee will remain unchanged at $£ 25$ so that we are affordable to all of our local senior citizens who would like to join Elizabeth House and enjoy its benefits.

However, the trustees have taken the decision to raise the daily fee to $£ 10$ as of September ${ }^{\text {st }} 2023$. This fee covers coffee/tea/biscuits in the morning, a 2 course lunch followed by tea/coffee, and the entertainment of the day, the overall price of which has also gone up in some cases. We believe that this daily fee is affordable and remains good value for money and that it is a financially prudent decision to tackle part of our monthly deficit. We very much hope that the above price increase will not deter any of our members from receiving the continued support and companionship that Elizabeth House has to offer.

Jenny Elton
Honorary Secretary
on behalf of the trustees
$12^{\text {th }}$ July 2023

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

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