



Our Ref: 2020s1606/Statement

May 2023

Dear Ratepayer

Further to the drainage rate leaflet that was issued along with your drainage rate demands.

The leaflet clearly sets out the ownership and responsibility of maintaining "ordinary watercourses" and the permissive powers vested to the Board under the Land Drainage Act 1991. All IDBs have permissive powers to maintain "ordinary watercourses" throughout its drainage district.

The RLIDB has no power that extend to "main rivers" and therefore information pertaining to main rivers is not included in the information leaflet.

The Statutory Undertakers for main rivers such as the River Lugg, is the Environment Agency. Guidance on owning a watercourse can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/owning-a-watercourse>. There is also a link to this page on the Shire Group of IDBs website.

Natural England is the body with Statutory oversight for Sites of Specific Scientific Interest, guidance for which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/protected-areas-sites-of-special-scientific-interest>

If you wish to undertake works on main rivers or within SSSIs please contact the Environment Agency or Natural England respectively.

Yours sincerely

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