

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 2017/18
1	Chief Executive John Hill	Councillor Charles Roberts

Report from representative for 2017/18:

Representative for 2018/19
Councillor Charles Roberts

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 2017/18
1	Chief Executive: John Hill	Councillor Joshua Schumann

Report from representative for 2017/18:

Cllr Schumann:

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

Last year's conference focused largely on infrastructure improvements and housing. The LGA Executive highlighted that the Government was undertaking work on a White Paper entitled 'Fixing the Broken Housing market' and were actively taking part in discussions regarding its contents. Lord Porter, Chairman of the LGA, explained that members should not spend time on discussing changing local council governance unless there was a consensus as this would not be resolved through Government.

Continued representation is worthwhile.

Representative for 2018/19
Councillor Joshua Schumann

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 2017/18
1	Chief Executive: John Hill	Councillor Charles Roberts

Report from Representative for 2017/18:

Representative for 2018/19
Councillor Charles Roberts

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 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Councillor Derrick Beckett Councillor Julia Huffer

Report from representatives for 2017/18:

Cllr Huffer:

The work of this body fits in with ECDC's Corporate Plan by ensuring the continued management of the water supply to the farming industry in the District, supplying the many farms and related industries in our area.

The Internal Drainage Board continues to do excellent work in our District. It is extremely well run and managed and continued support is recommended.

Representative(s) for 2018/19
Councillor Derrick Beckett
Councillor Julia Huffer

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 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Councillor Coralie Green Councillor Elaine Griffin Singh Councillor Neil Hitchin Councillor Andy Pearson Councillor Charles Roberts Councillor Mike Rouse Vacancy

Reports from representatives for 2017/18:

Cllr Rouse:

The Internal Drainage Boards do vital work in our area in preventing flooding and enabling food production through water management.

In view of all the concerns, supported by the Full Council, about flood defence work by the Environment Agency and the need for more government investment in this essential infrastructure, I believe that attendance at IDB meetings is important. The meetings also give an opportunity to listen to the views of our farmers and have a better understanding of our most important local industry.

Cllr Griffin-Singh:

Whilst I consider that ECDC representation on the various Drainage Boards is necessary, due to the financial contributions from the Council and the important role they play in our area, I have reason to question the current structure.

As I understand it, Boards seem to have representation of about 4 or 5 ECDC Members on each Board. In my experience, I feel most of us have minimal understanding and little to offer at the Drainage Board meetings, whilst this representation often outweighs other attendees at some Boards. Consequently, I feel this level of representation is unnecessary and also burdensome on Members' time. A combination of the above factors, I consider, has led to Members not attending Drainage Board meetings regularly and as a consequence, I feel this reflects badly on the Council.

I would advocate that a smaller group of Councillors are chosen to represent ECDC on Drainage Boards, who can become dedicated and knowledgeable, and therefore make a more valuable contribution to the Board membership whilst streamlining Council resources.

CLr Hitchin was unable to attend meetings due to a clash with other commitments.

CLr Green was unable to any of the meetings due to prior commitments.

Representative(s) for 2018/19
Councillor Richard Hobbs
Councillor Mike Rouse
Vacancy
Vacancy
Vacancy
Vacancy
Vacancy

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 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Councillor Steve Cheetham Councillor Stuart Smith

Report from representatives for 2017/18:

Cllr Cheetham:

ECDC are 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. Topics for discussion which had a potential impact on ECDC included non-consented ditch filling in Haddenham. Risk planning, management and processes were discussed and agreed. We also discussed a Cambridgeshire ACRE proposal for a new scheme 'New Life in the Old West', to enhance biodiversity. This is a precepting body with the duty of protecting the Haddenham & Aldreth area from flooding and providing irrigation for agriculture; the meetings give a real insight into issues affecting agriculture.

Cllr 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 happening again. At the Board meeting on 9th November 2017, the Clerk gave an update on The Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management partnership. Issues discussed at these meetings include maintenance of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) and the provision of Community Flood Kits. The Supplementary Planning Document on flood risk has been endorsed by Cambridgeshire County Council.

Representatives for 2018/19
Councillor Steve Cheetham
Councillor Stuart Smith

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	Councillor Christine Ambrose Smith Councillor David Ambrose Smith Councillor Mike Bradley Councillor Paul Cox Councillor Mike Rouse Councillor Jo Webber

Report from representatives for 2017/18:

Cllr Rouse:

The Internal Drainage Boards do vital work in our area in preventing flooding and enabling food production through water management.

In view of all the concerns, supported by the Full Council, about flood defence work by the Environment Agency and the need for more government investment in this essential infrastructure, I believe that attendance at IDB meetings is important. The meetings also give an opportunity to listen to the views of our farmers and have a better understanding of our most important local industry.

