

Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board



Annual Report & Statement of Accounts 2024/25

For Year Ended 31st March 2025

**Witham House
Meadow Lane
North Hykeham
Lincoln
LN6 9GJ**

Tel: (01522) 697123

**Website: www.witham3idb.gov.uk
Email: enquiries@witham3idb.gov.uk
Email: lane.froggatt@witham3idb.gov.uk**

Contents

Annual Report 2024/25	3
Statement of Accounts 2024/25	6
Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board – Members 2024/25	7
The Annual Governance Statement.....	8
The Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts	9
Statement of Accounting Policies	10
1. General.....	10
2. Non Current Assets	10
3. Depreciation	10
4. Debtors and creditors	11
5. Stock	11
6. Government Grants and Contributions.....	11
7. Leases.....	11
8. Reserves	11
9. Provisions.....	12
10. Taxation	12
11. Post Balance Sheet Events	12
12. Pensions	12
13. Exceptional Items.....	12
14. Discontinued Operations	12
Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st March 2025.....	13
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025	14
Notes to the Accounts	15
Note 1: Special Levies.....	15
Note 2: Government Grants & Contributions.....	15
Note 3: Pension Contributions.....	15
Note 5: Public Works Loans Board.....	15
Note 6: Audit Fees & Expenses.....	16
Note 7: Joint Administration	16
Note 8: Related Party Transactions	17
Note 9: Post Balance Sheet Event	17
Note 10: Non Current Assets.....	17
Note 11: Debtors and Prepayments	18
Note 12: Creditors and Receipts in Advance.....	18
Note 13: FRS102 Pensions.....	18
Note 14: Funds & Reserves	21
Appendices.....	22
Appendix 1 – Board Area.....	22
Appendix 2 – Structure Chart.....	23
Appendix 3 - Upper Witham IDB: Interrelationship between Rainfall, Pumped Hours and Electricity Costs	24

Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board

Statement of Accounts and Annual Report 2024/25

Annual Report 2024/25

Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board [IDB] is a Public Body, an independent Flood Risk Management and Drainage Authority created under land drainage statutes. The IDB has a duty to work in partnership with other Flood Risk Management Authorities in Lincolnshire including IDBs, the Environment Agency, District Councils and Lincolnshire County Council [in LCC's role as Lincolnshire's Lead Local Flood Authority since April 2012]. The Board is responsible for flood risk, land drainage and water level management, works and improvement schemes and operational maintenance of watercourses and pumping stations within its defined drainage district of 21,094 hectares, other than on main rivers where the Environment Agency has this role and towards which the Board pays an annual precept [£166,826 in 2024/25]. A map of the Board's drainage district and extended rainfall catchment (the Board undertakes works for LCC, as the lead local Flood Authority, in the extended rainfall catchment) is included at Appendix 1 to this Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

The Board comprises 35 members including a Chairman, Mr Fred H Myers and two Vice Chairmen, Mr. John Scarborough [part year to November 2024] followed by Mrs Joanne Wilkinson [from November 2024] and Cllr. Pat Vaughan. Of the 35 members, 17 are elected by and represent the occupiers of land in the area and 18 are nominated by one of five District Councils, namely North Kesteven District Council, South Kesteven District Council, West Lindsey District Council, City of Lincoln Council and Newark & Sherwood District Council. All Members have a corporate responsibility to represent the interests of the Board. The Board's role is to determine strategy, direction and policy for the organisation and to ensure the IDB operates within an appropriate Governance framework. The Board is supported by officers, led by a Chief Executive, who advise the Board and implement the Board's agreed strategies, plans and policies and operationally manage and provide the Board's services. The Board's current organisational structure chart is provided at Appendix 2. The Board's support services, as this chart demonstrates, are provided to a group of four IDBs, the other three being Witham First District, Witham Third District IDBs and from 01st April 2017, North East Lindsey IDB joined the partnership under the terms of a revised Joint Services Agreement. The 4 Boards remain separate legal statutory bodies but work collectively as the "Witham and Humber Drainage Boards".

The Board secures income from two main sources. Firstly, through a direct levy on owners and occupiers of land within the drainage district, with rates being payable on 01st April each year. This produced £358,599 (with costs) of income for 2024/25 [£309,444 in 2023/24]. Secondly, through special levies paid by each of the five District Councils in two instalments paid on 01st May and 01st November each year. This totalled £1,285,931 for 2024/25. The Special Levy for City of Lincoln Council in 2024/25 was £664,343, for North Kesteven District Council it was £334,785, for South Kesteven District Council it was £199,261, for West Lindsey District Council it was £71,764 and for Newark and Sherwood District Council it was £15,778.

The Special Levy for the forthcoming financial year is set at a Board meeting before 15th February annually. The Board is asked to agree the land valuation as at 31st December in the previous year, the proposed budget for the forthcoming year [which outlines any planned developments and the plant, vehicle and machinery programme] and any consequent percentage uplift to the penny rate.

The Board agreed on 29th January 2024 a rate uplift for 2024/25 of 16.00% to set a balanced budget for 2024/25, with total planned income and expenditure of £2,043,614.

Electricity: In 2012/13, 2019/20 and again in 2023/24 we experienced some of the wettest years on record. The Board's pumps in its 15 Pumping Stations operated longer hours than usual, to protect property, agricultural land and critical infrastructure. Where these lead to internal flooding to property, flood events are subject to a multi-agency Section 19 investigation and report led by Lincolnshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority.

There were high rainfall events during Summer and Autumn 2019/Winter 2020 which resulted in some flooding across Lincolnshire. There were parts of the Witham & Humber Boards' systems that had to deal with water that had come from EA main rivers, whether due to bank breaches, overtopping and/or excessive seepage. This meant that some of the 4 Boards' pumps were pumping far more than would have been required without this additional water, which in turn meant excessive additional electricity costs were incurred.

