



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Maritime

The Department of Transport (DoT) manages regulated fees and charges for the use of its 30 maritime facilities State-wide.

### Implementation of State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure

In 2018 DoT commenced the implementation of a consistent State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure to address the growing disparity between revenue generated from fees and charges and the cost of maintaining facilities. The decision reflected Government policy which requires that fees and charges are set based on user pays principles.

#### 1. What progress has been made towards the State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure?

In 2021-22 nearly 30 per cent of vessel accommodation will have reached the State-wide target fee. In 2022-23, a further 35 per cent of vessel accommodation will reach target.

#### 2. What are the benefits of the State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure?

The State-wide fee structure will provide greater equity for users across the State and deliver operational and safety benefits through the ability to pool funds for works and allocate them based on priority rather than location or popularity of a facility.

In the last three years DoT has spent near \$50 million on a variety of major and minor capital works projects including pen replacements at Hillarys and Two Rocks, weir replacement at Esperance, upgrades to jetties at Geraldton, access roads at Bunbury and Onslow, electrical systems at Esperance and Exmouth; lighting at Albany, Coral Bay, Exmouth and Hillarys; and CCTV systems across the state including at Augusta, Carnarvon, Geraldton and Onslow.

Over the next three years DoT is forecast to spend a further \$160 million on major and minor maritime capital works projects.

### Maritime facility fees for 2021-22

#### 3. Will my vessel accommodation fees increase in 2021-22?

While for some DoT facilities the transition to State-wide vessel accommodation fees is now complete with their fees remaining unchanged in 2021-22; for others the transition continues, with increases of up to 11.75 per cent in 2021-22. Where vessel accommodation fees reach the target fee in 2021-22, fees will increase by less than 11.75 per cent.

It is planned that fees already at target levels will increase by CPI/cost escalation only in future years.

#### 4. Will any other maritime facilities fees increase in 2021-22?

Yes, fees for the provision of other user services will increase by approximately 1.75 per cent.

For full details of fees please refer to *Maritime facilities: Schedule of fees and charges (2021/22)* on the DoT website at: [www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges)

#### 5. When will the changes be implemented and when will the new fees apply?

The fees for 2021-22 are effective from 1 July 2021. Any new fees will apply to invoices for periods commencing, or services used, on or after 1 July 2021.

#### 6. When do vessel accommodation fees have to be paid?

All vessel accommodation fees are payable in advance of the due date on receipt of an Invitation to Renew (ITR) or invoice.

## 7. Can I pay online?

Yes. If you have been issued with an ITR or an invoice by DoT, then you can pay online via the secure transaction site [www.transport.wa.gov.au](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au). Click on the online payments link of DoTDirect and follow the prompts. Please note, to claim input tax credits (also known as GST credit), you must retain a record of payment (such as a credit card statement or a confirmation of online payment, attached to the ITR). This is considered acceptable for input tax credit purposes.

## General vessel accommodation queries

### 8. Will my fees increase again next year?

For the majority of facilities the transition to a single State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure will continue in 2022-23. At facilities where target levels have been achieved vessel accommodations fee increases will be minimal, at just above CPI, whilst fees still transitioning will increase by around 10 per cent plus CPI.

### 9. What is the State-wide vessel accommodation fee structure?

The State-wide fee structure is based on the type of vessel accommodation being used, with fees to be set according to the benefit that the vessel accommodation type provides and the cost to deliver that particular accommodation type. There are eight main vessel accommodation types.

|   |  |   |                           |
|---|--|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | Floating pen with walkway                    | 5 | Fixed alongside berth     |
| 2 | Floating alongside berth                     | 6 | Fixed pen without walkway |
| 3 | Pen with walkway 25m (Tropical Cyclone Zone) | 7 | Pile mooring              |
| 4 | Fixed pen with walkway                       | 8 | Swing or fore/aft mooring |

In addition:

- Service vessels will continue to pay higher fees
- Extra width vessels, such as catamarans, will continue to pay 1.5 x the fee for a standard width pen of the same length, for periods of 1 week or more
- A higher fee will apply for a Department installed swing mooring, compared to a user installed swing mooring.

### 10. Why are there different fees for different accommodation types?

- Fees for pens are charged per length of the pen occupied; whilst fees for alongside berths, pile moorings and swing moorings are charged per overall length of the vessel.
- Floating pens and berths provide customers with enhanced services such as side access to vessels; standard ingress/egress in all tides; security access gates; more convenient access to water and electricity.
- Fixed pens and berths are generally older and provide customers with reduced services such as limited or no walkways; and reduced access to water and electricity.
- Piled or swing moorings do not have pedestrian access to their vessel and no direct access to power or water.

Further details can be found on our website at [www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges)

### 11. Does a State-wide fee structure mean fees will be the same at all DoT facilities?

Yes. You will eventually be paying the same fee for the same vessel accommodation type no matter the location.

For example the fee for a fixed pen with walkway at Kalbarri will eventually be the same as the fee for a fixed pen with walkway at Fremantle Challenger Boat Harbour; and the fee for a floating pen with walkway at Albany Waterfront Marina will be the same as the fee for a floating pen with walkway at Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour.

DoT will phase in the State-wide fee structure over a number of years.

## 12. How do I calculate my vessel accommodation fee?

Vessel accommodation length x fee per period x number of periods.

Length is determined by the vessel accommodation type:

- If your vessel is using a fixed or floating alongside berth or a mooring, then the length used to calculate the fee will be the overall vessel length, rounded down to the nearest whole metre.
- If your vessel is accommodated in a fixed or floating pen, then the length will be the described pen length.

