Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities in England

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18 Part 3

To be completed by:

- all smaller authorities* where either the higher of gross income or gross expenditure exceeded £25,000 but did not exceed £6.5 million; and
- · any other smaller authorities that either:
 - · are unable to certify themselves as exempt; or
 - have requested a limited assurance review.

Guidance notes on completing Part 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18

- 1. Every smaller authority in England that either received gross income or incurred gross expenditure exceeding £25,000 **must** complete Part 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return at the end of each financial year in accordance with Proper Practices.
- 2. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return is made up of three parts, pages 3 to 6:
 - The annual internal audit report is completed by the authority's internal auditor.
 - Sections 1 and 2 are to be completed and approved by the authority.
 - Section 3 is completed by the external auditor and will be returned to the authority.
- 3. The authority **must** approve Section 1, Annual Governance Statement, before approving Section 2, Accounting Statements, and both **must** be approved **before 2 July 2018.**
- 4. An authority with either gross income or gross expenditure exceeding £25,000 or an authority with neither income nor expenditure exceeding £25,000, but which is unable to certify itself as exempt, or requesting a limited assurance review, **must** send to the external auditor:
 - the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Sections 1, 2 and 3, together with
 - a bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2018
 - · an explanation of any significant year on year variances in the accounting statements
 - · your notification of the commencement date of the period for the exercise of public rights
 - Annual Internal Audit Report 2017/18

Unless requested, do not send any original records to your external auditor. Your external auditor will ask for any additional documents needed.

Once the external auditor has completed and is able to give an opinion on the limited assurance review, the Annual Governance and Accountability Return including **Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate** will be returned to the authority.

Publication Requirements

Smaller authorities with either income or expenditure exceeding £25,000 **must** publish on a public website, under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Annual Governance and Accountability Return:

- Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2017/18, page 4
- Section 2 Accounting Statements 2017/18, page 5
- Section 3 The External Auditor Report and Certificate 2017/18, page 6
- Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and other information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

It is recommended as best practice, to avoid any potential confusion by local electors and interested parties, that you also publish the Annual Internal Audit Report, page 3.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return constitutes the annual return referred to in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. Throughout, the words 'external auditor' have the same meaning as the words 'local auditor' in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

*for a complete list of bodies that may be smaller authorities refer to schedule 2 to Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Guidance notes on completing Part 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18

- The authority must comply with Proper Practices in completing Sections 1 and 2 of this Annual Governance and Accountability Return. Proper Practices are found in the Practitioners' Guide* which is updated from time to time and contains everything needed to prepare successfully for the financial year-end and the subsequent work by the external auditor.
- Make sure that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is complete (i.e. no empty highlighted boxes), and is properly signed and dated. Avoid making amendments to the completed Annual Governance and Accountability Return. Any amendments must be approved by the authority, properly initialled and accompanied by an explanation. If the Annual Governance and Accountability Return contains unapproved or unexplained amendments, it may be returned and additional costs will be incurred.
- The authority should receive and note the annual internal audit report prior to approving the annual governance statement and before approving the accounts.
- Use the checklist provided below to review the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for completeness before sending it to the external auditor.
- Do not send the external auditor any information not specifically requested. However, you must inform your
 external auditor about any change of Clerk, Responsible Finance Officer or Chairman, and provide relevant email
 addresses and telephone numbers.
- Make sure that the copy of the bank reconciliation to be sent to your external auditor with the Annual Governance and Accountability Return covers all the bank accounts. If the authority holds any short-term investments, note their value on the bank reconciliation. The external auditor must be able to agree the bank reconciliation to Box 8 on the accounting statements (Section 2, page 5). An explanation must be provided of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8. More help on bank reconciliation is available in the Practitioners' Guide*.
- Explain fully significant variances in the accounting statements on **page 5**. Do not just send a copy of the detailed accounting records instead of this explanation. The external auditor wants to know that you understand the reasons for all variances. Include complete numerical and narrative analysis to support the explanation.
- If the external auditor has to review unsolicited information, or receives an incomplete bank reconciliation, or variances are not fully explained, additional costs will be incurred.
- Make sure that the accounting statements add up and that the balance carried forward from the previous year (Box 7 of 2017) equals the balance brought forward in the current year (Box 1 of 2018).
- Please enter the authority's name only in Section 3 on Page 6. Do not complete the remainder of that section, which is reserved for the external auditor.
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), on behalf of the authority, must set the commencement date for the
 exercise of public rights. From the commencement date for a single period of 30 consecutive working days, the
 accounts and accounting records can be inspected. Whatever period the RFO sets it must include a common
 inspection period during which the accounts and accounting records of all smaller authorities must be available
 for public inspection of the first ten working days of July.
- The authority **must** publish the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, including the period for the exercise of public rights and the name and address of the external auditor.