During January and February 2020 there was further heavy rainfall which increased electricity usage to higher than normal, due to catchments remaining saturated from the previous year. Although a much drier year was experienced in 2022/23, significant rainfall was experienced in 2023/24. In October 2023, Storm Babet brought significant rainfall across Lincolnshire with significant flooding resulting from EA main river breaches, overtopping and excessive seepage. High rainfall events continued with another significant event in January 2024, Storm Henk which again brought widespread flooding. Due to these rainfall events, the Board incurred electricity costs of £247,455 during 2023/24 compared to an increased budget of £192,000. This was also due to the substantial increase in electricity unit costs and standing charges from October 2022 and again in October 2023. This has been a significant Budgeting issue for the Board.

In 2024/25 electricity unit rates reduced from 01st October 2024 and overall, it was a drier year, except for January 2025, when Lincolnshire's LRF declared a Major Incident 06.01.25-09.01.25 due to flooding. The Board incurred electricity costs of £125,109 during 2024/25. At Appendix 3 rainfall data, pumped hours and electricity costs incurred by the Board are set out, showing the inter relationship between them.

The Board is part of the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership. The Board has continued to monitor and record locally important species on all Drains and roll out its programme of owl boxes installation and monitoring in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Partnership. In November 2021, the Board approved a new Nature Strategy which supersedes the previous Biodiversity Action Plan.

Since April 2012 the Board, in common with other IDBs in Lincolnshire, has provided a consents and enforcements service for and on behalf of Lincolnshire County Council [LCC], the Lead Local Flood Authority in Lincolnshire, beyond the Board's drainage district in its extended rainfall catchment. This has been provided under a Memorandum of Understanding with LCC for 2024/25.

Examples of the Board's work in 2024/25 include:

- Operation of the Board's 15 Pumping Stations to protect properties, agricultural land and critical infrastructure throughout the drainage district from South Witham to Gainsborough (including Grantham, Lincoln and villages), covering 21,095 hectares.
- Substantial completion of the Board's Summer 2024 maintenance programme and weed cutting programme on 61 watercourses.
- The 4 Witham & Humber Boards have been awarded £1.205m Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) and £17.424m from the £91m IDB Fund monies from DEFRA for recovery, resilience & improvement and innovation works following Storms Babet and Henk in winter 2023/24. This has been utilised to repair and provide additional resilience at the Boards' pumping stations, reinstate major bank slips and provide additional mobile pumping capacity across the 4 Boards' drainage districts.
- Pumping Station refurbishment works undertaken at Aubourn, Sandsyke, Burton, Hykeham and Pyewipe. Further works to be completed in 2025/26 at Saxilby, Torksey Syke and Coulson Road Pumping Stations. Bank slip repairs, mostly undertaken by contractors, across the Board's drainage district.
- Completion of major £713k refurbishment of Pyewipe Pumping Station funded through FDGiA grant monies. Implementation of a telemetry system at the Board's Pumping Stations, funded by Grant in Aid monies at an estimated cost of £119,224.
- Consulting partner on the Western Growth Corridor development and the North Hykeham Relief Road, to ensure that there is a continuity of watercourse maintenance throughout both these schemes and implementation of the drainage strategy for the sites.
- Continuing with the Board's conservation initiatives including the erection of owl boxes, the leaving of reed margins for water voles, birds and insects and continued membership of the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership. Annual Report and staff/member training.
- Provided a consents and enforcements service to Lincolnshire County Council (as the Lead Local Flood Authority) in the Board's extended rainfall catchment under a Memorandum of Understanding to 31.03.29.
- Provided a service to Lincoln Water Transfer Service Ltd, to support efficient use of water abstraction.
- Public Sector Co-operation Agreement (PSCA) works undertaken in 2024 on behalf of the Environment Agency at Boultham Catchwater Drain, Cardinal Dyke, Foston Beck, Shire Dyke, Skellingthorpe Beck, Skinnand Dyke, the River Witham and River Till plus other rechargeable works.

All figures exclude VAT.

The end of year outturn position for the Board, as of 31st March 2025 was a modest surplus position of £41,755 after a transfer to reserves of £250k (compared with the year-end surplus position of £43,922 in 2023/24), which has been allocated as a contribution to the Board's General Reserve.

Statement of Accounts 2024/25

The statement of responsibilities:

The Board is required to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to ensure that one of its Officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs.

The Board is required to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of its resources and to safeguard its assets.

The Board's financial Accountable Officer is the Director of Finance & Governance.

To support its Governance arrangements, the JSC on behalf of the Board approved on 09th December 2024 its Risk Management Policy. The JSC also approved a revised set of Financial Regulations and Statement of Internal Control. The Corporate Risk Register was reviewed and updated again on 27th January 2025.

The Statement of Accounting Policies:

This statement details the legislation and source of accounting principles on which the financial statements are prepared.

The Income and Expenditure Account:

This statement summarises the resources that have been generated and consumed in providing services and managing the IDB during the last year.

The Balance Sheet:

This statement is fundamental to the understanding of the Board's financial position at the year end. It shows the balances and reserves at the Board's disposal and the fixed and net current assets employed in its operation, together with summarised information on the fixed assets held. The statement also includes assets and liabilities of the Board.

Notes to the accounts:

The notes relating to the statements above are detailed after the core statements, including cost centre budgets and variance analysis where appropriate, for the period 2024/25 with comparisons to 2023/24.

Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board – Members 2024/25

The Board comprises 35 Members, 17 elected by the occupiers of land in the drainage district and 18 who are appointed by one of 5 District Councils. Elections of occupiers of land are every 3 years, with an election process and a new term of office from 01.11.24 to 31.10.27. Council nominated members are for the period of the civic year. Members 01.04.24 to 31.03.25 were:

Elected Member's Name	Electoral District	Finance & General Purposes Committee Member [12]*
Frederick H Myers (Chairman)	River Till & Burton	Yes
John R Scarborough (Vice Chairman until Nov 2024)	North Scarle, Broadholme & Skellingthorpe	Yes
Joanne Wilkinson (Vice Chairman from Nov 2024)	North Scarle, Broadholme & Skellingthorpe	Yes
Vacancy (from Sept 2022)	Borough of Grantham	N/a
Noel Tobin (to Nov 2024) Vacancy (from Nov 2024)	City of Lincoln	No
Vacancy (until Nov 21) Michael Porter (from Nov 2024).	Long Bennington, Barkston & Normanton	No
Peter Knight	Long Bennington, Barkston & Normanton	No
Raymond J Phillips	Pike Drain & Lincoln	Yes
John R Hollis	River Brant	No
Vacancy (to Nov 2024) Andrew Ward (from Nov 2024)	River Brant	No
Vacancy (to Nov 2024) William Booth (from Nov 2024)	River Brant	No
Andrew Buckley	River Till & Burton	No
Giles Rawlings	River Till & Burton	No
Will Timmins	River Till & Burton	No
Vacancy (From January 2024)	South Witham	n/a
Tom Arnold	Stapleford & Claypole	No
Elliot Jackson	Stapleford & Claypole	No
Nominated Member's Name	Nominating Authority	Finance & General Purposes Committee Member [12]*
Cllr Patrick Vaughan (Vice Chairman)	City of Lincoln	Yes
Cllr Debbie Armiger	City of Lincoln	No
Cllr Bob Bushell	City of Lincoln	No
Cllr Liz Bushell	City of Lincoln	No
Cllr Gary Hewson	City of Lincoln	No
Cllr Rebecca Longbottom	City of Lincoln	No
Cllr Ric Metcalfe (to May 2024) Cllr Anita Pritchard (from May 2024)	City of Lincoln	No
Cllr Donald Nannestad	City of Lincoln	Yes
Cllr Calum Watt (to May 2024) Cllr Joshua Wells (from May 2024)	City of Lincoln	No
Cllr Rowan Couzens (until May 2024) Cllr Paul Taylor (from May 2024)	Newark & Sherwood District Council	No
Cllr Mary Green	North Kesteven District Council	No
Cllr Lance Pennell	North Kesteven District Council	Yes
Cllr Andrew Hagues	North Kesteven District Council	No
Cllr Leigh Sanders	North Kesteven District Council	No
Cllr Patsy Ellis	South Kesteven District Council	No
Cllr Rhys Baker	South Kesteven District Council	No
Cllr Ian Stokes	South Kesteven District Council	Yes
Cllr Peter Morris	West Lindsey District Council	No

* 4 vacancies on Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Annual Governance Statement

We acknowledge as the Members of Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the statement of accounts, and confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Board's statement of accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025, that:

1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.
2. We have maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption, and reviewed its effectiveness.
3. We have taken all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice which could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this Board to conduct its business or manage its finances.
4. We have provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
5. We have carried out an assessment of the risks facing the Board and taken appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.

This annual governance statement is approved by the Board and recorded as a Board minute, dated Monday, 19th May 2025.

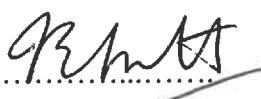
Signed on behalf of Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board

Signed by: Mr Frederick H Myers,

Chairman.....

Date.....19 May 2025

Signed by: Mrs Jane E Froggatt,

Chief Executive

Date.....19.05.25.

The Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Board is required:

- to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this the Board that officer is the Director of Finance & Governance.
- to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of its resources and safeguard its assets.

The Director of Finance & Governance's Responsibilities:

The Director of Finance & Governance is responsible for the preparation of the Board's Statement of Accounts which is required to present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2025.

In preparing this statement of accounts, the Director of Finance & Governance has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently.
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent.
- compiled the accounts in accordance with the UK GAAP Financial Reporting Standard 102 issued by the Financial Reporting Council and has regard to the proper practices published by the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance (JPAG), a further update to the Practitioners' Guide having been issued by JPAG in March 2024.
- applied the accounting concept of a "going concern" by assuming that the IDB will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

The Director of Finance & Governance has:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Certificate of the Director of Finance & Governance

This Statement of Accounts 2024/25 is that upon which the Auditor should enter their certificate and opinion. It provides a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at 31st March 2025 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

Certificate of the Chairman of the Board

I confirm that these accounts have been approved by Upper Witham Internal Drainage Board at a meeting held on Monday, 19th May 2025.

Signed by: Mr Frederick H Myers,

Chairman.....

Date.....

19 May 2025

Statement of Accounting Policies

1. General

This statement of accounts has been prepared in accordance with the UK GAAP Financial Reporting Standard 102 issued by the Financial Reporting Council and has regard to the proper practices published by the Joint Panel on Accountability and Governance (JPAG), a further update to the Practitioners' Guide having been issued by JPAG in March 2024.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the following accounting concepts:

- Accruals
- Relevance
- Consistency
- reliability
- Comparability
- Understandability
- Materiality
- Going Concern.

