

APPENDIX 2

EAST OF ENGLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Aims & Activities

- To represent the interests of local authorities in the region
- To formulate sound policies for the development of local government in the region
- To promote the policies of the East of England LGA and provide information/advice on local government issues to the public and partner organisations
- To enable Councillors to exercise their democratic accountability and leadership effectively
- To support innovation and excellence that enables local authorities and their partnerships to meet the needs of their communities and meet future challenges.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Leader of the Council	Assembly of Council Leaders – twice yearly	No

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Representative of ECDC	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative for 2018/19
1	Chief Executive John Hill	Cllr Charles Roberts

Cllr Charles Roberts:

The East of England LGA is a politically-led, cross party organisation which works on behalf of the 52 local councils in the East of England. It provides expert advice and support to enable Authorities to work on topical challenges and issues.

The Association comprises the Leader (or equivalent, such as Mayor) of each Council and meetings are held on a quarterly basis to tackle the strategic issues facing councils across the East of England.

The EELGA organisation also provides expert technical advice available to member councils in relation to Human Resources, procurement and more specific consultancy services. In 2019 in particular, they are providing information through an active network to support Councils' preparations for the EU exit.

EELGA have undertaken a review of their operations in 2018 designed to address the ongoing deficit in their budget which is being funded from reserves. They are developing proposals to further expand their commercial activities ie talent bank, whilst maintaining core services to their members.

Representative for 2019/20

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Aims & Activities

To support, promote and improve local government in England and Wales.

To support Councillors in their role as democratically elected local representatives.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
One Member	3	Attendance - Yes Travelling - No

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Representative of ECDC	No

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative for 2018/19
1	Chief Executive: John Hill	Cllr Joshua Schumann

Cllr Schumann:

Although not directly linked to any specific cooperate objectives the relationship with the LGA could contribute to all of our objectives.

It is important that we have a presence at the LGA as they are continuing to lobby government on issues such as fairer funding. The LGA also offers important networking opportunities, and I can see our presence on the LGA becoming more important in future.

Representative for 2019/20

LGA – DISTRICT COUNCILS' NETWORK

Aims & Activities

- To lobby and negotiate directly with senior members of national political parties on district specific needs and issues – the “localism” agenda;
- To inform and influence national agencies, government departments and other local authority agencies on things that matter, such as resources and allocation;
- To get the Network’s unique message across to the audiences that matter – people, Government, partners, regulators;
- Help each other to remain effective and share learning/good practice.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Leader of the Council	4	No

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Representative of ECDC	No

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative for 2018/19
1	Chief Executive: John Hill	Cllr Charles Roberts

Cllr Charles Roberts:

The District Councils’ Network (DCN) is a cross-party member led network of 200 district councils. It is a Special interest Group of the Local Government Association (LGA) and provides a single voice for district councils within the LGA.

The DCN works to ensure the network is in a position to shape national policy, providing expert evidence and solutions for Government from a district council perspective. It issues regular newsletters, hosts member and multi-stakeholder events, responds to government consultations and undertakes research and produces publications on behalf of the sector.

Recent issues championed by DCN include New Homes Bonus, Local Government Grant Settlement, public sector reform, devolution, and homelessness legislation to name a few. Their work in relation to local government finance is particularly relevant to ECDC given the fair funding review and its impact on the medium term financial strategy.

Representative for 2019/20

PARADISE CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, ELY

Aims & Activities

- The provision of facilities for playing sports;
- The provision of opportunities for recreation, social activities and refreshment, for the benefit of its members and the public;
- The provision and maintenance of a sports and leisure centre at Paradise Ground, Ely; including selection of the centre management.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
One Member	6	No

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Non Voting Observer	Yes, for all staff & members

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative for 2018/19
3	Senior Leisure Services Officer: Victor Le Grand	Cllr Elaine Griffin Singh

Cllr Griffin Singh:

Historically, the Paradise Centre was the main service provider of sports and recreation on behalf of ECDC for Ely, and the immediate villages which did not have their own leisure centres. ECDC representation on the Board to date maintained a link between the Council and its service provider.

As stated in my report last year, it was felt that ECDC's representation on the Board was necessary for the current time to ensure either a working relationship and/or to secure the future of the Paradise Centre when the new swimming pool and Leisure Centre came into existence. Going forward, dependent on the terms of the Paradise Centre Constitution and the opinions of other Board Members, consideration should be given as to whether ECDC representation on this Board in the future is required or valid.

