Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

We acknowledge as the members of:

ENTER NAME OF AUTHORITY

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026, that:

	Agreed Yes	Agreed No*	'Yes' means that this authority:
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		*prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.*
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		*made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.*
3. We have assured ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		*has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.*
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		*during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.*
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		*considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.*
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		*arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.*
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		*responded to matters brought to its attention by 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.	✓		*disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.*
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A — *has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.*
10. We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.	✓		*has made suitable arrangements for its IT and data management and has complied with proper practices in doing so.*

***Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.**

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

01/06/2026

and recorded as minute reference:

6 (a)

Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chair SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Clerk SIGNATURE REQUIRED

ENTER PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/26 for

EAST HARLING IDB

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2025 £	31 March 2026 £	*Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures **must** agree to underlying financial records.*
1. Balances brought forward	357276	310881	*Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value **must** agree to Box 7 of previous year.*
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	37399	38308	*Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.*
3. (+) Total other receipts	49879	52771	*Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.*
4. (-) Staff costs	20479	22056	*Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.*
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	NONE	NONE	*Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).*
6. (-) All other payments	113193	101078	*Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash-book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).*
7. (=) Balances carried forward	310881	278825	*Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. **must** equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).*
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	310881	278825	*The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – **To agree with bank reconciliation.***
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	3050	3050	*The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.*
10. Total borrowings	NONE	NONE	*The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).*

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	
11 Do the figures in the accounting statements above exclude any trust transactions?			*For guidance refer to the Practitioners' Guide sections 2.31 to 2.33.*

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2026 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date 01/06/2026

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

01/06/2026

as recorded in minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE 6 (b)

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Section 3 – External Auditor's Report and Certificate 2025/26

In respect of **East Harling Internal Drainage Board – DB0026**

1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2026; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

2 External auditor's limited assurance opinion 2025/26

On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

None

3 External auditor certificate 2025/26

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2026.

External Auditor Name

PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP

External Auditor Signature SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date 18/08/2026

East Harling Internal Drainage Board
BY EMAIL

DDI:
+44 (0)20 7516 2200
Email:
sba@pkf-l.com
Date:
19 August 2026
Our Ref:
DB0026
SAAA Ref:
SB02853

East Harling Internal Drainage Board
Completion of the limited assurance review for the year ended 31 March 2026

Dear Mr Wright

We have completed our review of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for East Harling Internal Drainage Board for the year ended 31 March 2026. Please find our external auditor report and certificate (Section 3 of the AGAR Form 3) included for your attention as an attachment to the email containing this letter along with a copy of Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR, on which our report is based.

The external auditor report and certificate details any matters arising from the review. The smaller authority must publish these documents immediately and at the next meeting consider the final external auditor report and decide what, if any, action is required.

Action you are required to take at the conclusion of the review

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234) set out what you must do at the conclusion of the review. In summary, you are required to:

- Prepare a "Notice of conclusion of audit" which details the rights of inspection, in line with the statutory requirements. We attach a pro forma notice you may use for this purpose (a Word version is available on request).
- Publish the "Notice" along with the certified AGAR (Sections 1, 2 & 3) before 30 September 2026 , which must include publication on the smaller authority's website. (Please note that when the statute and regulations were amended in 2014 and 2015, they did not include a requirement for the length of time for which that the "Notice" must be published. The previous statute required 14 days; but it is now up to the authority to make this decision).
- Keep copies of the AGAR available for purchase by any person on payment of a reasonable sum.
- Ensure that Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the published AGAR remain available for public access for a period of not less than 5 years from the date of publication.

PKF Littlejohn LLP, Chartered Accountants. A list of members' names is available at the address below. PKF Littlejohn LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales No. OC342572. Registered office at 30 Churchill Place London E14 5RE. PKF Littlejohn LLP is a member of PKF Global, the network of member firms of PKF International Limited, each of which is a separate and independent legal entity and does not accept any responsibility or liability for the actions or inactions of any individual member or correspondent firm(s).

PKF Littlejohn LLP
30 Churchill Place
London
E14 5RE
T: +44 (0)20 7516 2200
www.pkf-l.com

Fee

We enclose our fee note, on page 4 of this attachment, for the limited assurance review, which is in accordance with the fee scales set by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd which can be found at https://www.saaa.co.uk/audit-fees/. This fee is statutory, must be paid and is due immediately on receipt of invoice, please arrange for this to be paid **at the earliest opportunity.**

Additional charges are itemised on the fee note, where applicable. These arise where either:

- we have had to issue chaser letters and/or exercise our statutory powers due to a failure to provide an AGAR by the submission deadline; or
- it was necessary for us to undertake additional work.

Please return the remittance advice with your payment, which should be sent to: **PKF Littlejohn LLP, Ref: Credit control (SBA), 30 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5RE.** Please include the reference DB0026 or East Harling Internal Drainage Board as a reference when paying by BACS.

Timetable for 2026/27

Next year we plan to set a submission deadline for the return of the completed AGAR Form 3 and associated documents (or Certificate of Exemption) in the usual way and this is expected to be Thursday 1 July 2027. It is anticipated that the instructions will be sent out during March 2027, subject to arrangements for the 2026/27 AGARs and Certificates of Exemption being finalised by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Limited (SAAA). Our instructions will cover any changes about which smaller authorities need to be aware.