2. Non-Current Assets

Non-Current Assets are recognised as expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of fixed assets with a value in excess of £5,000 and with estimated useful lives in excess of one year are capitalised on an accruals basis in the accounts valued on the following basis:

- 2.1 land, operational and non-operational buildings are included in the Balance Sheet at historical cost. Pumping Stations are included in the Balance Sheet at insurance valuation (reinstatement cost).
- 2.2 vehicles, plant and equipment are included at depreciated historic cost. A depreciation charge is made against the appropriate income and expenditure code and balances created in the renewal funds based on the life and estimated residual value.
- 2.3 disposals are written off at cost less depreciation. Any surplus/deficit arising is charged to the Income and Expenditure Account and transferred to/from reserves.

3. Depreciation

Land and buildings are not depreciated on the grounds that an on-going repairs and maintenance policy results in an extension of useful life and negates the necessity for material depreciation.

Some assets purchased via external grant funding (eg mobile pumps via the IDB Fund) will not form part of the Board's Plant Replacement programme and as such will not be depreciated and provide resources for their replacement. They have been written down fully in year of purchase. Should they need to be replaced in the future then resources will need to be identified at that time.

A depreciation charge is made against the running costs of plant and equipment and vehicles on a straight-line basis over their useful economic life, if the value of the plant does not negate the necessity for material depreciation.

The following assumptions are made with regards to life cycle of assets:

Plant

Excavators	6 to 12 years
Tractors	9 to 11 years
Motor Vehicles	5 to 12 years
General equipment	between 5 to 15 years

Pumping Stations

Automated Weed Screen Cleaners	30 Years
--------------------------------	----------

Computer Equipment

All computer equipment	4 Years
------------------------	---------

4. Debtors and creditors

The revenue accounts of the Board are maintained on an accruals basis in accordance with FRS18, that is, sums due to or from the Board during the year are included whether or not the cash has actually been received or paid in the year. If the invoice spans two financial years and the apportionment is not material, then this will be charged to the financial year with the larger portion.

There is no provision for bad debts.

In January 2019 the Board drew down a Public Works Loan Board of £1,200,000 over a period of 30 years for the specific purpose of building a new depot building with auxiliary office space. The loan is on an Annuity basis. The first repayment was in May 2020 with 6 monthly payments thereafter.

5. Stock

Stocks are valued in the Balance Sheet on the average price basis with no allowance made for obsolescent and slow-moving items. This is a departure from the requirements of FRS102 which require stocks to be shown at actual cost or net realisable value, if lower. The effect of the different treatment is not material. Full stock takes have been undertaken.

6. Government Grants and Contributions

Government Grants and contributions when received are recognised in the income and expenditure account on an accruals basis. Government Grants used for the acquisition of fixed assets have been netted of the asset purchase cost.

7. Leases

The Board has no finance leases. It has entered Operating Leases during 2024/25 that are charged to the Income and Expenditure Account for the period to which it relates for 7 fleet vans and 2 4x4's.

8. Reserves

A reserves policy was agreed at the Board's meeting on 27th January 2014 and has been updated periodically since:

- 8.1 Revenue Reserve. The Board's policy is to maintain this balance at approximately 15% to 20% of the annual revenue expenditure.
- 8.2 Plant Renewal Funds. The Board's policy is to build up sufficient funds over the useful economic life of major assets to enable replacement. This is through a depreciation charge as set out in the fixed asset register.
- 8.3 Pumping Station/Capital Programme/AWCs to support future replacement of components at pumping stations or as contributions to Capital Grant applications.
- 8.4 One-Off Project reserve is used for any slippage in the financial year for one-off projects that have not yet been completed. The works will then be completed and funded in the following financial year.
- 8.5 Specific reserves for Emergency Events, Self Insurance, Commuted Sums received, and Depot.

Further reserves can be (and have been) agreed by the Board at any Board meeting.

9. Provisions

The Board sets aside provisions where there is a definite liability, but the amount and timing of settlement is not known. Details are given as notes to the accounting statements if a provision has been required.

10. Taxation

Drainage Boards are exempt from Corporation and Capital Gains Tax. Income Tax is paid by employees in the normal way. Value Added Tax is paid/recovered in the usual manner and is only included in the accounts to the extent that it is irrecoverable.

11. Post Balance Sheet Events

Any material post balance sheet events, which did not exist at the date of the balance sheet, have been disclosed as a separate note to the accounts if an event has occurred.

12. Pensions

Pension costs are accounted for on a defined benefits basis. The full Disclosure of Net Pensions Asset/Liability and associated information is contained in the notes to the accounts on an FRS102 basis.

The Annual Report of Lincolnshire County Council's Superannuation Fund is available from Lincolnshire County Council, Superannuation Section, County Offices, Lincoln, LN1 1YE.

13. Exceptional Items


Any material, exceptional or prior year adjustments will be accounted for once they are known and shown in the accounts and associated notes.

14. Discontinued Operations

The Board had no material operations that it acquired, or which were discontinued in the year.

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st March 2025

	Note	31st March 2025 £	31st March 2024 £
Income			
Drainage Rates & Costs		358,599	309,444
Special Levies	1	1,285,931	1,102,402
Highland Water Contributions	2	216,573	298,812
Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGIA)	2	135,000	63,925
Other Grants	2	3,247,079	0
Consents & Enforcement		17,896	14,947
Interest		75,048	20,997
Rechargeable Works		224,934	199,845
Commutation Payments/Developer Contributions		0	24,510
Sale of Surplus Assets (net)		0	1,300
Rent, Interest, Wayleaves & Sundry Income		21,683	22,718
Total Income		5,582,743	2,058,900
Expenditure			
Drains		1,140,249	683,411
Pumping Stations		1,329,175	342,651
Depot		176,163	93,017
Engineering		122,568	128,019
Conservation		2,573	273
One Off Schemes		132,064	365,891
Environment Agency Precept		166,826	166,826
Consents & Enforcement		17,896	14,947
Board Administration	6	24,325	30,580
Joint Administration	7	227,530	205,943
Rechargeable Works		212,377	174,672
Wages & Plant Holding Account		(31,099)	28,204
Contribution to/(from) Reserves		1,986,341	(177,456)
FRS17 Pension Adjustment (net)	3	34,000	(42,000)
Total Expenditure		5,540,988	2,014,978
(Surplus)/ Deficit		(41,755)	(43,922)

Signed: 

Designation: Chairman

Name: Mr F.H. Myers.

