

Date: XX July 2012

Our Ref: XX

Your Ref:

Environment, Sustainability and Highways
Essex County Council
E3 County Hall
Chelmsford
CM1 1LX

John Gilbert
01992 564062
email: jgilbert@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam

**Essex Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation
Formal response from Epping Forest District Council**

I refer to the email of 14th May 2012 from Lucy Shepherd to Susan Stranders kindly indicating Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) could respond to this consultation after the closing date of 2nd July 2012. I thank you for your cooperation.

Please find enclosed our formal response in the form of the questions stated in the consultation.

EFDC has always acted positively in managing flood risk in our district and has continuously worked to build and maintain relationships between flood risk management authorities. The strategy is a positive step in a new stage of flood risk management for Essex. We look forward to closer working with our partner organisations.

However, there is some concern at district and borough level that local control of flood risk management could be diluted now Essex County Council (ECC) is the Lead Local Flood Authority. We very much wish to work with ECC in order to maximise flood risk management within our district and to ensure our residents are not detrimentally affected given the necessary economies of scale the Flood and Water Management Act has introduced by creating Lead Local Flood Authorities.

Yours faithfully



J D Gilbert
Director of Environment & Street Scene