- The smaller authority must inform the electorate of a single period of 30 working days during which public rights may be exercised. The period must be **exactly** 30 working days, please do not set public rights dates that cover a longer period. This information **must be published at least the day before** the inspection period commences;
- The inspection period **must** include the first 10 working days of July 2027, i.e. 1 to 14 July inclusive. In practice this means that public rights may be exercised:
    - at the earliest, between Thursday 3 June and Wednesday 14 July 2027; and
    - at the latest, between Thursday 1 July and Wednesday 11 August 2027.

As in previous years, in order to assist you in this process we plan to include a pro forma template notice with a suggested inspection period on our website. On submitting your AGAR and associated documentation, as was the case for this year, we will need you to either confirm that the suggested dates have been adopted or inform us of the alternative dates selected.

Feedback on 2025/26

We would welcome feedback on your experiences with PKF Littlejohn LLP during the review for the year ended 31 March 2026. Such feedback is important to us to help us drive improvements in client service. If you wish to provide feedback, our satisfaction survey template can be used, which is available on our website on this page: https://www.pkf-l.com/satisfaction-survey-for-the-year-ended-31-march-2026/

Yours sincerely

PKF Littlejohn LLP

PKF Littlejohn LLP

East Harling Internal Drainage Board

Notice of conclusion of audit

Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026

Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Section 16 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

	Notes
1. The audit of accounts for **East Harling Internal Drainage Board** for the year ended 31 March 2026 has been completed and the accounts have been published.	This notice and Sections 1, 2 & 3 of the AGAR must be published by 30 September. **This must include publication on the smaller authority's website.** The smaller authority must decide how long to publish the Notice for; the AGAR and external auditor report must be publicly available for 5 years.
2. The Annual Governance & Accountability Return including the auditor's certificate and opinion is available for inspection and copying by any local government elector of the area of **East Harling Internal Drainage Board** on application to:	
(a) _____	(a) Insert the name, position and address of the person to whom local government electors should apply to inspect the AGAR
(b) _____	(b) Insert the hours during which inspection rights may be exercised
3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector of the area on payment of £____ (c) for each copy of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return.	(c) Insert a reasonable sum for copying costs
Announcement made by: (d) _____	(d) Insert the name and position of person placing the notice
Date of announcement: (e) _____	(e) Insert the date of placing of the notice

East Harling Internal Drainage Board

Our ref	DB0026
SAAA Ref	SB02853
Invoice No.	SB20260770
VAT No.	GB 440 4982 50
Email:	sba@pkf-l.com
Date:	19 August 2026

INVOICE

Professional services rendered in connection with the following:

Limited assurance review of Annual Governance & Accountability Return for year ended 31 March 2026	£420.00
Additional charges (where applicable) as detailed on attached appendix A	£0.00
Additional fees (where applicable) as detailed by separate cover	£0.00
TOTAL NET	£420.00
VAT @ 20%	£84.00
TOTAL PAYABLE	£504.00

THIS IS A STATUTORY FEE WHICH MUST BE PAID. PAYMENT IS DUE ON RECEIPT OF INVOICE

The fees and charges are in accordance with the fee scales set by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd which can be found at https://www.saaa.co.uk/audit-fees/

For payments by cheque, please return the remittance advice with your payment to:
PKF Littlejohn LLP, Credit Control (SBA), 30 Churchill Place, Canary Wharf, London E14 5RE

For payments by credit transfer, our bank details are:-

HSBC Bank plc
Address: 1-3 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 3AQ
Sort Code: 40-02-31
Account number: 11070797
Account Name: PKF Littlejohn LLP
Please include DB0026 or East Harling Internal Drainage Board as the reference.

For account queries, contact sba@pkf-l.com

PKF Littlejohn LLP
30 Churchill Place
London
E14 5RE

T: +44 (0)20 7516 2200
www.pkf-l.com

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East Harling Internal Drainage Board

Our ref DB0026

SAAA Ref SB02853

Invoice No. SB20260770

VAT No. GB 440 4982 50

Email: sba@pkf-l.com

Date: 19 August 2026

REMITTANCE ADVICE

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East Harling Internal Drainage Board

Notice of conclusion of audit

Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026

Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014

Section 16 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

	Notes
1. The audit of accounts for **East Harling Internal Drainage Board** for the year ended 31 March 2026 has been completed and the accounts have been published.	This notice and Sections 1, 2 & 3 of the AGAR must be published by 30 September. **This must include publication on the smaller authority's website.** The smaller authority must decide how long to publish the Notice for; the AGAR and external auditor report must be publicly available for 5 years.
2. The Annual Governance & Accountability Return including the auditor's certificate and opinion is available for inspection and copying by any local government elector of the area of **East Harling Internal Drainage Board** on application to:	
(a) COLIN WRIGHT CLERK & CEO BOUNDARY FARM ASH LANE CARLETON RODE NORWICH NR16 1RU	(a) Insert the name, position and address of the person to whom local government electors should apply to inspect the AGAR
(b) 10am – 12 noon 2.00pm – 4.00pm	(b) Insert the hours during which inspection rights may be exercised
3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector of the area on payment of £10 (c) for each copy of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return.	(c) Insert a reasonable sum for copying costs
Announcement made by: (d) COLIN WRIGHT	(d) Insert the name and position of person placing the notice
Date of announcement: (e) 16.09.2026	(e) Insert the date of placing of the notice