Date: 19th May 2025

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025

	Note	31st March 2025		31st March 2024	
		£	£	£	£
Non Current Assets					
Land & Buildings		3,969,885		3,989,160	
Vehicles and Plant		398,318		480,822	
Other		0		0	
Total Non Current Assets	10		4,368,203		4,469,982
Current Assets					
Stock		14,192		13,292	
Debtors & Prepayments	11	598,990		172,385	
Short Term Investments		2,516,704		837,604	
Bank & Cash		1,360,119		125,970	
Total Current Assets			4,490,005		1,149,251
Total Assets			8,858,208		5,619,233
Long Term Assets					
LGPS Net Pension Surplus	13		777,000		441,000
Current Liabilities					
Creditors	12	(2,138,393)		(191,964)	
Short Term Loans		(31,068)		(30,252)	
Total Current Liabilities			(2,169,461)		(222,216)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			7,465,747		5,838,017
Long Term Liabilities					
Long Term loans		(998,932)		(1,029,999)	
LGPS Net Pension Liability	13	0		0	
			(998,932)		(1,029,999)
Total Assets less Liabilities			6,466,815		4,808,018
Represented by:	14				
Capital Discharged	10		4,368,203		4,469,982
Funds, Balances & Reserves			2,351,612		957,288
Pensions Reserve	13		777,000		441,000
Capital Adjustment Account			(1,030,000)		(1,060,252)
Capital Receipts Unapplied			0		0
Total			6,466,815		4,808,018

Signed: 

Designation: Chairman

Name: Mr F. H. Myers

Date: 19th May 2025

Notes to the Accounts

Note 1: Special Levies

Special levies were paid by the following District Councils:

Special Levies	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
City of Lincoln Council	664,343	567,029
Newark & Sherwood D.C.	15,778	13,602
North Kesteven District Council	334,785	288,369
South Kesteven District Council	199,261	171,745
West Lindsey District Council	71,764	61,657
	1,285,931	1,102,402

Note 2: Government Grants & Contributions

The following grants and contributions were received from the Environment Agency:

Government Grants	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Flood Defence Grant in Aid	135,000	63,925
Other Grants	3,247,079	0
Highland Water	216,573	298,812
	3,598,652	362,737

Note 3: Pension Contributions

In 2024/25 the Board paid an employer's contribution rate of 24.1% plus a lump sum of £11k (24.1% + £11k in 2023/24) of each employee's gross pay into Lincolnshire County Council's Superannuation Fund. This amounted to £121,395 in 2024/25 (£126,120 in 2023/24). Further pension disclosures are shown in the FRS102 Pension Note below.

Note 4: Officers' Remuneration

Staff employed directly by the Board:

Remuneration of Employees	2024/25	2023/24
<i>Remuneration band</i>		
£70,000 - £79,999	0	0
£60,000 - £69,999	0	0
£50,000 - £59,999	0	1

The Joint Services Agreement of 01st April 2017 currently allocates costs between the IDBs in proportions of 30% to Upper Witham IDB, 20% to North East Lindsey IDB, 20% to Witham First DIBD and 30% to Witham Third DIBD.

Staff employed across all 4 Boards, including those employed by this Board, and recharged via JSC proportions:

Remuneration of Employees	2024/25	2023/24
<i>Remuneration band</i>		
£100,000 - £109,999	1	0
£90,000 - £99,999	0	1
£80,000 - £89,999	3	3
£70,000 - £79,999	0	0
£60,000 - £69,999	1	0
£50,000 - £59,999	2	2

Note 5: Public Works Loans Board

The Board took out a loan of £1.2m from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) in order to undertake a redevelopment of its depot site to provide a new depot and ancillary offices. The Annuity loan was drawn down on 18th January 2019 at a fixed interest rate of 2.68% and is repayable in 6 monthly instalments over 30 years. The final repayment is on 15th November 2048. The loan is serviced 2/3rds by UWIDB for the depot site and 1/3rd by the Joint Services Agreement (JSA) for the office element of the building, which is recharged on the agreed JSA percentage allocations (see Note 7).

Note 6: Audit Fees & Expenses

The fees paid to the Board's external auditors (PKF Littlejohn LLP) for 2024/25 is £3,780 (£2,520 in 2023/24). The increase is due to additional turnover (grant income).

Note 7: Joint Services

The Board is party to a Joint Services Agreement of 01st April 2017 between Upper Witham IDB, North East Lindsey IDB, Witham First DIBD and Witham Third DIBD for the provision of certain functions. Recharges are made for the Chief Executive and all relevant support including Finance and Administration Services, GIS & Environment Officer, Engineering Services and Director of Operations on the following proportions: 30% to Upper Witham IDB, 20% to North East Lindsey IDB, 20% to Witham First DIBD and 30% to Witham Third DIBD.

