



Representing Drainage Water Level & Flood Risk Management Authorities

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 18 May 2026

Start 10.00 | Finish 15.00

River Room, Kings College, Strand Campus, London SW7 7AZ

Chair: Charles Mills | Committee Secretary / Deputy Chair: Ed Johnson

Tea/Coffee will be available from 10.00 and a light buffet lunch available at 12.30.

AGENDA

Item	Lead	Time
1. Welcome and apologies	Chair	10.40
2. Declarations of Interest	Chair	10.42
3. Minutes of previous meeting – 22 January 2026 (Attached: draft minutes)	Chair	10.43
4. Matters Arising (and not covered in meeting agenda)	Chair	10.45
5. ADA Forum Updates		10.50
a. ADA Environment Forum (Attached: Minutes 01 December 2025)	P Brewin	
b. ADA Engineering Forum (Verbal update: 15 January 2026)	E Johnson	
6. ADA Policy Representatives (Attachment: ADA Policy Representatives List)	Chair	11.00
a. Updates from representatives		
b. New volunteers?		
c. Opportunities for outputs		
7. Online process for Court Service applications	E Sumner / A McLachlan	11.20

Emma Sumner, North East Change Manager at the HM Courts & Tribunals Service will present a new electronic system for lodging court proceedings with a magistrates court. The Court Service is rolling out the system for criminal cases this year followed by civil cases next year. This is important for IDBs because the correct procedure for recovering unpaid land drainage rates is via an application for a liability order to the court. This allows for enforcement action to be taken.

Item	Lead	Time
<i>Yorkshire & Humber Drainage Boards have volunteered to test the new process and possibly link it with the new Rates Management System.</i>		
8. Electricity Standing/Capacity Charges <i>(Attached: Letter DESNZ 13.04.2026)</i>	I Moodie / I Thomson	12.00
9. AGAR / IDB1 reforms <i>(Attached: IDB1 Form Discussion ICF Write Up 20.04.2026)</i>	I Moodie	12.20
BUFFET LUNCH		12.40
10. Water company discharges and Ordinary Watercourse Consenting <i>(Attached: Section 23 Consenting Briefing)</i>	I Moodie	13.15
11. Procurement Act 2023 procedures for IDBs	A McLachlan	13.40
<i>The Procurement Act 2023 introduces new statutory requirements for sub-central authorities, including Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs). In response to these changes, the Policy and Finance (P&F) Working Group has previously met to develop a model procurement procedure that IDBs can adopt to support compliance with the Act. The proposed model is intended to provide a consistent and practical framework for procurement activity and to inform updates to IDBs' financial regulations where appropriate. The document is currently undergoing peer review. A presentation will be given at the meeting to outline the key requirements of the Procurement Act 2023, the content of the model procedure, and how it may be used by IDBs. The committee is invited to consider whether ADA should seek professional legal or procurement advice to support the finalisation and adoption of the model document.</i>		
12. Brief Updates:		14.10
a. Defra/Environment Agency	C Tidmarsh / M Baldwin	
b. Local Authorities	M Jackson	
c. Natural Resources Wales	D Letellier	
13. Update: Consultations	I Moodie	14.45
14. AOB <i>(Notified to the Chair in advance of meeting)</i>	Chair	14.50
Close of meeting		15.00

Future ADA Policy Committee Meetings

10.00–15.30 | **Thursday 10 September 2025** | River Room, Kings college, Strand Campus SW7 2AZ