Representative for 2019/20

SOHAM AND DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION (ROSS PEERS SPORTS CENTRE)

Aims & Activities

- To establish, maintain, finance and manage an indoor sports hall;
- To act as a central body representing all sports interests in Soham and the surrounding district;
- To maintain and improve the provision of all sports learning and recreational facilities within Soham and the surrounding district.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Two Members	6	No

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Observer	No

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative(s) for 2018/19
2	Senior Leisure Services Officer: Victor Le Grand	Cllr Joshua Schumann Cllr Mark Goldsack

Cllr Goldsack:

The centre has improved over the last 12 months with some internal investment and attention to key areas. Conversion of a squash court into a further studio continues with hopefully sound proofing and completion during early financial year 2020.

There have been some staff changes but delighted to see the addition of Robin Jones, a highly experienced fitness, and marketing resource. Under the watch of a committed group of committee members and the chairmanship of Paul Day for the foreseeable future, Ross Peers is concentrating on improving footfall and utilisation.

Sharon Hickmott has been supported by ECDC Officers during the last year and the advice and input has had a positive effect.

Cllr Schumann:

The provision of sports and leisure facilities for the local population fits in with our key priority around making East Cambs a 'fantastic place to live' and also accords with 'improving infrastructure'.

The main issue that was raised during the past 12 months were operational concerns and particularly a focus on ensuring HR and Health and Safety elements were being adequately covered. I offered the support from Victor and the officers at ECDC but they had arranged expertise through the chairman of the committee's business connections.

Offering support in both financial terms and expertise is important to ensure we have a district wide leisure offer.

Meetings continue to be moved, cancelled or called at short notice which proves difficult to ensure attendance. Cllr Goldsack has been attending regularly in my absence.

Representative(s) for 2019/20

BURNT FEN INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Two Members	3	By the Council

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative(s) for 2018/19
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr Derrick Beckett Cllr Julia Huffer

Cllr Huffer:

The Internal drainage Boards ensure the continued management of the water supply to the farming industry in our District.

Items for consideration/discussion have included the continued management of water levels and waterways throughout the District which supply the many farms and related industries in our area.

This body continues to do excellent work in our District. It is extremely well run and managed, and continued support is recommended.

Representative(s) for 2019/20

CAWDLE FEN INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Seven Members	3	By the Council

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative(s) for 2018/19
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr Richard Hobbs Cllr Mike Rouse Parish Cllr Ian Lindsay Parish Cllr Alison Arnold Mr J Friend-Smith Mr R Moss-Eccardt Vacancy

Cllr Mike Rouse:

I find the meetings informative and feel it is important that as members we understand the importance of land drainage in our District and see how efficiently it is managed by the IDBs.

Parish Councillor Alison Arnold:

The Internal Drainage Board meetings, with attendance from Council representatives, are important. Having a better understanding of flood risks, water management and maintenance is relevant for existing property, proposed new builds, people, agriculture and wildlife.

If scientific consensus of climate change means more extreme weather of increased flooding and droughts, then it is essential that local elected members are involved with this process.

Mr Jeremy Friend-Smith:

I am very pleased to have rejoined Cawdle Fen IDB, having previously been a Board member while I was a District Councillor.

I attended the IDB presentation on 28th February 2019, which was most helpful in identifying their role in consultation over planning applications. With the proposed expansion of East Anglia's population IDB advice has added importance for councillors to be aware of, and understand.

Mr Rupert Moss-Eccardt:

Water management is essential to support food production, protect property and underpin the local economy. The CPIER report alludes to significant GVA benefit from flood protection

schemes. A recent remodelling exercise for the Great Ouse fens predicts 7-10£bn of damage in the event of a significant flood control failure.

Many planning applications are only successful because, even though they are in Flood Zone 3, the site is protected by flood defences. SUDS only work if there is somewhere for the final outflow to go. IDB's move that water from catchwater drains through to the main river. If the IDB's didn't provide a path for water to be abstracted, the local agricultural economy would fail.

Items considered/discussed have included the adjustment of the rate, and this has an effect on the levy. The expected rainfall for 2019 and levels in aquifers and reservoirs suggest that there may have to be an abstraction ban this year. This will negatively affect local agri-businesses. The Rivers Authorities & Land Drainage Bill is progressing through Parliament. If enacted, it allows the Secretary of State to change the basis for valuation for both agricultural and other land.

The IDB's spend a significant amount of money raised by the District. Appointment of Board Members by 'charging authorities' is required by statute and the number of appointed members is determined by the same Act – The Land Drainage Act 1991.