Joint Services	Total Charge for 2024/25				
	UW 30.0%	NEL 20.0%	W1 20.0%	W3 30.0%	TOTAL 100.0%
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Joint Administration</u>					
Witham House (UW)	18,270	12,180	12,180	18,272	60,902
Joint Admin (UW)	17,727	11,818	11,818	17,726	59,089
Joint Admin (W3)	194,434	129,623	129,623	194,432	648,112
Total Joint Admin	230,431	153,621	153,621	230,430	768,103
<u>Engineering & Operational Services</u>					
Engineering & Operational Services (W1)	37,543	25,029	25,029	37,542	125,143
Engineering & Operational Services (W3)	123,806	82,538	82,538	123,805	412,687
Engineering & Operational Services (UW)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Engineering & Operational	161,349	107,567	107,567	161,347	537,830
Total Inter Recharges between Boards	391,780	261,188	261,188	391,777	1,305,933

Note 8: Related Party Transactions

Board Members are either elected by and represent the occupiers and ratepayers of land in the Board's area (and are ratepayers) or are nominated by one of the 5 District Councils who pay Special Levies (City of Lincoln Council, North Kesteven District Council, South Kesteven District Council, West Lindsey District Council and Newark & Sherwood District Council). Except for normal transactions with the Board (e.g., payment of Drainage Rates), no other related party transactions have been identified.

Note 9: Post Balance Sheet Event

There are no post balance sheet events that are material to the accounts and require disclosure.

Note 10: Non-Current Assets

Non Current Assets	Land & Buildings	Depot	Plant & Vehicles	Office Equip	Pumping Stations	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£	£
Closing Balance 31/03/24	159,000	1,576,084	1,415,592	0	2,337,845	5,488,521
Additions			813,701			813,701
Reclassification						0
Disposals						0
Closing Balance 31/03/25	159,000	1,576,084	2,229,293	0	2,337,845	6,302,222
Depreciation						
Closing Balance 31/03/24	0	0	934,770	0	83,769	1,018,539
Depreciation Charged	0	12,000	896,204		7,276	915,480
Reclassification			0		0	0
Disposals Written Out	0	0	0		0	0
Closing Balance 31/03/25	0	12,000	1,830,974	0	91,045	1,934,019
Net Book Value 31/03/24	159,000	1,576,084	480,822	0	2,254,076	4,469,982
Net Book Value 31/03/25	159,000	1,564,084	398,319	0	2,246,800	4,368,203

The above Capital has been financed as follows:

Capital Discharged	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Capital Receipts Applied	2,090,403	2,090,403
Renewals Fund	2,382,749	1,569,048
Revaluation Reserve	629,070	629,070
Loans Applied	1,200,000	1,200,000
less Depreciation	(1,934,019)	(1,018,539)
	4,368,203	4,469,982

Note 11: Debtors and Prepayments

Debtors & Prepayments	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Drainage Ratepayers	23,155	12,359
Sundry Debtors & Prepayments	173,898	129,248
HMRC	401,937	30,778
	598,990	172,385

Note 12: Creditors and Receipts in Advance

Creditors & Receipts in Advance	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Sundry Creditors	(2,129,553)	(186,431)
HMRC	(8,840)	(5,533)
Payroll Deductions	0	0
	(2,138,393)	(191,964)

Note 13: FRS102 Pensions

The following disclosures are based upon the 'March 2025 FRS102 Report' prepared by Barnett Waddingham LLP, the fund Actuaries for the Lincolnshire County Council Pension Fund (previous Actuaries were Hymans Robertson LLP).

The impact on the Balance Sheet is:

Balance Sheet	31/03/25 £000's	31/03/24 £000's
Present value of the defined benefit obligation	(3,718)	(4,002)
Fair value of Fund assets (bid value)	4,495	4,444
Net (Under)/Overfunding in Funded Plans	777	442
Present Value of Unfunded Liabilities	0	1
Unrecognised Past Service Cost		
Net Asset/(Liability)	777	443
Amount in the Balance Sheet		
Liabilities		
Assets	777	443
Net Asset/(Liability)	777	443

The Fair Value of the Employer Assets can be analysed as follows:

Fair Value of Employer Assets	31/03/25		31/03/24	
	£000's	%	£000's	%
Equities	2,188	49%	2,196	49%
Bonds	637	14%	612	14%
Property	308	7%	309	7%
Cash	126	3%	122	3%
Infrastructure	197	4%	180	4%
Absolute return fund	1,039	23%	1,025	23%
Cumulative Actuarial Gains and Losses	4,495	100%	4,444	100%

The impact on the Income and Expenditure Account is:

Recognition in the income and expenditure account	31/03/25 £000's	31/03/24 £000's
Current Service Cost	84	165
Net interest on the defined liability (asset)	(24)	(12)
Administration expenses	4	3
Total	64	156

The Defined Benefit Obligation consists of:

Reconciliation of Defined Benefit Obligation	31/03/25 £000's	31/03/24 £000's
Opening Defined Benefit Obligation	4,003	3,918
Current Service Cost	84	71
Interest Cost	191	184
Change in financial assumptions	(432)	0
Change in demographic assumptions	0	0
Experience loss/(gain) on defined benefit obligation	(1)	0
Liabilities assumed / (extinguished) on settlements	0	0
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers in	(156)	(289)
Past service costs, including curtailments	0	94
Contributions by Scheme participants and other employers	29	26
Unfunded pension payments	0	(1)
Closing Defined Benefit Obligation	3,718	4,003

The Fair Value of Employee Assets consists of:

Reconciliation of Fair Value of Employee Assets	31/03/25 £000's	31/03/24 £000's
Opening Fair Value of Employer Assets	4,444	4,153
Interest on assets	215	196
Return on assets less interest	(154)	236
Other actuarial gains/(losses)	0	0
Administration expenses	(4)	(3)
Contributions by employer including unfunded	121	126
Contributions by Scheme participants and other employers	29	26
Estimated benefits paid plus unfunded net of transfers in	(156)	(290)
Settlement prices received / (paid)	0	0
Closing Fair value of Fund assets	4,495	4,444

