

# Merseyflow Community

October 2026



merseyflow

Quicker, easier, more reliable journeys

## Most journeys ever recorded for crossings over the River Mersey in Halton

Crossings over the River Mersey in Halton reached a new high this summer, with over 6.99 million journeys made by residents, commuters and visitors from July – September 2026.

This is the highest number of crossings recorded since the Mersey Gateway Bridge opened in October 2017. July was the single busiest month ever across the two bridges.

Over 2.3 million vehicles are consistently making the journey over the bridges each month, with a record 95% of drivers choosing to pay for their crossings using automated or digital payment methods.



# Merseyflow Dashboard

## July-September 2026

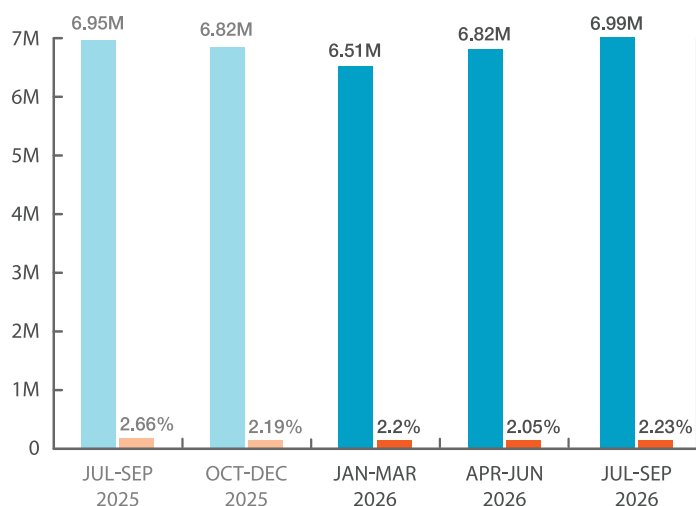
The quarterly merseyflow dashboard provides a range of information for the public and our stakeholders. It's a quick and easy way to view key statistics about the bridges and tolls/charges. **The full dashboard and further statistics can be found on our website** 

Our latest quarterly dashboard shows:

- **MOST JOURNEYS EVER RECORDED ACROSS THE RIVER IN HALTON –** over 6.99 million journeys were made over the Mersey Gateway and Silver Jubilee Bridges in July – September 2026. July was the single busiest month ever across the two bridges
- **OVER 84,000 VEHICLES USE THE BRIDGES EVERY WEEKDAY –** with over 84% of vehicles using the Mersey Gateway Bridge to cross the river
- **MORE CUSTOMERS CHOOSING TO REGISTER WITH MERSEYFLOW AND USE THE AUTO-TOP UP SYSTEM THAN EVER –** shown by a record 95% of customers using digital or automated payment methods
- **PCNs STAY CONSISTENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF OVERALL JOURNEYS –** 97.7% of journeys were paid for on time

