

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

### Priority Recommendations for Action

- (a) A day-long seminar should be hosted by the County Council involving key partners such as the Environment Agency, Severn Trent Water and district and parish councils with the aim of raising awareness for flood risk mitigation and improving communications between partners.
- (b) The Panel feels that the Council must work effectively with district councils as planning bodies to ensure that, as part of their statutory duties, flood risk is adequately taken account of and addressed as part of the planning process.
- (c) That, as part of the approach outlined in (2) above, it be ensured that developers adhere to the requirements of the validation check list which highlights the need to address flood risk.
- (h) The Panel supports the formation of the strategic multi-agency Flood Risk Management Board on which the County Council will act as the lead body in managing flood risk and urges the Cabinet to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place to enable the Council's statutory responsibilities to be carried out effectively.

### Issues of Concern

- (d) The Panel is concerned that the loss of RIEP funding to assist in managing flood risk after September 2011 may have a severe knock-on effect on the Authority's continuing ability to adequately resource such work, particularly given the current financial climate.
- (e) Given the Authority's position as lead body in managing flood risk, the Panel, whilst recognising the financial pressures, hopes that the necessary resources will be re-directed from Government to carry out this role effectively.

### Other Recommendations

- (f) Whilst it is clear that much work has been undertaken by the County Council and its partners to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, the Panel wishes to stress the importance of maintaining impetus to enable continuous improvement in this area and is therefore pleased to note:
  - Achievement of level 2 and the plans to develop a future work programme (including the development of an Adaptation Action Plan) as part of the regional project in order for Leicestershire to reach Level 3 of NI 188;
  - Progress against NI 189 and the actions in relation to Emergency Planning, in conjunction with our multi-agency partners;
  - The next steps for delivery of actions against NI 37.
- (g) The Panel is of the view that:
  - Good work is being carried out by the LRF in respect of engaging the public on flooding issues, but that more can be done to capture the public's imagination on the flood risk issue, for instance via articles in County Council and district council publications;
  - Clear communication must continue to be provided to the public in order that those considered to be 'at risk' are signposted to the appropriate agencies;

### Issues to be Followed up by the County Council and Other Agencies

- (i) The Panel believes that water companies, as experts on the water and sewerage systems, should:
  - Be statutory consultees on planning applications; and
  - Be represented on the SuDS approving body with the County Council.