The following assumptions have been used by the Actuary in making their valuation as at 31st March 2025:

Assumptions	31/03/25	31/03/24
Financial Assumptions		
Discount Rate	5.75%	4.85%
Pension Increase Rate	2.95%	2.90%
RPI Inflation	3.30%	3.30%
Salary Increase Rate	3.95%	3.30%
Mortality (future life expectancy at age 65)		
Current Pensioners (Male)	19.9 years	19.9 years
Current Pensioners (Female)	23.1 years	23.0 years
Future Pensioners (Male)	21.3 years	21.2 years
Future Pensioners (Female)	24.5 years	24.5 years

The following table sets out the likely impacts if certain assumptions are changed:

Sensitivity Analysis	Approx increase to Employer Liability %	Approx Monetary Amount £000's
Change in assumptions at 31 March 2025		
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	1.18%	44
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0.11%	4
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	1.13%	42
Adjustment to life Expectancy Assumptions +1 Year	4.52%	168

Projected pension costs. The estimated Employer's contribution for the period to 31st March 2025 is approximately £126,000.

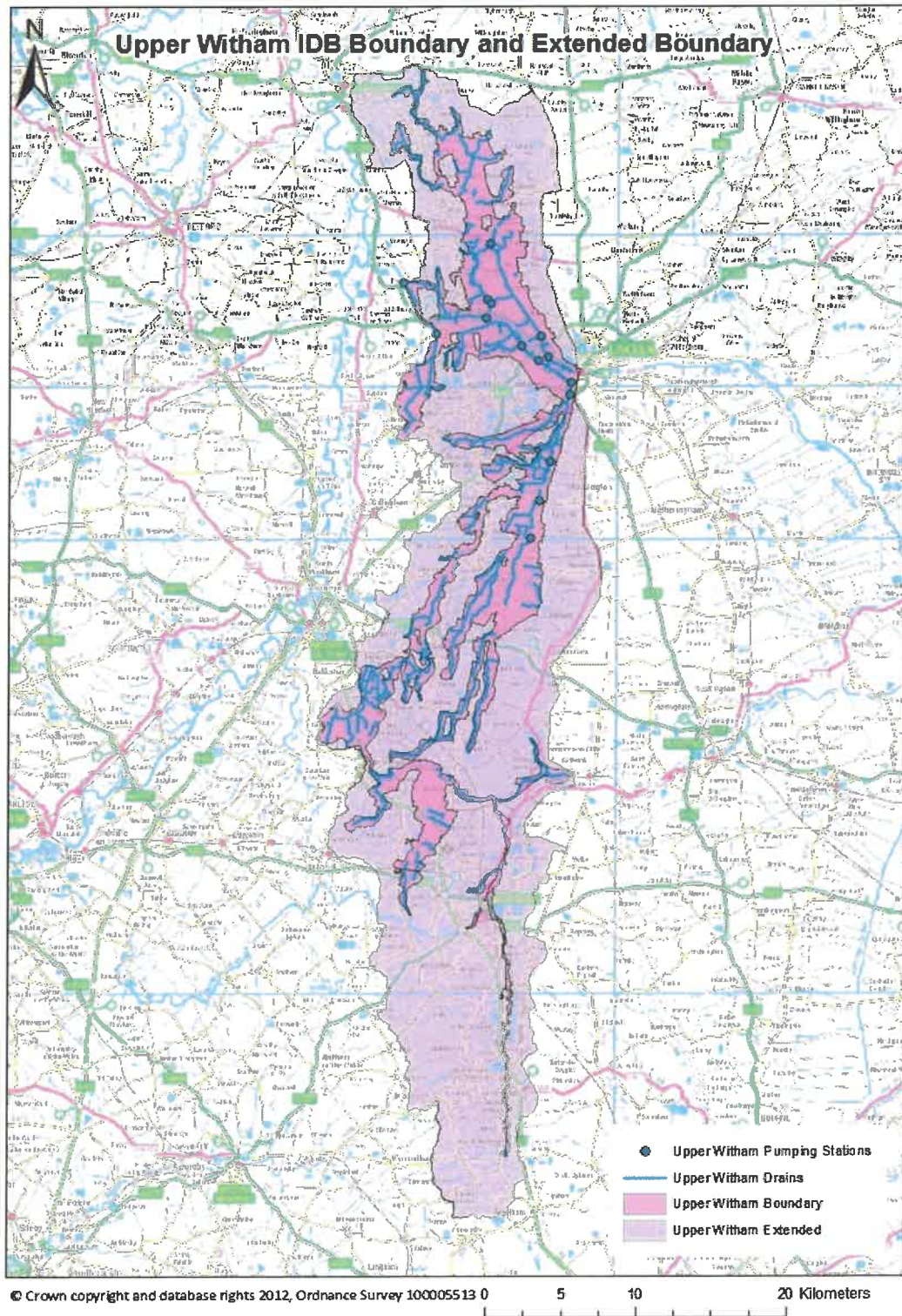
Note 14: Funds & Reserves

UWIDB Schedule of Funds & Reserves as at 31st March 2025

Movement on Reserves	Capital Discharged	Pensions Reserve	Capital Adjust Account	Revenue Reserve	Plant & Machinery Reserve	Emergency Events	Self Insurance	One Off Projects Reserve	Pumping Station Reserve	Commutated Sums	Depot Reserve	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£	£
Balance as at 31 March 2024	(4,469,983)	(441,000)	1,060,252	(282,480)	(379,219)	(25,000)		(104,986)	(104,102)	(49,500)	(12,000)	(4,808,018)
Depreciation	915,481				(896,205)				(7,276)			12,000
Capital Purchases	(813,701)				813,701							0
Capital Sales	0				0							0
Pension Interest Cost (Net)		(336,000)										(336,000)
Contributions In				(120,974)	(208,950)	(30,000)	(50,000)	(918,533)	(55,000)		(12,000)	(1,395,457)
Contributions Out			(30,252)					132,667				102,415
Transfers					0							0
(Surplus)/Deficit on I&E				(41,755)								(41,755)
Balance as at 31 March 2024	(4,368,203)	(777,000)	1,030,000	(445,209)	(670,673)	(55,000)	(50,000)	(890,852)	(166,378)	(49,500)	(24,000)	(6,466,815)

