

Updating Critical Sewers



Paul Conroy

Head of Asset Management, WRc PLC, UK

- Background
- The need for change
- The OCC methodology
- Cost element examples
- Case study
- Next steps

- National Collapse Reporting Study (Peterson, 1982) found skew distribution between collapse occurrence and cost
- 10% of incidents account for 80% of cost
- Make savings if these expensive failures can be prevented, achieved by categorizing:
 - Category A sewers - failure is most expensive
 - Category B sewers - Intermediate costs
 - Category C sewers – failure is relatively cheap

Characteristics of Critical Sewers



- Above average depth
- Bad ground and/or high water table
- Brick or stone construction
- Man entry size
- Close proximity to buildings or major underground services

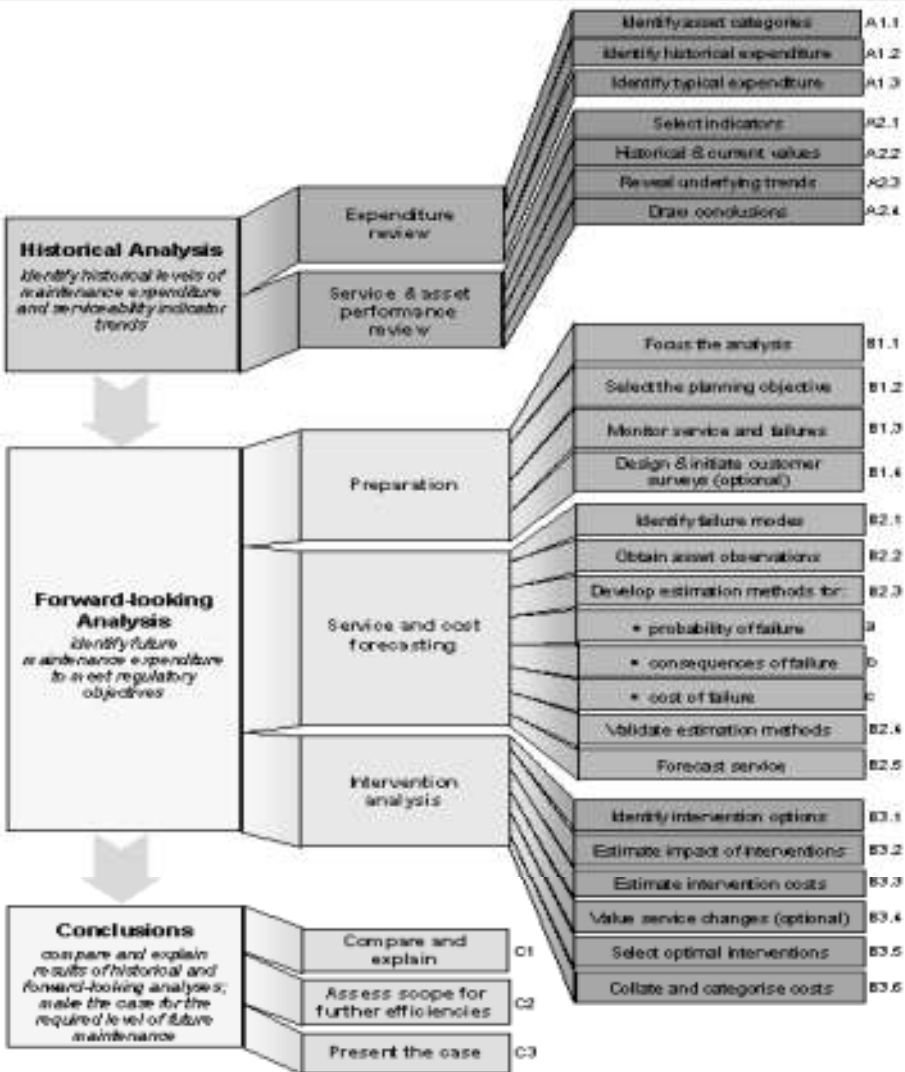
- Ratio of:
 - ⇒ Cost of collapse to Cost of rehabilitation
- Three categories:
 - ⇒ **Category A** - most critical (proactive rehabilitation be applied)
 - ⇒ **Category B** - less critical (some proactive rehabilitation - lower priority)
 - ⇒ **Category C** - not critical (reactive maintenance assumed)