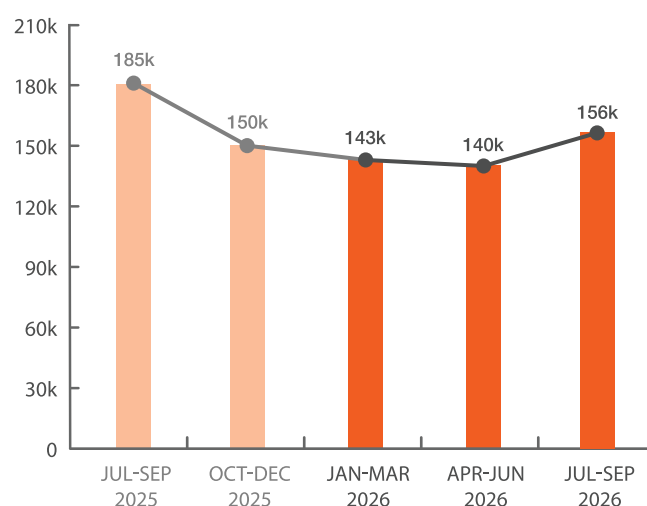
### Traffic increases year on year

Total journeys and number of PCNs issued

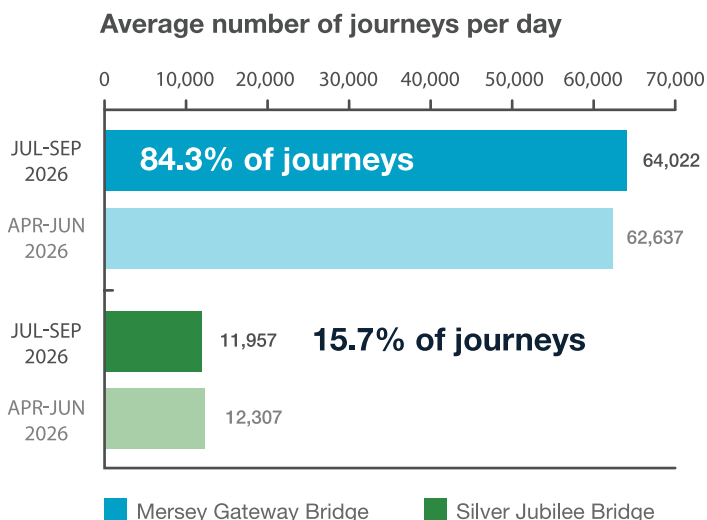


### PCNs remain steady

PCNs issued

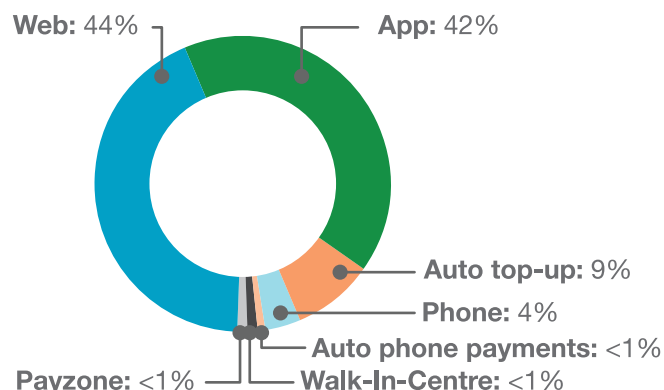


## Bridge usage from July to September 2026



## Payment methods July to September 2026

**95% of payments made via digital or automated channels**

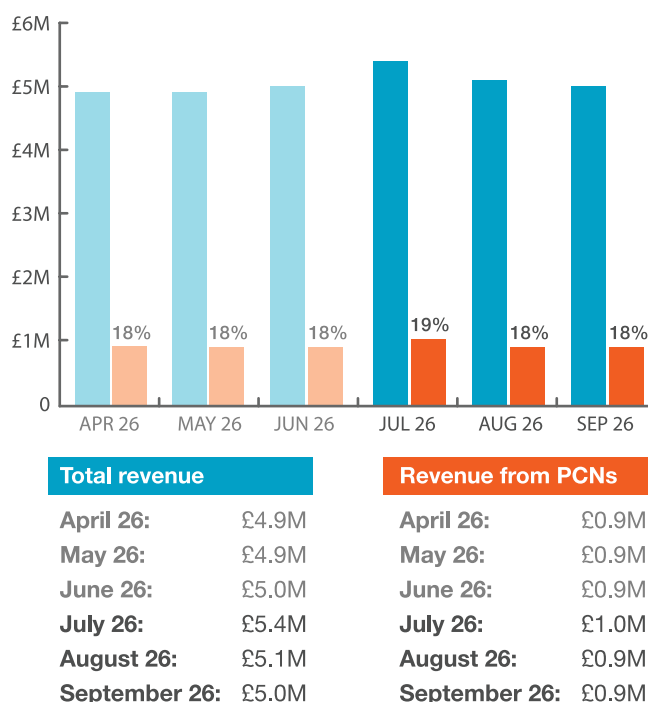


## Total journeys and Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs)

**97.7% of customers paid their toll/charge on time**

| Total journeys (2026) |       | PCNs issued (2026) |     |
|-----------------------|-------|--------------------|-----|
| April 26:             | 2.24M | April 26:          | 46k |
| May 26:               | 2.27M | May 26:            | 47k |
| June 26:              | 2.31M | June 26:           | 47k |
| July 26:              | 2.39M | July 26:           | 57k |
| August 26:            | 2.3M  | August 26:         | 46k |
| September 26:         | 2.3M  | September 26:      | 53k |

## Revenue (total and percentage from PCNs)



### Neil Conway, Chief Executive Officer, Emovis UK, said:

As the ninth anniversary of the Mersey Gateway Bridge approaches, merseyflow is preparing for its busiest period of Local User Discount Scheme (LUDS) renewals.

Over 38,000 Halton residents have already signed up to the auto-renew scheme, and merseyflow is encouraging remaining LUDS customers to make the switch online to ensure a simpler process in the future.

The automated system eliminates the need for residents to manually submit their documentation every year unless they change vehicle or address.

All revenue, either from tolls/charges or PCNs, contributes towards payment for the Mersey Gateway Bridge.