Completion checkl	ist – 'No' answers mean you may not have met requirements	Yes	No
All sections	Have all highlighted boxes have been completed?	1	
	Has all additional information requested, including the dates set for the period for the exercise of public rights, been provided for the external auditor?	1	
Internal Audit Report	Have all highlighted boxes have been completed by the internal auditor and explanations provided?	✓	
Section 1	For any statement to which the response is 'no', is an explanation provided?	√	
Section 2	Has the authority's approval of the accounting statements been confirmed by the signature of the Chairman of the approval meeting?	1	
	Has an explanation of significant variations from last year to this year been provided?	√	
	The bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2018 is agreed to Box 8?	✓	
	Has an explanation of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8 been provided?	✓	
Sections 1 and 2	Trust funds – have all disclosures been made if the authority is a sole managing trustee? NB : do not send trust accounting statements unless requested or instructed.	1	

*More guidance on completing this annual return is available in *Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices*, which can be downloaded from www.nalc.gov.uk or from www.slcc.co.uk or from www.ada.org.uk

Annual Internal Audit Report 2017/18

Felixstowe Town Council

This authority's internal auditor, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls to be in operation **during** the financial year ended 31 March 2018.

The internal audit for 2017/18 has been carried out in accordance with this authority's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of this authority.

Internal control objective		d? Plea the foll	se choose owing
	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	1		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	1		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	1		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	1		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	✓		
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	✓		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	/		
Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	1		
J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		

K. (For local councils only)	Yes	No	Not applicable
Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.			✓

For any other risk areas identified by this authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

Date(s) internal audit undertaken

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

03/05/2018

Colin Poole ON BEHALF OF SALK

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

Date

03/05/2018

Van

^{*}If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

^{**}Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or, if coverage is not required, the annual internal audit report must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2017/18

We acknowledge as the members of:

Felixstowe Town Council

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 2018, that:

	Agr	eed		
	Yes	No*	'Yes' m	eans that this authority:
We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓			ed its accounting statements in accordance Accounts and Audit Regulations.
We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓			proper arrangements and accepted responsibility aguarding the public money and resources in ge.
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure 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.	~			ly done what it has the legal power to do and has ad with Proper Practices in doing so.
We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	1			the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
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.	√			ered and documented the financial and other risks it nd dealt with them properly.
We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	1		controls	ed for a competent person, independent of the financial is and procedures, to give an objective view on whether controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		respond	ded to matters brought to its attention by internal and all 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.	1			ed everything it should have about its business activity the year including events taking place after the year elevant.
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 it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

^{*}Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response. Describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified.

This Annual Governance authority and recorded	ce Statement is approved by this as minute reference:	Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting when approval is given:			
		Chairman			
dated		Clerk			

Other information required by the Transparency Codes (not part of Annual Governance Statement) Authority web address

www.felixstowe.gov.uk

Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2017/18 for

Felixstowe Town Council

	Year er	nding		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2017 £	20	March)18 £	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.
Balances brought forward	930,888	9	12,112	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	537,347	5	549,742	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	169,529	2	208,328	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	420,222	3	370,129	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include salaries and wages, PAYE and NI (employees and employers), pension contributions and employment expenses.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	34,732		34,732	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	270,698	2	22,562	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	912,112	1,0)42,759	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
Total value of cash and short term investments	913,420	1,0	38,429	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	50,789		50,789	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	380,770	3	864,689	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11. (For Local Councils Only) [re Trust funds (including cha		Yes	No	The Council acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
			1	N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2018 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return present fairly the financial position of this authority and its income and expenditure, or properly present receipts and payments, as the case may be.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer

03/05/2018

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

and recorded as minute reference:

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where approval of the Accounting Statements is given

