

## **CITY COUNCIL – 9 JANUARY 2006**

### **REPORT OF THE DEPUTY LEADER**

#### **CIVIL CONTINGENCY PLANS – 'MANAGING AN EMERGENCY' AND PIPELINE PLAN**

##### **1 SUMMARY**

This report submits two Civil Contingency Plans which form part of the Council's Policy Framework and, therefore, require approval of Council. These plans have been circulated separately to the agenda.

##### **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

IT IS RECOMMENDED that 'Managing an Emergency' and the Pipeline Plan be approved.

##### **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 was introduced to improve multi-agency planning among a wide range of bodies and organizations to enable them to respond more effectively to both man-made and natural disasters and crises, thereby improving the public safety of residents, visitors and workers. Through Generic and Specific Emergency Plans the Council will be in a stronger position to assist the Emergency Services in their work in the City and also to respond to challenges it may face itself.
- 3.2 'Managing an Emergency' is the Council's Major Incident Plan and is a generic plan and the framework on which all of the Council's Specific Emergency Plans are based. This plan has been written to comply with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and is designed to "fit" with the Local Resilience Forum's Strategic Plan.
- 3.3 'Managing an Emergency' is the core guidance document relating to emergency planning and response for the City

Council. Its purpose is to enable the Council to mount a fast, effective and co-ordinated response to a major incident or emergency affecting Nottingham City area. The document sets out policies, principles, requirements, procedures, roles and resources; it also explains the special arrangements that may be necessary and the likely involvement of outside agencies. It is designed to be flexible so as to enable the Council to respond effectively to a wide range of threats and challenges the City and its people may face. The Plan is based on tried and tested principles of Emergency Planning (such as the use of operational facilities, resources, contacts and procedures used by officers in their everyday work) agreed and supported by the Government. Furthermore, it is an accepted principle of Emergency Planning that Plans focus on the consequences of disasters or crises rather than the causes.

3.4 The Pipeline Plan, a Specific Emergency Plan, has been written in conjunction with National Grid Gas (formerly Transco) and complies with the requirements of the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996 and the Civil Contingencies Act 2004. The aim of this plan is to detail action to be taken to minimise the consequences to the health and safety of people in the event of a major accident involving a major accident hazard pipeline. Specific arrangements for responding to an incident involving a Major Pipeline are detailed in the plan and would assist the Emergency services, the Council and other organizations in reducing damage and improving the safety of people and properties in the affected area.

3.5 The Council maintains a number of other operational plans, which do not form part of the Council's Policy framework, to deal with specific threats or hazards. These conform to the principles of Managing an Emergency, The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and other legislation and guidance.

#### **4 PROPOSALS**

Both plans have been written in line with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the Local Resilience Forum's Strategic and Tactical Documents and have been subject to consultation with appropriate Emergency Planning partners in the City and County area. By adopting formally both plans the Council's ability to respond to certain emergencies will be strengthened and public protection improved.

Plans, necessarily, are evolving documents and they will inevitably require amendment as and when necessary. These plans, when approved, will be updated by the Emergency Planning Team periodically but any major departures from the principles of these plans will be placed before Members for consideration.

#### **5 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None

#### **6 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Local Resilience Forum  
Strategic and Tactical documents (available at

[www.nottsprepared.gov.uk](http://www.nottsprepared.gov.uk))

Civil Contingencies Act 2004

Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996

**COUNCILLOR MICHAEL EDWARDS  
DEPUTY LEADER**