# Community Groups Benefit from 2026 Mersey Gateway Time Bank Initiative

Teams from Merseylink, Tarmac, Merseyflow and Mersey Gateway Crossings Board revitalising Farnworth Primary School's Quiet Garden by painting and staining benches and the gazebo, creating a calm space for children.



A hospice, two schools, a bowling group, residents' association, Linnets Football Club, Spike Island and Widnes Canal Restoration Group and a community choir are among the organisations in Halton benefiting from the 2026 Mersey Gateway Time Bank initiative.

Time Bank enables Merseylink and Merseyflow to demonstrate their commitment to the local community by providing practical help and support to charities and community groups across Halton.

The innovative scheme allocates 30 days of support each year and has been running since 2014. During that time, it has delivered more than 20,000 hours of support to a wide range of projects across Runcorn and Widnes. The programme offers the time, expertise and resources of Merseylink and Merseyflow staff, providing successful applicants with valuable support that delivers long-lasting benefits for communities across Halton.

One project saw volunteers conduct a clean-up of Carter House Bridge and surrounding areas, coordinated by the Spike Island and Widnes Canal Restoration Group and the Sankey Canal Restoration Society. The work included litter picking, weeding and general cleaning. Their efforts have given the area a fresh, tidy appearance, creating a more welcoming environment and helping local wildlife thrive throughout the summer.

Another project took place at Halton Haven Hospice, where the team worked hard to tidy up the main garden area. Their efforts helped prepare the grounds for the hospice's Tea at Three event, which took place on 22 August, ensuring the outdoor spaces are welcoming and enjoyable for guests.

Tina Robinson, Fundraising Manager at Halton Haven Hospice, said:

**"We are incredibly grateful to all the project volunteers who have so generously given their time to support Halton Haven Hospice. Their hard work caring for our garden areas has made a real difference to these much-loved spaces."**

**"We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the teams from Merseyflow, Mersey Gateway Crossings Board and Tarmac for everything they have done for us through the Time Bank initiative."**

Karen Atherton, Merseylink Network Steward and Time Bank Lead, said:

**"Time Bank is focused on creating lasting benefits for people and communities across Halton, and we are delighted to be supporting such worthy causes."**

Liam Geoghegan, General Manager for Merseylink, said:

**"Time Bank is all about supporting the people and places that make Halton special. It has been fantastic to help local groups this year, and we look forward to supporting even more in 2027."**

Jade Koo, HR Manager at Merseyflow, said:

**"Collaborating with Merseylink on the Time Bank initiative has been an incredibly rewarding experience for our employees. Taking part in these community challenges has strengthened our partnership projects, while supporting Halton Haven Hospice has given us a meaningful opportunity to help people in need within the local community."**

# Merseyflow join forces with Runcorn Police to support Kops 'n' Kids Initiative

Merseyflow were proud to support Runcorn Police's Kops 'n' Kids initiative, which provides local children with a positive, active and engaging programme during the school summer holidays.

The event was run twice a week throughout August by the Runcorn Police beat team at Brookvale Recreation Centre in Halton, the sessions help children stay active, have fun and build positive relationships with local police officers.

To support the programme, Emovis supplied a range of sports equipment, including kits, bibs, balls and cricket sets, helping young people take part in structured activities while strengthening community links.

A vibrant poster for the 'Kops 'n' Kids Multi Sport Event'. The background is a collage of children playing various sports: a boy in a blue tank top and shorts is in a starting crouch on a track; a girl in a red leotard is in a dynamic pose; a boy in a blue t-shirt is throwing a discus; a boy in a red and black jacket is holding a large ball; and a boy in an orange shirt is kicking a soccer ball. In the center is a shield-shaped logo with 'KOPS N KIDS' in white text on an orange background, surrounded by icons of various sports equipment like a tennis racket, basketball, soccer ball, and cricket ball. Below the shield is the text 'KEEP ON PLAYING SPORT'. The main title 'MULTI SPORT EVENT' is in large, colorful, blocky letters. Below that, it says 'For kids age 8 to 16 years'. The location 'Brookvale Recreation Centre, Barnfield Avenue, Runcorn WA7 6EP' is listed on the left, and the date and time 'Date: Every Thursday and Friday throughout August' and 'Time: 9am - 12 noon and 1pm - 3pm' are on the right. A red banner at the bottom says 'No booking required - Just turn up!'. At the very bottom, it states 'Event organised by Runcorn Police in partnership with Central Liverpool Credit Union and Merseyflow.' and includes logos for Cheshire Constabulary, Central Credit Union, and merseyflow.

