

**Press Release for
New Surface Water Flood Maps**

The Environment Agency has released new flood maps that will help communities and businesses in Lincolnshire protect their property from flooding.

The maps show areas of the country at risk of flooding from rivers and the sea. For the first time the Agency has also released maps that show the risk of surface water flooding.

They are presented in a clear, simple and consistent way, making it easier for people to understand flood risk, and make decisions about how to manage it.

Previous estimates suggested that 3.8 million properties in the UK were at risk of surface water flooding, but improved mapping has now seen that figure reduce to around 3 million.

Surface water flooding occurs when intense rainfall overwhelms drainage systems. Some 35,000 properties across the country were affected by surface water during the major floods of 2007.

Lincolnshire County Council is the lead local flood authority in Lincolnshire and is responsible for managing risks presented by flooding from surface water. Where properties have been flooded, the county council will carry out an investigation to establish the cause of flooding. It will consider which authority is responsible, and whether they can take measures to reduce the chance of it happening again in the future.

The county council and its partner authorities are set to carry out a programme of improvement works across the county in 2013-14. These projects are all detailed within the Joint Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Drainage Management Strategy, which is available online at:
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/floodrisk

Mark Welsh, Floods Water and Major Developments Manager at Lincolnshire County Council, said:

"The surface water flood maps will help people to better understand the risk they face from flooding.

"The maps are not intended to cause concern, however they are there to raise awareness and everyone should take them seriously.

"You can never eliminate the risk of flooding no matter how small the risk, so it's important to be prepared. Make sure you; have adequate insurance; have stored irreplaceable items safely; and have made a flood plan to help keep you and your family safe."

Aidan Kerr Head of Property at the Association of British Insurers, said:

"Accessing accurate, up-to-date information on surface water flood risk will help homeowners and businesses take steps to reduce the often devastating, and expensive impact of flooding"

Notes:

- [Visit the Environment Agency website to check the new flood maps.](#)
- Visit: www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/floodrisk for frequently asked questions about the surface water flood maps or just visit www.lincolnshire.gov.uk and search 'surface water'

This page is intentionally left blank