Date

Section 3 - External Auditor Report and Certificate 2017/18

In respect of

Felixstowe Town Council

1 Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

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 2018; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work **does not** constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.
2 External auditor report 2017/18
(Except for the matters reported below)* on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 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. (*delete as appropriate).
(continue on a separate sheet if required)
Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:
(continue on a separate sheet if required)
3 External auditor certificate 2017/18
We certify/do not 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 2018.
*We do not certify completion because:
External Auditor Name
External Addition Name

*Note: the NAO issued guidance applicable to external auditors' work on limited assurance reviews for 2017/18 in Auditor

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2017/18 Part 3

Guidance Note AGN/02. The AGN is available from the NAO website (www.nao.org.uk)

External Auditor Signature

Date

Printed on: 02/05/2018

Felixstowe Town Council YE 17/18

At: 17:55

Balance Sheet as at - 31st March 2018

31st March 2017			31s	t March 2018
	Current Assets			
4,684	Debtors	10,461		
4,209	VAT Control A/c	3,828		
600	Prepayments	2,304		
106,562	Barclays Town Council/Imprest	225,753		
406,317	Town Council Savings Account	407,334		
400,141	Nationwide 1 yr fixed bond	404,967		
150	Credit Card Control Account	125		
250	Petty Cash	250		
922,913			1,055,022	
922,913	Total Assets		-	1,055,022
	Current Liabilities			
4,441	Other Creditors	7,459		
278	Accruals	0		
6,082	Receipts in Advance	4,803		
	·			
10,801			12,263	
			_	
912,112	Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			1,042,759
	Represented By			
286,532	General Reserves			356,823
2,862	EMR - Election Expenses			8,862
2,721	EMR - Enhancement & Promotion			1,941
8,428	EMR - Felixstowe in Flower			0
16,532	EMR - Asset Repair & Replace			19,532
3,117	EMR - IT Replacement Fund			3,117
2,434	EMR - Recycling Credits			0
129,922	EMR - Cemetery Projects			149,922
58,520	EMR - Broadway House			61,020
60,000	EMR - Walton Community Hall			62,500
105,732	EMR - Town Hall Maintenance			104,242
27,000	EMR - Play Equipment			27,000
152,461	EMR - Community Fund			156,821
12,565	EMR - Council Tax Local. Rsrve			0
42,000	EMR - CCTV			42,000
375	EMR - Staffing Reserve			10,375

Printed on: 02/05/2018

Felixstowe Town Council YE 17/18

At: 17:55

Balance Sheet as at - 31st March 2018

31st March 2017		31st March 2018
911	EMR - Comm Infrastructure Levy	27,808
0	EMR - Armed Forces W/E Legacy	10,796
912,112		1,042,759
The above statement repres	sents fairly the financial position of the authority as at 31st March 201	3
and reflects its Income and	Expenditure during the year.	
Signed : Chairman	Date :	
Signed : Responsible Financial Officer	Date :	

Felixstowe Town Council YE 17/18 Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended 31st March 2018

31st March 2017		31st March 2018
	Income Summary	
537,347	Precept	549,742
537,347	Sub Total	549,742
	Operating Income	
24,708	Administration	43,734
17,920	Town Hall	22,628
9,654	Walton	8,890
468	Broadway House	2,000
85,162	Cemetery	102,540
14,407	Allotments	14,728
3,992	Civic & Community	7,562
6,718	Felixstowe in Flower	6,246
6,500	Community Projects & Prtnrshps	0
706,876	Total Income	758,070
	Running Costs	
277,515	Administration	252,788
70,993	Town Hall	82,443
7,274	Walton	7,133
10,615	Broadway House	6,363
128,754	Cemetery	127,105
26,163	Allotments	23,796
31,854	Civic & Community	35,399
22,096	Section 137 Expenditure	30,403
8,902	Felixstowe in Flower	9,150
5,512	Communication	5,971
41,779	Community Projects & Prtnrshps	41,779
94,195	Earmarked Reserves	5,094
725,651	Total Expenditure	627,423
	General Fund Analysis	
254,643	Opening Balance	286,532
706,876	Plus : Income for Year	758,070
961,518		1,044,602
725,651	Less : Expenditure for Year	627,423
235,867		417,179
-50,665	Transfers TO / FROM Reserves	60,356
286,532	Closing Balance	356,823