# Merseyflow fundraisers complete challenging Peak District trek in support of Halton Haven Hospice



On Saturday 19 September, a dedicated team of fundraisers from merseyflow successfully completed a challenging 12-mile trek around Edale and Mam Tor, raising £2,500 for Halton Haven Hospice.

The long-distance route began in the village of Edale and followed part of the Pennine Way, taking in the gritstone slopes of Kinder Scout, Brown Knoll, Rushup Edge and the Great Ridge. The team also tackled the climb to Mam Tor, whose summit is home to one of Derbyshire's largest hillforts.

The funds raised will support Halton Haven Hospice, which provides free specialist care for people in Halton and the surrounding areas who are facing end-of-life or life-limiting conditions, as well as support for their families.

Thanks to the generosity of colleagues, customers and the wider community, the merseyflow team raised a total of £2,500, including a generous contribution of £2,000 from merseyflow.

Helen Williams, Marketing Manager at merseyflow, who was part of the team taking on the challenge, said:

**“We’re incredibly proud of everyone who took part in this demanding hike, the team’s determination, combined with the generosity of our colleagues, customers and the wider community, has helped us raise a fantastic amount of £2,500. We’d like to thank everyone who supported us and donated to this amazing cause.”**

Halton Haven Hospice needs to raise more than £2.6 million each year to cover its operating costs, with only around half of this amount funded by statutory sources. Rising living costs continue to place further pressure on its resources, making donations essential to help the hospice continue providing vital care.

Tina Robinson, Fundraising Manager at Halton Haven Hospice, said:

**“We’re so grateful to the merseyflow team for their incredible effort and generosity. Taking on this challenge in support of the hospice shows true dedication, and the funds they have raised will make a real difference to the patients and families we care for.”**





Helen Williams, Marketing Manager at merseyflow is pictured with Ivor Lewis, Widnes Rugby Union Club Secretary

## Merseyflow renews sponsorship of Widnes Rugby Union Club

Widnes Rugby Union Club, a valued local club at the heart of the community, will benefit from continued sponsorship from merseyflow.

The renewed twelve-month sponsorship of the Wids — Widnes Rugby Union Club — will provide a welcome boost ahead of the 2026/27 season.

The sponsorship deal now in its eighth year provides vital funding that helps to cover the club's day-to-day running costs and also supports the continued delivery of rugby opportunities for players of all levels across the borough.

Helen Williams, Marketing Manager at merseyflow, said:

**“We’re pleased to continue supporting the Wids who play such an important role in the health and wellbeing of the local community. We look forward to**

**the new season and wish them every success for the year ahead.”**

Ivor Lewis, Widnes RUFC Secretary said:

**“We really appreciate merseyflow’s loyal and continued support.**

**The revenue generated through sponsorship helps pay for the running of the club. As a community rugby club, we rely heavily on the generosity of local businesses, and we’re delighted that merseyflow have agreed to support the club for another season”**

# Halton junior sports teams invited to win free kits from merseyflow

Junior sports teams across Halton have the chance to win one of five kit packages worth up to £1,000 each, providing a free sports kit for every member of a winning team.

Five sports kit packages are available to five winning Halton teams for children aged 14 and under through merseyflow's Halton Junior Team Spirit competition, which launched on Tuesday 22 September 2026.

Created by merseyflow, the competition aims to support local clubs that give children aged 14 and under the opportunity to take part in sport and benefit physically, mentally and socially. Clubs from all sports are encouraged to enter, including netball, gymnastics, dance, hockey, football, rugby and more.

To enter, an eligible club should email **teamspirit@merseyflow.co.uk** with an image that captures the team's true 'teamwork spirit' and up to a maximum of 300 words explaining why the team deserves to win. Entries must be received by Tuesday 20 October 2026.

A merseyflow judging panel will select the five entries that demonstrate teamwork most creatively. Each winning team will receive a kit package.

The competition timeline is:

- **Tuesday 22 September** – competition opens and entries can be emailed to **teamspirit@merseyflow.co.uk**
- **Tuesday 20 October** – entry closing date
- **Thursday 29 October** – five winners announced on merseyflow's Facebook page

Neil Conway, Chief Executive of merseyflow, said:

“Supporting our local community in Halton is hugely important to us. We know that many junior sports teams are self-funded and rely on donations to cover running costs and equipment. Through this competition, we want to recognise the fantastic work local clubs do to help children have fun, stay active and build confidence.”

For more information on how to enter, please visit merseyflow's Facebook page. Full terms and conditions will be available on the merseyflow website and Facebook page.