I am very grateful to have been appointed by the District Council and honoured to have this opportunity to aid with the governance, effectiveness and representation of the Board. I plan to use my experience in Cyber-resilience, fraud prevention and broader engineering knowledge to help the IDB make further progress in the next period, if my appointment continues.

Cllr Ian Lindsay (City of Ely Council Board Member):

I was appointed to the Board in August 2018, and have subsequently attended two meetings: the AGM in November 2018 and the budget meeting in February 2019. At the latter meeting the budget set for 2019/20 was very much the same as last year's, at £54,683. The special levy was set to be the same as last year, but there was a small change to the Assessable Value owing to changes in land ownership following the construction of Ely's southern bypass.

The Board is well run and efficient. New members of the Board are being offered training relevant to their responsibilities, though diary conflicts can be a problem.

Cllr Richard Hobbs:

It is important that we continue to be represented on the Drainage Boards to support this vital service and our financial commitment.

Representative(s) for 2019/20
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HADDENHAM LEVEL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Two Members	3	By the Council

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	To be confirmed

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representatives for 2018/19
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr Steve Cheetham Cllr Stuart Smith

Cllr Steve Cheetham:

ECDC is committed to ensuring that East Cambridgeshire continues to be a district where people want to live, work and visit, and ensuring flood defences are maintained is a critical element of this commitment.

Issues for discussion which had a potential impact on ECDC included non-consented ditch filling in Haddenham and determining restricted access to drains; Ouse Washes Section 10 Middle Level and Level South Barrier bank works. Proposed construction of irrigation reservation reservoirs at Willow Hall Farm, Haddenham.

This is a precepting body with the duty of protecting the Haddenham and Aldreth area from flooding and providing irrigation for agriculture. The meetings give a real insight into issues affecting farming and agriculture.

Cllr Stuart Smith:

Following the Environment Agency's 'Great Ouse Tidal River Baseline Report' it is more important than ever for District Councillors to be appointed to Drainage Boards. In 1947 parts of Haddenham and Aldreth were badly flooded. Measures must be taken to avoid this from happening again.

Biodiversity Action Plan 2018-19 – Haddenham DDC has an extensive network of ditches with high biodiversity value. Their size, form and water quality make them ideal habitats for voles and a range of species. They are well managed with reedy areas in places left to support wildlife throughout the year. An updated Biodiversity Action Plan of the District supplied to the

Commissioners indicates areas of environmental interest and management recommendations where appropriate.

Representatives for 2019/20
Cllr
Cllr

LITTLEPORT AND DOWNHAM INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Six Members	3	By the Council

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representatives for 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith Cllr David Ambrose Smith Cllr Mike Bradley Cllr Paul Cox Cllr Mike Rouse Cllr Jo Webber

Cllr Mike Rouse:

I find the meetings informative and feel it is important that as members we understand the importance of land drainage in our District and see how efficiently it is managed by the IDBs.

Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith:

The Drainage Boards keep residents safe from flooding, enable agriculture to be productive and help to make East Cambs a great place to live and work. They give an understanding of the importance of drainage within our District, and the necessity of keeping drainage infrastructure in good order. Each Drainage Board has an effect on another, and on other partner agencies. At a recent Member Seminar on drainage/water management at East Cambs, the Engineer, Andrew Newton, gave an impressive presentation as a member of a panel of partner agencies.

Continued representation is worthwhile because the District Council relies on the Drainage Boards to control and protect the settlements from flooding. I am happy to represent the District Council on the IDB. It is a consultee in the planning process and their comments are important to decision making by Officers and Members.

Cllr David Ambrose Smith:

An extremely important partner. ECDC planners work closely with the IDB's and value one another's contribution to the planning process. IDB's praiseworthy concerns regarding increasing their charges perhaps constrains them from carrying out more medium to long term planning.

Continued representation is worthwhile because it gives an understanding of the importance of Internal Drainage Boards within our District and the necessity of keeping drainage infrastructure in good order.

I believe that all our local IDB's should be amalgamated into a single board which would bring efficiencies at all levels from governance to the water courses. ECDC councillors/representation on this single board would then give ECDC a better joined up understanding of the whole area, with the councillor becoming the ECDC Service Champion(s) for Internal Drainage.

Cllr Jo Webber:

The Internal Drainage Boards play a vital role in keeping East Cambridgeshire free from flooding, and supporting our agricultural industry by maintaining drainage channels and providing irrigation services throughout the drier months. Additionally the IDB's play an important role in maintaining habitats for wildlife.