Cllr Cox:

I have found the meetings frequently enlightening, and knowing many of the farmers personally, I feel quite at home. The history of the draining of the Fens has long been an interest, as I'm one of the few Members who witnessed the floods in 1947. A presentation by the Environment Agency at a recent meeting, on the Ouse Washes (as a reservoir) demonstrated a need for substantial funding to maintain the banks. There is no plan to strengthen the South Level Barrier Bank; this should give Littleport and Ely cause for concern.

It's surprising that the Boards do not communicate with Members by email and maybe they should be encouraged in this matter.

Submitted with my report were the following papers: Ouse Washes Barrier Banks Improvements; Ouse Washes Middle Level Barrier Bank Repair; Cut-Off Channel Synopsis and The John Martin Sluice at Welmore Lake.

Cllr Webber:

I represent East Cambs DC on the Littleport & Downham Internal Drainage Board. The drainage boards play a vital role in the management and maintenance of our drainage and flood protection systems, and I feel that it is important that locally elected members are involved in this process.

The meetings are quarterly and there are often interesting and informative presentations by the Environment Agency. Although I feel my contribution to the meetings is small, I find them very useful and am happy to continue to take part.

Cllr David Ambrose Smith:

Invaluable, with the planned growth for the area, land drainage is an important consideration never to be overlooked.

Topics for consideration/discussion have included planned maintenance of the drainage systems, planning applications, and charges to the Rate Payers.

Continued representation is worthwhile because ECDC should always be aware of the important work the IDB's do on behalf of the area. Possibly fewer Councillors covering all the IDB's, carrying out a similar role as ECDC's current Service Champions.

Cllr Bradley:

Each Internal Drainage Board is a local public authority established in areas of special drainage need in England and Wales. They have permissive powers to manage water levels within their respective drainage districts. IDB's undertake works to reduce flood risk to people and property and manage water levels to meet local needs

The District is bordered to the east by the River Great Ouse and to the west by the tidal New Bedford (Hundred Foot) River. The southern boundary of the District follows the highland contour at an approximate level of 104.0 metres O.D.

The District comprises mainly high grade agricultural land, much of which lies 2 metres below mean sea level, (6.0 metres below highest tide levels) and has relied totally upon pumped drainage since the area was first enclosed by Act of Parliament in 1756.

The following parishes (or parts of) are included within the Board's District:- Welney, Southery, Hilgay, Littleport, Little Downham, Coveney, Witcham, Witchford, Wilburton, Mepal, Stretham and Little Thetford.

With regard to specific items considered/discussed, the key issue is deciding the annual increase in the Levy. A 2p increase was agreed, the ECDC element being £184,314 for 2018/19.

Continued representation is worthwhile. Ensure that the drains in my area are cleared and working together with the Environmental Agency to monitor the Hundred Foot and Mepal outflow. Monitor how ECDC contribution is spent and vote on the rate increase.

IDB's need to be taken very seriously, given the challenges of upgrading the infrastructure.

Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith:

By controlling the drainage in this area of East Cambs, the Board protects the homes, workplaces, land and infrastructure from flooding.

Items for consideration/discussion that are of relevance to ECDC have included maintaining the drainage infrastructure in good repair, monitoring and managing water levels; collecting drainage rates from landowners, farmers and other relevant users; consulting on planning and development, which have an impact on drainage matters.

Continued representation is worthwhile because the District Council relies on the Drainage Boards to keep residents safe.

The Board acts in a timely and responsible manner, with a knowledgeable and experienced engineer. I would prefer to receive notification of meetings, agenda items and supporting paperwork by email with hard copies available if required. I would also prefer to be able to contact the office by email, to request information and give apologies when required.

Representatives for 2018/19
Councillor Christine Ambrose Smith
Councillor David Ambrose Smith
Councillor Mike Bradley
Councillor Paul Cox
Councillor Mike Rouse
Councillor Jo Webber

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 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Councillor Derrick Beckett Councillor Ian Bovingdon Councillor James Palmer Councillor Hamish Ross Councillor Dan Schumann

Report from representatives for 2017/18:

Cllr Ross:

The plan to bring together other IDB's under one roof directly emulates the ECDC Corporate Plan. Topics for discussion have included planning applications received, the Engineer's Report (pumping hours & rainfall, pumping plant and stations, drains, abstraction & irrigation, retained water levels, water transfer licences) and Group plant/labour rates.

Continued representation on this Outside Body is worthwhile because ECDC is an area that has agriculture as a primary employer and contributor. The work of the IDB is fundamental to our local agriculture and therefore representation of ECDC on this body is essential.