Felixstowe Town Council YE 17/18

Working Detail for Reserves Reconciliation for ANNUAL RETURN 31 March 2018

	E×	PLAINS THE DIFFERENCE B	ETWEEN BOX	×7 f 8 on	ANNUAL RETURN	J
	<u>Code</u>	Description	Last Year £	This Year £		
		Total Reserves	912,111.95	1,042,759.13		
2	100	Debtors	4,684.13	10,460.97		
2	120	VAT Control A/c	4,208.88	3,828.46		
2	130	Prepayments	600.00	2,303.69		
		Less Total Debtors	9,493.01	16,593.12		
3	501	Other Creditors	4,440.69	7,459.35		
3	530	Accruals	278.05	0.00		
3	560	Receipts in Advance	6,082.49	4,803.35		
		Plus Total Creditors	10,801.23	12,262.70		
	Equ	als Total Cash and Bank Accounts	913,420.17	1,038,428.71		
5	200	Barclays Town Council/Imprest	106,562.21	225,753.48		
5	203	Town Council Savings Account	406,316.56	407,333.51		
5	204	Nationwide 1 yr fixed bond	400,141.40	404,966.72		
5	210	Credit Card Control Account	150.00	125.00		
5	220	Petty Cash	250.00	250.00		
		Total Cash and Bank Accounts	913,420.17	1,038,428.71		

Felixstowe Town Council YE 17/18

Bank - Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 31 March 2018

		Account Description	Balance	
Bank Statement Balan	ices			
1		Town Council	50,027.00	
1		Town Council Tracker A/c	175,726.48	
2		Barclays Base Rate Reward	407,333.51	
3		Credit Card Control	0.00	
4		Nationwide 1 year Saver accoun	404,966.72	
				1,038,053.71
Other Bank & Cash Ba	alances			
		Town Council Tracker A/c	0.00	
		LLoyds 1 Year Fixed Term	0.00	
		Petty Cash	250.00	
		Cash Book Suspense	0.00	
				250.00
				-
Receipts not on Bank	<u>Statement</u>			1,038,303.71
Receipts not on Bank 3	Statement 27/03/2018		50.00	-
			50.00 75.00	-
3	27/03/2018			-
3 3 Closing Balance	27/03/2018 28/03/2018			1,038,303.71
3 3	27/03/2018 28/03/2018			1,038,303.71
3 3 Closing Balance	27/03/2018 28/03/2018	Barclays Town Council/Imprest		1,038,303.71 125.00 1,038,428.71 225,753.48
3 3 Closing Balance	27/03/2018 28/03/2018	Town Council Savings Account		1,038,303.71 125.00 1,038,428.71 225,753.48 407,333.51
3 3 Closing Balance	27/03/2018 28/03/2018	Town Council Savings Account Nationwide 1 yr fixed bond		1,038,303.71 125.00 1,038,428.71 225,753.48 407,333.51 404,966.72
3 3 Closing Balance	27/03/2018 28/03/2018	Town Council Savings Account Nationwide 1 yr fixed bond Credit Card Control Account		1,038,303.71 125.00 1,038,428.71 225,753.48 407,333.51 404,966.72 125.00
3 3 Closing Balance	27/03/2018 28/03/2018	Town Council Savings Account Nationwide 1 yr fixed bond		1,038,303.71 125.00 1,038,428.71 225,753.48 407,333.51 404,966.72



Public Works Loan Board

OFFICIAL

Eastcheap Court 11 Philpot Lane London EC3M 8UD

T 020 7862 6610 E pwlb@dmo.gsi.gov.uk www.dmo.gov.uk

Felixstowe Town Council Town Hall

FELIXSTOWE IP11 2AG

The Clerk

Our Ref : 08288

Date : 07 April 2018

Dear

FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL (SUFFOLK) - PWLB BALANCE OUTSTANDING AS AT 31 March 2018

The schedule below details the balances outstanding on the loans to your authority from the Public Works Loan Commissioners.

Loan Type	Repayment Due	Balance £ p	No. of Accounts
Fixed	21 March 21 September	364,689.25	1
	Total Balance Outstanding	364,689.25	1

Yours sincerely,

Natasha John-Phillip for Secretary