The increased risk of flooding is a huge topic of conversation, and there has been considerable discussion and presentations over the last year designed to raise the profile of the issue and highlight the continuing risks to our District as well as sharing the proposals to mitigate the increased risks. As the Local Planning Authority, East Cambs DC plays a key role in the overall plan to address the risks to our area along with the County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority, Anglian Water, the Environment Agency and the Internal Drainage Boards.

I think it is very important that East Cambs continues to be represented on the IDB's, and for Members to be aware of the issues that face our communities, and the funding required to mitigate those risks.

East Cambridgeshire is flat and low-lying and the Ely IDB's do a fantastic job in maintaining the drainage channels, which supports our agricultural industry. The IDB Engineer plays a key role in considering future risk to our area of flooding, and it is vital that we continue to support their work and collaborate fully to ensure that East Cambridgeshire continues to be free from flooding, an area rich in wildlife and a great place to live for our residents.

Representatives for 2019/20
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MIDDLE FEN AND MERE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Five Members	3	By the Council

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representatives for 2018/19
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr Derrick Beckett Cllr Ian Bovingdon Cllr Mark Goldsack Cllr Chris Morris Cllr Carol Sennitt

Cllr Carol Sennitt:

This body does vital work for our District. The Drainage Board controls the water levels, ensuing drought conditions are managed as well as flood levels.

Continued representation is essential to support the hard work of the Drainage Board and feedback any needs of the local farmers.

Cllr Ian Bovingdon:

As part of ECDC's commitment to ensuring that the District continues to be an area where people want to live, businesses want to base themselves and grow, and people want to visit, it is essential that the work of the IDB's are maintained and supported in order to ensure flood defences are correctly planned, managed and robust. This protects local agriculture and enforcement of correct drainage rules/procedures upon new home and commercial developments.

Many issues were discussed which had a potential impact on agriculture, ecology and new developments within the area which affects East Camb's 5 year housing supply and general flood risk planning, management, costs and processes were discussed and agreed. This is a very important IDB for the area, affected by many different issues and I consider their work essential.

Continued representation is worthwhile because this is a very important body protecting the local area from the risk of flooding together with managed irrigation for agriculture. The IDB has a real understanding of the complex issues surrounding development and infrastructure impact on flooding and need to be supported in their management efforts.

Cllr Chris Morris:

Cllr Morris had nothing to report.

Cllr Mark Goldsack:

Cllr Goldsack was unable to attend the last meeting and did not have any specific comments to report.

Representatives for 2019/20
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Cllr

PADNAL & WATERDEN INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
Seven Members	3	By the Council

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representatives for 2018/19
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr David Ambrose Smith Cllr Paul Cox Cllr Lis Every Parish Cllr Clive Webber Parish Cllr Sue Kerridge Parish Cllr Michael Rouse Parish Cllr Richard Hobbs

Cllr Mike Rouse:

I find the meetings informative and feel it is important that as members we understand the importance of land drainage in our District and see how efficiently it is managed by the IDBs.

Cllr David Ambrose Smith:

An extremely important partner. ECDC planners work closely with the IDB's and value one another's contribution to the planning process. IDB's praiseworthy concerns regarding increasing their charges perhaps constrains them from carrying out more medium to long term planning.

Continued representation is worthwhile because it gives an understanding of the importance of Internal Drainage Boards within our District and the necessity of keeping drainage infrastructure in good order.

I believe that all our local IDB's should be amalgamated into a single board which would bring efficiencies at all levels from governance to the water courses. ECDC councillors/representation on this single board would then give ECDC a better joined up understanding of the whole area, with the councillor becoming the ECDC Service Champion(s) for Internal Drainage.

Parish Cllr Clive Webber:

I represent the Littleport Parish Council on the IDB and I think we all need to be aware of the important work being carried out by the IDB's, as they maintain the drainage channels that run through our parishes, and support our farmers.

Topics for consideration/discussion have included keeping drainage channels clean, supplying water for irrigation and increased risk of flooding. It is vital that East Cambs District Council works with all of the agencies that are involved in keeping the District free from flooding. The recent seminar organised by the ECDC Planning department regarding the flood risks to the area, and the plans in place to reduce that risk was extremely well put together and informative. Regular updates to keep this issue at the forefront of everyone's mind would be very beneficial.