- Screening
- Separate models
 - repair cost factor
 - overall cost factor
- Factors based largely on:
 - asset data (depth, diameter, material)
 - ground conditions
 - traffic

- Brick sewers > 2m deep
- Pipe sewers > 6m deep (5m in bad ground)
- Combined sewers >1500mm diameter (foul >600mm)
- Designated streets under NRSWA 1991:
 - ⇒ protected streets
 - ⇒ traffic sensitive streets without a adequate diversion
 - ⇒ Other heavily trafficked routes (calculation required)

- SRM currently uses criticality as a measure of cost and benefit of pre-emptive work
- Criticality grade informs survey needs
- Criticality grade combined with condition information to determine structural risk
- Sewer rehabilitated according to risk

Risk based approach now needs to be refined in light of CMPCF



- Need to strengthen consequence cost forecasting
- Need to support whole of life cost benefit analysis
- Need to quantify range of cost & benefit parameters

- **Critical sewers:**
 - Largely rule based – cost consequence
 - CMPCF – risk of failure of levels of service to customer and environment
- **Revisit definition of critical sewers to include:**
 - Sewers where failure impacts on serviceability with direct cost consequence
- **Link criticality to any consequence:**
 - Cost impacts (direct, indirect)
 - Benefit impacts (service delivery)

Managing the Risk of Critical Sewers

The Overall Cost of Consequence Methodology

- Overall Cost of Consequence (OCC) method is a means by which criticality of a pipeline can be quantified
 - The *criticality* of a pipeline is defined by the consequence of it failing
- Consequence expressed in terms of cost, either:
 - Water / sewerage company
 - Their customers
 - To society at large
- The OCC Methodology is intended as a means of asset management based on assessing criticality, regardless of pipe size, material etc

Summary of the OCC methodology



- Basic premise is the determination of a value for each cost element, then summation of these values
- Not all cost elements will be applicable screening rules
- Likelihood that a particular consequence occur should there be a failure event

The CP220 Cost Elements



Cost Element	Description
Repair of potential failure	Direct costs associated with the repair of a pipeline.
Environmental Damage – Clean up of pollution	Pipeline failure events that result in pollution requires a subsequent clean up operation.
Environmental damage – prosecution fines	Costs associated with a successful prosecution following pollution resulting from a failure event.
Flood Damage to Properties	Tangible costs associated with flood damage to the fabric and content of buildings.
Traffic Disruption	The extent of vehicle traffic disruption resulting from a failure event.

Cost Elements (Cont.)



Cost Element	Description
Transport of sewage from a pumping station as a result of a rising main failure	The cost of hiring tankers to transport sewage from a pumping station to a suitable disposal point.
Personal injury	Personal injury resulting from a failure including fatalities and injury.
Interruption to supply	Cost to the water/ sewerage company that is associated with reputation damage by provision of a poor service, or loss of customers.
Provision of alternative water supplies	Costs associated with providing an alternative water supply during prolonged periods of interruption.
Guaranteed Standards of Service (GSS) Payments	Cost of payments made under the GSS.

Steps to Determine OCC value



1. Determine unit of pipeline
2. Data collection for screening
3. Apply screening rules
4. Further prioritised data collection
5. Calculate monetary value for each cost element
6. Sum the value for all appropriate cost elements

Typical information required



Information
Diameter
Depth
Material
Pipe Pressure
Ground Type
Sewer Type
Soil Type
Terrain

Information
Daily Traffic Flow
Under a Carriageway?
Number of Properties Affected
Commercial / Industrial Premises
Parks / Open Spaces
Gardens
Watercourses
Length of Interruption

The cost of traffic delays

Example 1

How do you value delays?

