



## Rechargeable Works Policy

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| <b>Approval date: 20/04/2026</b>  | <b>Approved by: Board</b>  |
| <b>Applies to:</b> Board Members, employees, contractors and customers requesting rechargeable works. | <b>Linked Documents:</b> Finance Regulations   Scheme of Delegation. |
| <b>Frequency of review: 3 years</b>   | <b>Next review date: April 2029</b>                                  |

### 1. Rechargeable Works Overview

1.1 In addition to undertaking the Board’s works and maintenance programme, in order to offset net expenditure and generate a modest income, the Board can provide rechargeable works and services to third parties.

1.2 Such works and services may include;

- Routine watercourse flail mowing, weed cutting, and silt removal.
- Pioneer clearance works.
- Tree work by chainsaw gang.
- Temporary pumping facilities.
- Provision of administrative and technical support to other flood Risk Management Authorities via a Public Sector Cooperation Agreement.

### 2. Powers to Undertake Works

2.1 Section 20 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 provides express powers to undertake drainage works for any person on a rechargeable basis (both within and outside of Internal Drainage Districts). This includes;

- Powers to carry out work on a main river for the EA on such terms as may be agreed (section 11(1) of the Land Drainage Act 1991). The Board may occasionally use this power to carry out maintenance work on main rivers for the EA as a contractor, when requested.
- Express powers to exercise a general supervision over all matters relating to the drainage of land within their Drainage Districts, in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Land Drainage Act 1991.
- Section 11(3), powers to carry out work for other IDBs/WLMBs as a contractor, when requested.
- Section 11(5), powers to provide administrative, professional, or technical support services to other IDBSs/WLMBs.

2.3 The Board is a Flood Risk Management Authority under section 13 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA). Flood Risk Management Authorities are encouraged to improve working arrangements to achieve optimal use of available resources and improved management of flood risk and coastal erosion.



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2.4 Section 13 places duties on risk management authorities to cooperate and share information. Under section 13(4) of that Act, “a risk management authority may arrange for a flood risk management function to be exercised on its behalf by another public sector risk management authority” by working collaboratively using a Public Sector Cooperation Agreement (PSCA).

### 3. Provision of Services

3.1 The Board will not seek to build or retain excess capacity over and above what is needed to fulfil statutory functions and responsibilities to fulfil requests for rechargeable works to avoid being in a situation where the Board have too much capacity, which directly impacts Drainage Rates and Special Levies.

3.2 However, in order to optimise the use of employees, plant and equipment throughout the year, there may be opportunities on occasion to undertake rechargeable works.

3.3 The Board will only ever seek to undertake and provide rechargeable works and services to third parties when;

- The cost of doing the work can be recovered from the beneficiary or the customer as set out in section 4 below, or alternatively, when this leads to permanent savings being generated elsewhere in the business that are at least equal to the cost of doing the work.
- Delivery of the Board’s own works programme and ability to undertake statutory functions will not be compromised, reduced in capacity, and being overly committed.

3.4 A formal assessment will be carried out for each request to ensure that it aligns with this policy and does not place operational or financial strain on the Board.

3.5 The Board will not plan to carry out any rechargeable work which generates an income that exceeds 20% of turnover in any one financial year, so as not to adversely impact delivery of core functions. The Board will only consider rechargeable work which generates an income that exceeds 20% of turnover, if the services requested help deliver the Corporate Strategy, and, when the cost of doing so can be fully recovered.

### 4. Charges

4.1 The hourly rates for hiring the Board’s operatives and plant and equipment together with the unit costs of carrying out rechargeable activities, will be reviewed annually. Recharges will be based on the variable cost of providing the service plus a 20% administration fee to cover the costs of supervision.

4.2 The scope of the rechargeable work will be agreed in writing prior to commencement of work either as part of a formal quote or as part of a Public Sector Cooperation or Service Level Agreement.



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### 5. Reporting

- 5.1 The Board will report on any rechargeable work income received and the cost of undertaking this work as part of quarterly budget monitoring and as part of the annual audit return.

### 6. Insurances

- 6.1 The Board is insured to undertake works and provide services to third parties and holds the appropriate levels of Public/Products Liability Insurance cover.

### Version Control

| Version | Date Approved | Summary of Changes      |
|---------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1.0     | 20/04/2026    | Initial policy approved |