

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 24TH SEPTEMBER 2025**POSITION STATEMENT FROM THE CABINET LEAD MEMBER FOR
ENVIRONMENT AND FLOODING****Flooding**

Since my appointment as the Environment and Flooding Lead Member in May, I have visited many communities devastated by flooding in the past two years, to listen to their stories and understand the very real impact that flooding has had on many lives. I offer my sincerest sympathies to those affected and am committed to helping communities become more resilient to flooding through my role as the Lead Member.

I have been liaising extensively with the Flood Risk Management Team, to understand and support the significant amount of work undertaken by them, and with other Risk Management Authorities, such as the Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water, district councils and the Canal and Rivers Trust. I would like to offer them my thanks for the work they have undertaken during what has been an extremely busy time over the last two years, in particular with two of the worst flood events in Leicestershire's history in January 2024 (Henk) and January 2025.

As is becoming very clear to me, flooding and flood management is a complex area not least in understanding the causes of flooding which are often a combination of factors, but also the various roles and responsibilities involved in addressing flood issues. Just as important though is getting over the message we all have to do what we can to become more resilient to flooding at the individual, community and county level. With this in mind, we will be holding more community drop-in sessions this autumn and I hope we can help as many people as possible be flood-ready ahead of this winter.

I am pleased that we have been able to make a further £2 million available for investment into community flood resilience and highway drainage improvement work. I am also pleased to say that proposals for the use of this funding will be brought to the Cabinet in October for approval so the Department can get to work on initiatives to assist communities to be flood-ready and improve their local flood resilience.

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