Appendices

Appendix 1

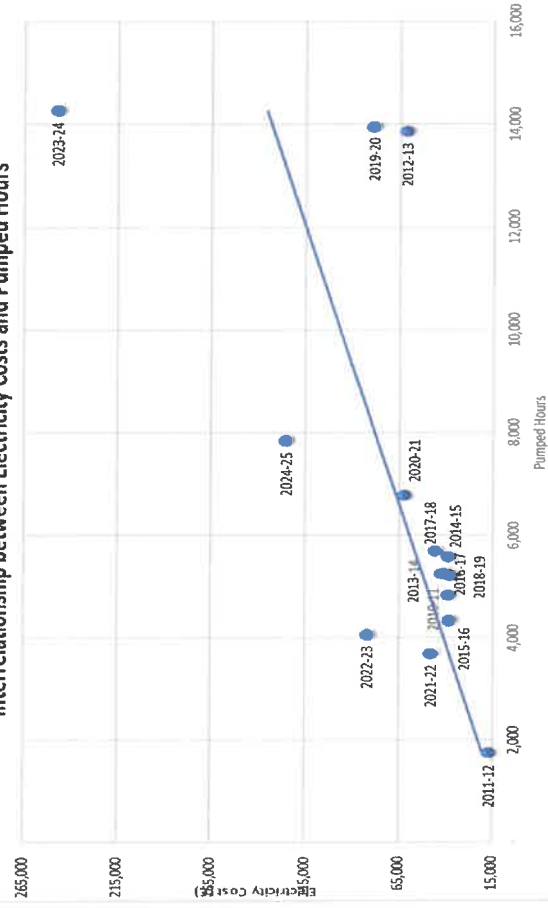




Appendix 3 - Upper Witham IDB: Interrelationship between Rainfall, Pumped Hours and Electricity Costs

Pumping Station	2020-21			2021-22			2022-23			2023-24			2024-25		
	Rainfall (mm)	Pumped Hours	Electricity Costs (£)	Rainfall (mm)	Pumped Hours	Electricity Costs (£)	Rainfall (mm)	Pumped Hours	Electricity Costs (£)	Rainfall (mm)	Pumped Hours	Electricity Costs (£)	Rainfall (mm)	Pumped Hours	Electricity Costs (£)
Aubourn		141	Paid by EA		165	Paid by EA		258	Paid by EA		1,509	Paid by EA		719	
Boultham		557	£ 3,924.88		221	£ 2,522.12		430	£ 4,178.14		1,185	£ 15,127.59		866	£ 10,244.72
Broxholme		91	£ 811.78		11	£ 604.13		19	£ 929.89		88	£ 582.72		96	£ 777.50
Burton PS		707	£ 12,276.13		971	£ 12,322.22	451.00	683	£16,461.22	738.50	1,700	£ 58,265.33	489.50	950	£ 24,581.73
Coulson Road	492.00		£ 2,185.43			£ 1,940.76		125	£ 2,895.50		63	£ 4,292.98		142	£ 5,751.15
Decoy		517	£ 1,780.30		360	£ 1,406.00		360	£ 2,336.26		971	£ 7,570.47		540	£ 3,799.48
Fen Lane		547	£ 1,777.81		379	£ 1,548.41		406	£ 2,213.75		1,023	£ 8,282.28		646	£ 4,595.02
Hykeham	493.50	341	£ 3,166.91		181	£ 2,069.08	453.00	167	£ 3,933.07	728.50	680	£ 15,121.16	485.00	311	£ 6,187.99
Ingleby		759	£ 5,298.61		282	£ 3,992.91		168	£ 6,155.73		1,017	£ 6,508.95		482	£ 1,076.47
Oxpasture		723	£ 9,644.31		289	£ 7,627.13		461	£13,488.20		1,566	£ 39,230.51		781	£ 21,138.89
Plewipie		620	£ 13,210.09		205	£ 8,449.12		436	£19,634.88		1,563	£ 59,190.98		669	£ 28,803.35
Sand Syke		554	Paid by EA		105	Paid by EA		205	EA site		818			481	
Saxilby		273	£ 2,288.66		42	£ 1,037.87		-	£ 1,079.60		414	£ 6,664.73		212	£ 2,576.43
Thorpe		245	£ 1,392.15		179	£ 1,191.71		99	£ 2,044.79		570	£ 3,647.69		241	£ 2,690.64
Torksey	425.00	536	£ 4,802.02	354.50	233	£ 3,392.35	385.00	253	£ 6,546.58	670.44	1,100	£ 22,969.29	396.40	708	£ 14,440.87
Average	470.17	6,763	£ 62,560.08	395.00	3,696	£ 48,103.81	429.67	4,070	£81,897.61	712.48	14,267	£ 247,454.68	456.97	7,844	£ 125,109.24

Interrelationship between Electricity Costs and Pumped Hours



Interrelationship between Rainfall and Pumped Hours

