

## **CABINET RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT SELECT COMMITTEE**

### **WATER MANAGEMENT**

The Environment and Transport Select Committee recommends:

That a policy be drafted on integrated water management, which sets out what Surrey County Council can and will do, in working with partners to address the challenges and risks facing Surrey in this regard.

#### **Response:**

I welcome the recommendation by the Environment and Transport Select Committee that the County Council should develop a policy position on integrated water management.

I have asked the Environment Service to lead this work, which will need to encompass:

- Our role as the Lead Flood Authority, including the Lower Thames as a key priority
- Water supply & demand, including the plans of the water companies to meet medium/long-term supply
- The local effect of water issues including flood risk, water quality and new development

I have asked for a draft policy position to be considered by the Environment and Transport Select Committee within six months which will:

- Clearly set out the County Council's position on water management issues in Surrey
- Establish an agreed set of actions to address areas of risk/opportunity
- Define lead responsibilities and stakeholder relationships
- Establish process to ensure that members have timely information on water management issues within their local area

**John Furey**  
**Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment**  
**24 July 2012**