

## REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL – FLOOD RISK SUPPORT SYNOPSIS

On review of the Draft Flood and Water Management Bill it is evident that the emerging legislation will fundamentally influence the roles, responsibilities and duties of the various stakeholders including local authorities.

Recognising the limitations of the current fragmented water management structure in England and Wales and in line with the recommendations of Sir Michael Pitt's review 'Learning the Lessons from the 2007 Floods' (June 08), the Bill endeavours to address some of the deficiencies in current legislation most notably new responsibilities associated with surface water management.

The Bill places accountability and leadership of local flood risk management on county and unitary local authorities. However, in acknowledging the expertise and capacity which exists within the districts there is likely to be an obligation on the district authorities to contribute to local flood risk management and through 'arrangement' clauses elements of planning or subsequent work could be delegated to a district level.

BWB Consulting has been supporting district authorities throughout Worcestershire and Gloucestershire to help deliver their current responsibilities for land drainage and ordinary watercourses. As further support to the local authorities, BWB is presenting their understanding of the likely impact of the Bill and the future role of the local authorities in managing flooding issues and contributing to Surface Water Management Plans. BWB will also provide further case studies of work undertaken elsewhere which in part delivers the objectives of the Bill and maximises the effectiveness of the limited funding available.

The presentation will last approximately 15 minutes and BWB Consulting representatives (Mr Iqbal Rassool & Mr Stuart Nelmes) would be happy to answer any questions at the end of the presentation.