Cllr 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.

Many issues were discussed which had a potential impact on developments within the area which affects the East Cambs 5 Year Housing Supply and general flood risk planning. Management, costs and processes were discussed and agreed. The Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) and support of the Supplementary Planning Document on flood risk has been endorsed by Cambridgeshire County Council.

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 Dan Schumann:

As ECDC is an area that has agriculture as a primary employer and contributor this is an important organisation. I have found the Board to be well run and it is certainly a vital cog in the daily lives of the people of our District.

Topics for discussion this year have again included efficient finance, management of land drainage and flood drainage, planning applications received, the Engineer's report, and Group plant/labour rates.

The work of the IDB provides essential flood protection for the District and is fundamental to our local agriculture, therefore representation of ECDC on this Body remains essential. However, rationalisation could be needed.

Cllr Morris:

The work of the Board fits in well with the Council's Corporate Plan because it enables one to find out what is happening within the ECDC area.

Topics considered/discussed have included the schedule of all the planning applications received and dealt with, and the consents that had been granted to people's properties and sites.

Continued representation is worthwhile because one gains an understanding of the drainage problems and an overview of sites within the ECDC area.

Representatives for 2018/19
Councillor Derrick Beckett
Councillor Ian Bovingdon
Councillor Mark Goldsack
Councillor Chris Morris
Councillor Carol Sennitt

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 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Councillor David Ambrose Smith Councillor Paul Cox Councillor Lis Every Councillor Carol Sennitt Councillor Lisa Stubbs Vacancy Vacancy

Report from representatives for 2017/18:

Cllr Cox:

I have found the meetings frequently enlightening, and knowing many of the farmers personally, I feel quite at home. The history of the draining of the Fens has long been an interest, as I'm one of the few Members who witnessed the floods in 1947.

It's surprising that the Boards do not communicate with Members by email and maybe they should be encouraged in this matter.

Submitted with my report were the following papers: Ouse Washes Barrier Banks Improvements; Ouse Washes Middle Level Barrier Bank Repair; Cut-Off Channel Synopsis and The John Martin Sluice at Welmore Lake.

Cllr David Ambrose Smith:

Invaluable, with the planned growth for the area, land drainage is an important consideration never to be overlooked.

Topics for consideration/discussion have included planned maintenance of the drainage systems, planning applications, and charges to the Rate Payers.

Continued representation is worthwhile because ECDC should always be aware of the import work the IDB's do on behalf of the area. Possibly fewer Councillors covering all the IDB's, carrying out a similar role as ECDC's current Service Champions.

Cllr 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.

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 a statutory consultee for all planning applications.

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

Cllr Sennitt:

It is important to liaise with the Water Board to keep residents up to date. The Environment Agency do a lot of hard work to protect us from flooding, which is a very high risk in the fenland ECDC.

Cllr Stubbs was unable to attend meetings due to other commitments

Representatives for 2018/19
Councillor David Ambrose Smith
Councillor Paul Cox
Councillor Lavinia Edwards
Councillor Lis Every
Vacancy
Vacancy
Vacancy

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 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Councillor Allen Alderson Councillor Michael Allan Councillor Lavinia Edwards Councillor Mathew Shuter

Report from representatives for 2017/18:

Cllr Edwards:

ECDC has a large agricultural area and Internal Drainage Boards fit in well with the Corporate Objectives. They provide essential flood protection and are of vital importance to the agriculture industry.

The Drainage Board's AGM is relevant to ECDC due to the budget being set for the next financial year. Continued representation is worthwhile from the viewpoint of both flood protection and planning growth in our area.

Cllr Shuter:

Cllr Shuter was unable to attend any meetings as they always clashed with County Council business.

Representatives for 2018/19
Councillor Allen Alderson Councillor David Brown Councillor Lavinia Edwards Councillor Alan Sharp

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 2017/18
3	Finance Manager: Ian Smith	Councillor David Chaplin

Report from representative for 2017/18:

Cllr Chaplin:

The Board seeks to manage the drainage of excess water from the Waterbeach Level within the context of the wider fen water course system, much of which runs through the East Cambridgeshire District. The maintenance and functioning of the watercourses and pumping facilities is essential to the control of flooding and productivity of agricultural industries within the District.

Continued representation on Waterbeach Internal Drainage Board is warranted because its water courses discharge into those that flow through East Cambridgeshire and therefore an appreciable uncontrolled flow from the Waterbeach Level would increase the risk of downstream flooding in East Cambridgeshire.

Representative for 2018/19
Councillor David Chaplin

¹ The Charity Commission provide guidance under the following link:
http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/Charity_requirements_guidance/ccpubs3.aspx#pub