



Scheme of Delegation

WMA Associated Boards

Adopted by:

Bluntisham Internal Drainage Board
Haddenham Level Drainage Commissioners
Hundred of Wisbech Internal Drainage Board
Over & Willingham Internal Drainage Board
Swavesey Internal Drainage Board
Waldersey Internal Drainage Board

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Version 1

The Board has a schedule of reserved matters which clearly sets out those decisions that only the Board can take. All other matters which, by definition, the Board considers suitable for delegation or may otherwise need to be dealt with between Board meetings are hereby delegated to the Committees as set out in this Scheme of Delegation, in accordance with Rules made by the Board within their Standing Orders and approved by the Secretary of State.

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1. Introduction

The Board has approved a schedule of reserved matters which clearly sets out those decisions that only the Board can take. All other matters which, by definition, the Board considers suitable for delegation or may otherwise need to be dealt with between Board meetings are hereby delegated to the Committees as set out in this Scheme of Delegation, in accordance with Rules made by the Board within their Standing Orders and approved by the Secretary of State (“the Rules”).

Each of the Committees shall fulfil its role as specified in their terms of reference. The Committees shall also exercise their delegated powers in accordance with the Rules, the Consortium Agreement and the Board’s Financial Regulations, Orders, Policies and Procedures.

1.1. Water Management Alliance

The Water Management Alliance (WMA) is a consortium of Internal Drainage Boards made pursuant to section 11 of the LDA 1991 (arrangements between drainage authorities).

The Board has entered into an agreement the WMA whereby it is agreed that the WMA will for the time being provide management and other professional technical and administrative services to the Board pursuant to Section 11(5) of the Land Drainage Act 1991 and Sections 13(4) and (9) of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

Further to the aforementioned agreement, this scheme of delegation refers to Plenary Committees which include officers within the WMA.

2. Committees

2.1. Plenary Committees

The Board has constituted three Plenary Committees.

Plenary Committees have the ability to take decisions on certain matters on behalf of the Board. These matters are set out in this Scheme of Delegation.

Plenary Committees may be comprised of Board Members of officers working on behalf of the Board. As the Board has sought services from the Water Management Alliance consortium of Internal Drainage Boards

2.2. Advisory Committees

The Board has constituted no Advisory Committees.

Advisory Committees have no authority to take decisions on behalf of the Board and can only make recommendations on specific matters that are reserved to the Board.

3. Scheme of Delegation

3.1. Chairman's Committee (Plenary Committee)

The Board hereby delegates the following plenary powers and authority to its Chairman's Committee, subject always to the exceptions reserved to the Board in the schedule of reserved matters:

- a) To take decisions on any specific matter that the Board may reasonably determine from time to time by resolution.
- b) To take urgent decisions that could have a significant impact on the Board in the event of an emergency or period of very high rainfall or flood risk.
- c) To hear and determine all appeals lodged by Board Employees where the Chief Executive is precluded from doing so in law.
- d) To take decisions which enable the Board's Chairman to fulfil their role, as set out in the Division of Responsibilities document (Chairman and Chief Executive)

3.2. WMA Chief Executive's Management Committee (Plenary Committee)

The Board hereby delegates the following plenary powers and authority to its Chief Executive's Management Committee:

- a) To take all other decisions that have not been expressly reserved to the Board in the schedule of reserved matters, or otherwise delegated to the Board's other Plenary Committee.
- b) To take decisions on any specific matter that the Board may reasonably determine from time to time by resolution.

3.3. WMA Chief Executive's Planning Committee (Plenary Committee)

The Board hereby delegates the following plenary powers and authority to its Chief Executive's Planning Committee

- a) The authority to consider and determine applications for Land Drainage Consent (any prior written consent required as per the Land Drainage Act 1991 including the Board's Byelaws).
- b) The authority to approve plans of specified work received in accordance with a Development Consent Order .

4. Implementing Policy and Decisions

The WMA's Chief Executive shall be fully empowered to implement policy and all decisions that are taken by the Board and its Plenary Committees.

The WMA's employees shall assist the Chief Executive in implementing Board policy and the decisions that are taken by the Board and its Plenary Committees, the nature and extent of which is set out in their Job Descriptions.

The WMA's Chief Executive shall be fully empowered to administer the Financial Regulations and Scheme of Budget Delegation, which is embedded therein.

For the avoidance of doubt the WMA's Chief Executive shall be fully empowered to manage the Board's employees and those of the Water Management Alliance, in accordance with the Employer's HR Policies and procedures. The reporting lines of accountability are shown in the WMA and Board's Organisation Charts.