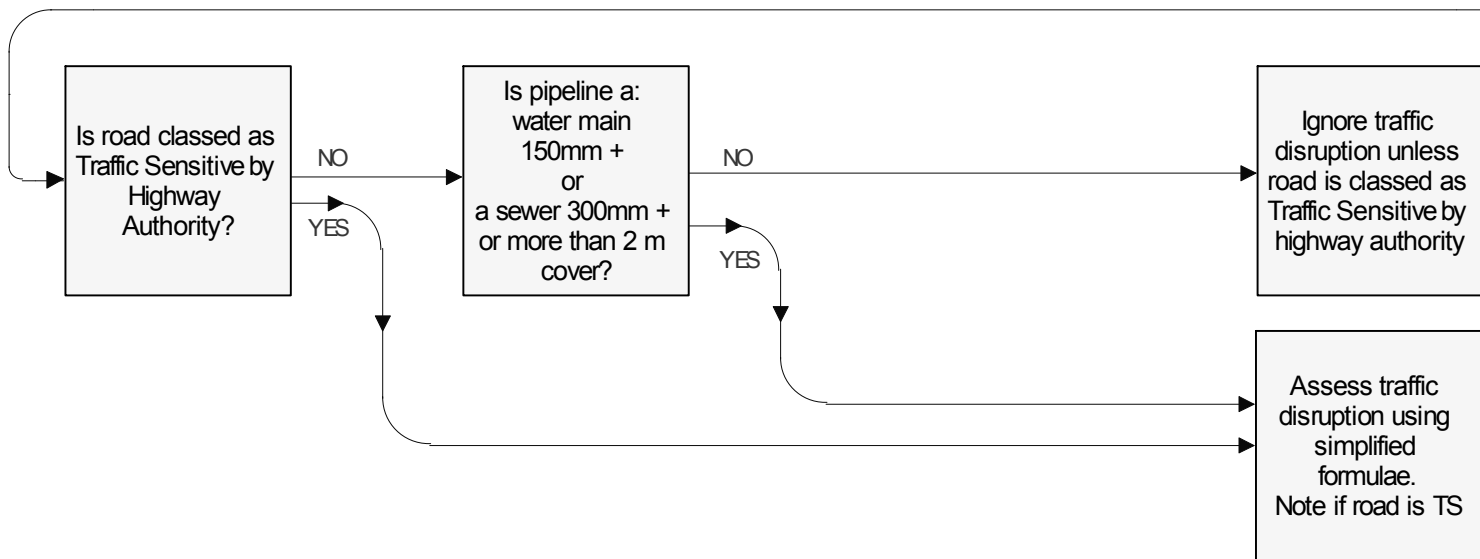
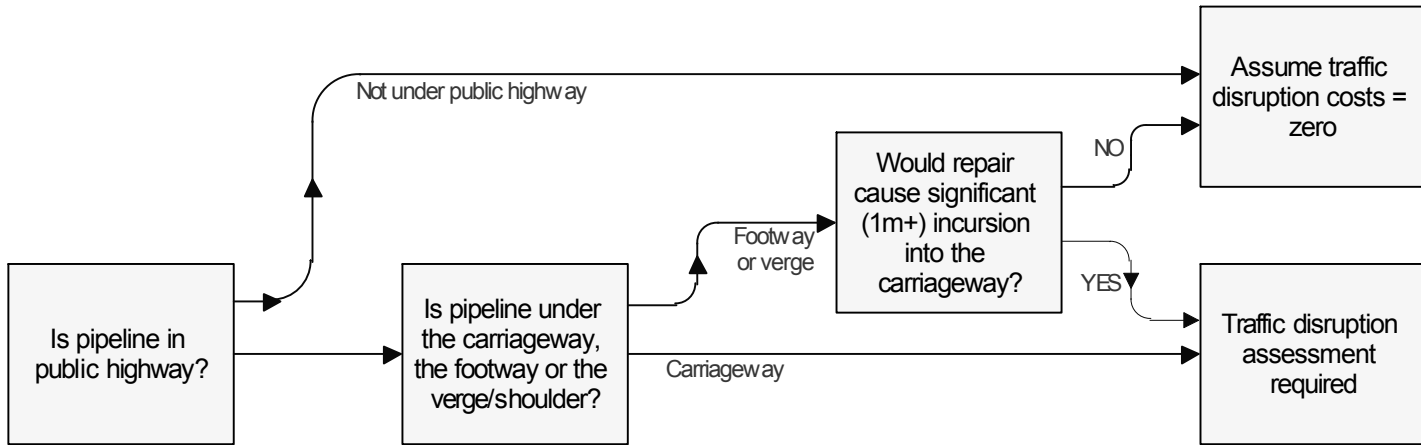