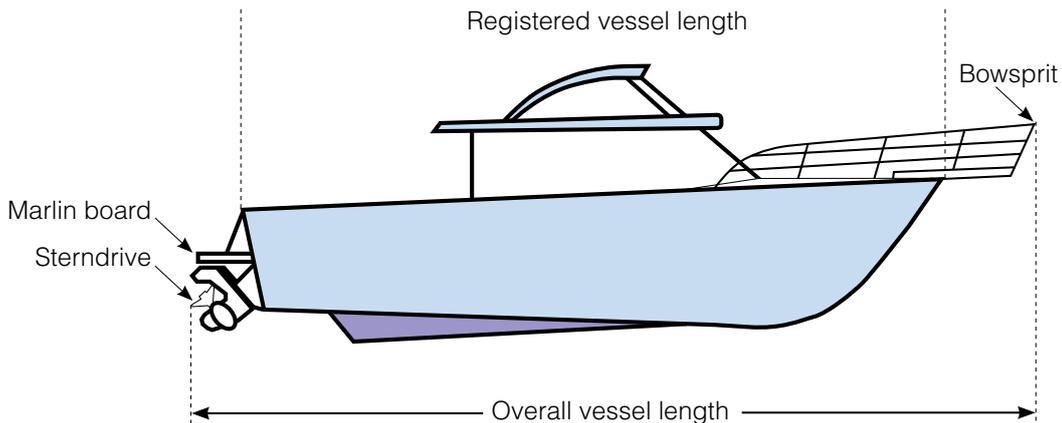
For example:

- For a 15.3 metre vessel accommodated on a user installed swing mooring at Bunbury Casuarina Boat Harbour for two weeks, the charge is 15 (m) x \$5.20 (the standard State-wide fee per week including GST) x two (weeks) = \$156.00
- For a 15.3 metre vessel in an 18m pen at Augusta Boat Harbour for two weeks; the charge is 18 (100 per cent of pen length) x \$26.80 (fee per week including GST) x two (weeks) = \$964.80

## 13. Why is the overall vessel length important to harbour management?

DoT requires a vessel's overall length to ensure manoeuvrability and safe accommodation of vessels at DoT facilities. The overall vessel length can in some cases be several metres longer than the registered length and this can mean that the vessel dangerously protrudes over jetties or into the fairway.

The overall length of the vessel, rather than the registered vessel length, is measured as below.



## 14. How are fees for utilities calculated?

Single phase power and water is included in vessel accommodation fees.

Three phase power and water that is metered is charged to users according to the quantity consumed. Bulk water supplied across a service wharf or jetty is a service charge (a charge for the service of supplying water to a vessel). As such, bulk water fees are charged at a rate commensurate with the cost that the utilities provider charges to DoT. The service fee also includes GST.

## 15. Can I use my commercial vessel for recreational purposes while I am on holiday?

Yes, during the period that the vessel is being used solely for recreational purposes you will be charged the appropriate recreational fee. Please contact your local harbour office to discuss.

## Service jetties and wharves

### 16. If I have paid for vessel accommodation do I benefit from use of DoT managed service jetties and wharves?

- If a customer\* has paid for annual vessel accommodation\*\* at any DoT maritime facility, they are entitled to free short-term use of any DoT managed service jetty or wharf within the State. This short-term use is for up to one hour in any 24 hour period\* and is subject to availability.
- If a customer\* has paid for a shorter period of vessel accommodation\*\* at a maritime facility, they can use the service jetty or wharf for up to one hour in any 24 hour period at that maritime facility only, for the period of their vessel accommodation\*.
- Please note, the one hour limit for short-term use of a service wharf or jetty\* may be extended for licensed fishing vessels to complete active loading or unloading operations, subject to the vessel vacating the berth to facilitate other operations if required by an Officer of the Department or an Authorised Person and subject to the extended period only applying if active loading or unloading operations are continuously in progress.

### 17. How do I access the service jetties and wharves if I don't have vessel accommodation in a DoT managed maritime facility?

Customers \* without vessel accommodation\* that require short-term access to DoT service jetties or wharves on a regular basis can pick up an application form from your nearest harbour management office. Once payment has been received a permit is granted.

### 18. What are the fees for using service jetties and wharves?

- For customers\* without vessel accommodation\*\* that want short term access to DoT service jetties or wharves on a regular basis, the annual fee payable is \$89.90 per metre of vessel length, rounded down to the nearest whole metre.
- Customers\* that want to use a service jetty or wharf for longer than one hour in any 24 hour period will be charged a daily fee, as appropriate for that vessel.
- For daily use of a service jetty or wharf by a commercial vessel\* the fee is \$7.90 per metre of vessel length, rounded down to the nearest whole metre.
- For daily use of a service jetty or wharf by a recreational vessel the fee is \$56.00.
- If a vessel is refuelling then there is no vessel accommodation charge for the use of the associated service jetty or wharf, while refuelling and simultaneous loading/unloading operations (if applicable) are continuously in progress. If a vessel wishes to remain at the service jetty or wharf after refuelling and simultaneous loading/unloading operations are complete, then an appropriate accommodation fee will be applied.

For further information please see the information sheet for *Use of service jetties and wharves* at [www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/marinefeechanges).

## More information

### 19. Where can I find more information?

For further information about DoT maritime facilities please go to <http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/imate/marine-search-page.asp>

For all general enquiries or to provide feedback please email us at [facilityfees@transport.wa.gov.au](mailto:facilityfees@transport.wa.gov.au)

\* These fees and conditions apply at all DoT managed maritime facilities, except for those in the Swan Canning Rivers where short-term use of a service jetty is restricted to 15 minutes at a time or less on event days at Burswood Jetty; and for service vessels using maritime facilities at Exmouth, Onslow and Point Samson, for which separate fees apply.

\*\* Vessel accommodation is a pen, alongside berth or mooring within a DoT managed harbour or maritime facility, for which a fee has been paid to DoT.