I think it is very important that ALL levels of local government continue to be represented on the IDB's, as we need to be aware of the continuing threat of flooding and the costs to reduce the risks.

I have only attended two meetings so far, but it is clear that the Ely Drainage Boards are well organised and efficient, and I look forward to attending further meetings, and learning more about our drainage systems.

Parish Cllr Sue Kerridge:

Cllr Kerridge was only able to attend one meeting. The comments put forward by other representatives encompass what she would have put forward.

Cllr Richard Hobbs:

It is important that we continue to be represented on the Drainage Boards to support this vital service and our financial commitment.

Cllr Lis Every:

The internal drainage board (IDB) is the operating authority which is established in areas of special drainage need in England and Wales, eg the Fens, with permissive powers to undertake work to secure clean water drainage and water level management within drainage districts. It also has the authority to add a levy to the Council Tax. Internal Drainage Boards are a statutory consultee for all planning applications. In this area, which seeks growth, the work of the IDB is a very important organisation which has representatives from local farmers and councillor representatives from ECDC.

As seen above, the work undertaken by the IDB is vital for the area, ensuring that there is no flood activity, that the relevant maintenance is undertaken, the right levels of water for irrigation are maintained and the protection of species, ie eels is undertaken. It is particularly important that there is good representation from members which is currently the case. Extensive work has been undertaken as a result of the Redrow Development at Thistle Corner and arrangements and responsibilities have now been agreed.

Continued representation is absolutely vital, ie as consultee for planning applications and an influence on the ultimate Council Tax Levy.

Representatives for 2019/20
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SWAFFHAM INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
*Four Members	3	By Council

*Four Councillors, plus one nominee jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) makes the joint appointment by reciprocal agreement of June 1990, whereby East Cambridgeshire District Council makes the joint appointment to Waterbeach Level IDB). Appointments are for three years.

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representatives for 2018/19
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr Allen Alderson Cllr David Brown Cllr Lavinia Edwards Cllr Alan Sharp

Cllr Brown was unable to attend any meetings as they clashed with other commitments that he was unable to change.

Cllr Lavinia Edwards:

The work of the IDB's is important to ECDC as the area in the District has a large agricultural element with lots of farms and employment opportunities. They are vital in preventing flooding and continued management of water supplies to the various agricultural needs of the District.

Issues for discussion have included setting the levy for the next financial year, land management and flood management.

IDB's are a consultee for planning applications and have an input in the Council tax levy. Continued representation is worthwhile for both protection from flooding and helping to enable growth in the area.

Cllr Alan Sharp:

Living in a District where a large part of the land is fenland, the management of the waterways are an important part of the protection of residents from the potential of flooding.

Various engineering works undertaken by the Board engineer are brought to each meeting that affect the smooth operation of the waterways within the Board drainage area.

Continued representation is worthwhile to represent residents and understand the issues affecting our waterways that could impact on them.

Representatives for 2019/20
Cllr
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Cllr

WATERBEACH LEVEL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Aims & Activities

To maintain the drainage network.

Representation	Meetings per year	Expenses paid by Organisation
*One Member	3	By the Council

*One Councillor, jointly with South Cambridgeshire District Council (East Cambridgeshire makes the appointment by reciprocal agreement of June 1990, whereby South Cambridgeshire District Council makes the joint appointment to Swaffham IDB). IDB appointments are for three years.

Status of Member	Insurance Provision
Board Member	Yes

Category of Officer Support	Contact Officer	Representative for 2018/19
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Cllr David Chaplin

Cllr Chaplin:

The Drainage Board controls levels, extraction and discharge through the levels and into the Cam. The Cam is the border of East Cambs District Council and discharges into the Great Ouse just east of Stretham. The management of Wicken Fen as an important managed wetland and the flow of the Great Ouse through Ely are important matters for the District and therefore management of levels and discharge into the Cam are of interest to the District Council.

During the particularly dry summer of 2018, the issue of restraining extraction (by landowners for irrigation purposes) was of great interest to East Cambs as extraction impacts flow in the Cam and Great Ouse rivers. Voluntary restraint was requested and monitored by the IDB and the level of non-compliance monitored with a view to imposing mandatory restrictions if necessary.

Clearly, the Waterbeach Level itself is not within East Cambridgeshire and therefore it might be afforded lower priority than the Boards operating within the District. However, it is immediately upstream and does have an impact on flow levels throughout East Cambridgeshire.

It has been a great pleasure to serve on this Board during the year and insights provided have been informative and most interesting.

Representative for 2019/20
Cllr