- Dept for Transport methodology
- Based on long history of past work
- A well established process & values
- Some have questioned its use in this context
- No currently agreed alternative.
- Likely to be acceptable to Govt & OFW

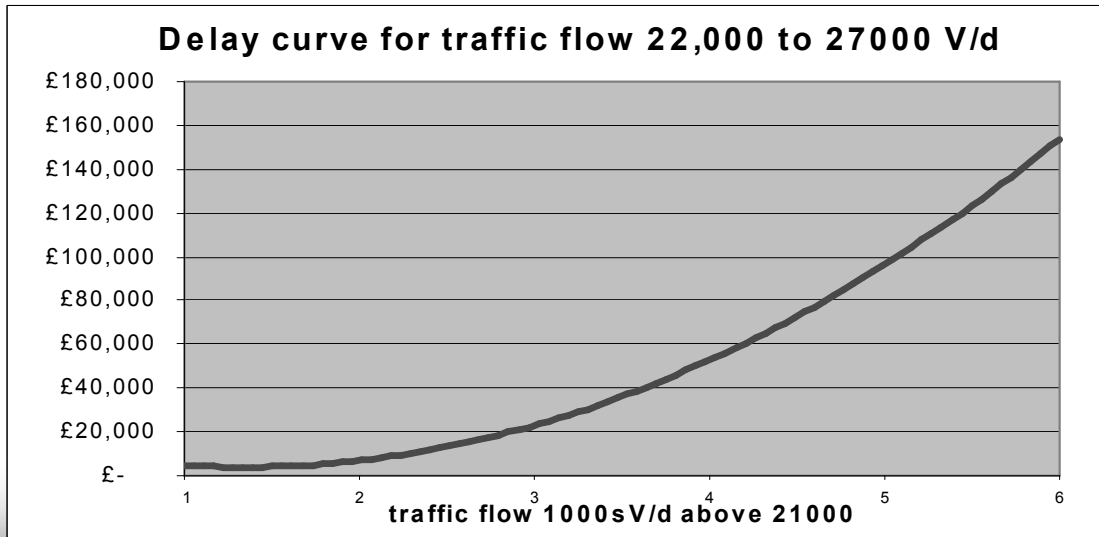
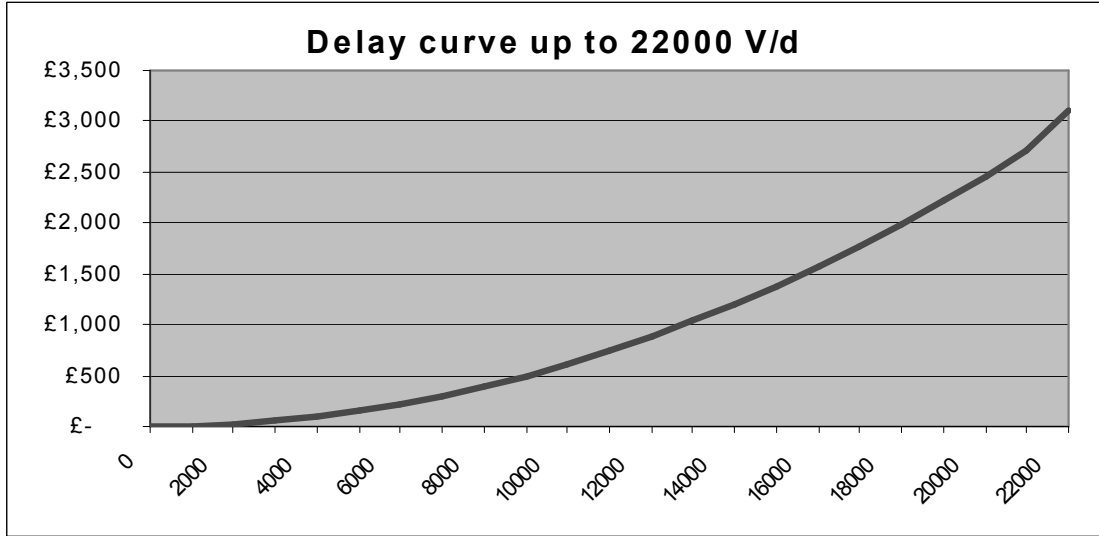
Three approaches

- Traffic volume x best guess at delay
- Hourly traffic volumes in localised delay model
- Quarter hourly traffic volumes in full high network model

Screening process....



Model is very volume sensitive!



- The simplified models offer the best immediate compromise;
 - Simple to use
 - Data is readily available
 - Tends to under estimate costs in town centers
- Further work with highway network models needed provide a better long term solution

end

Personal Injury

Example 1

- Cost element relates to personal injury resulting directly from a failure event....
- ...from, for example;
 - a sewer collapse or blockage
 - a bursting water main or rising main
- Anticipated that the greatest consequence of personal injury would occur at locations under a carriageway or specific location

Personal injury costs



- Annual figures are published for the total value of road casualties and road accidents in Great Britain (Department for Transport, 2010)

Injury Severity	£ per incident (June 2010)
Fatal	1,312,260
Serious	147,460
Slight	11,370
Average, all casualties	42,850

Personal injury costs (continued)



- These figures are cost-benefit values
- Represent the benefits which would be obtained by prevention of road accidents they include:
 - Loss of output due to injury
 - Ambulance and hospital treatment costs
 - Human costs, based on Willingness To Pay (WTP) values

Is personal injury likely ?



- Personal injury costs are very high
- Could potentially 'swamp' the other cost element values
- Introduced a variable (E_o) for each 'personal injury' outcome ('slight', 'serious', 'fatal')
- Represents the probability that, once a failure event has occurred, then personal injury will result

Example: 'Low consequence' rising main



Consequence grade personal injury	Type and location of rising main	Probability of injury arising from failure event, Eo (%)		
		Slight injury	Serious injury	F
2	< 300 mm diameter, normal pressure, erodable soil	0.07	0.01	

So personal injury consequential cost:
 $(£11,370 \times 0.0007) + (£147,460 \times 0.0001) + (£1,312,260 \times 0.0) = £22.71^*$

* This can be factored by likelihood of people being in of event

- Factors which influence the severity of a rising mains failure event include:
 - Diameter of rising main (≥ 300 / < 300 mm)
 - Pumping pressure (> 1 bar / ≤ 1 bar)
 - Surface type (carriageway / non-carriageway)
 - Soil type (erodable / non-erodable)
 - Cover depth (≤ 1.2 m / > 1.2 m)
 - Special locations (e.g. hospital, basement,

- Personal injury from asset failure is expected a rare occurrence
- Always include this cost element in the OCC due to its sensitive nature
- Have introduced a term E_o which represents the probability that should a failure event occur the personal injury will result
- Incorporating E_o stops the personal injury consequential cost from 'swamping' the other element values
- Personal injury cost models developed for rising mains, sewers and water mains

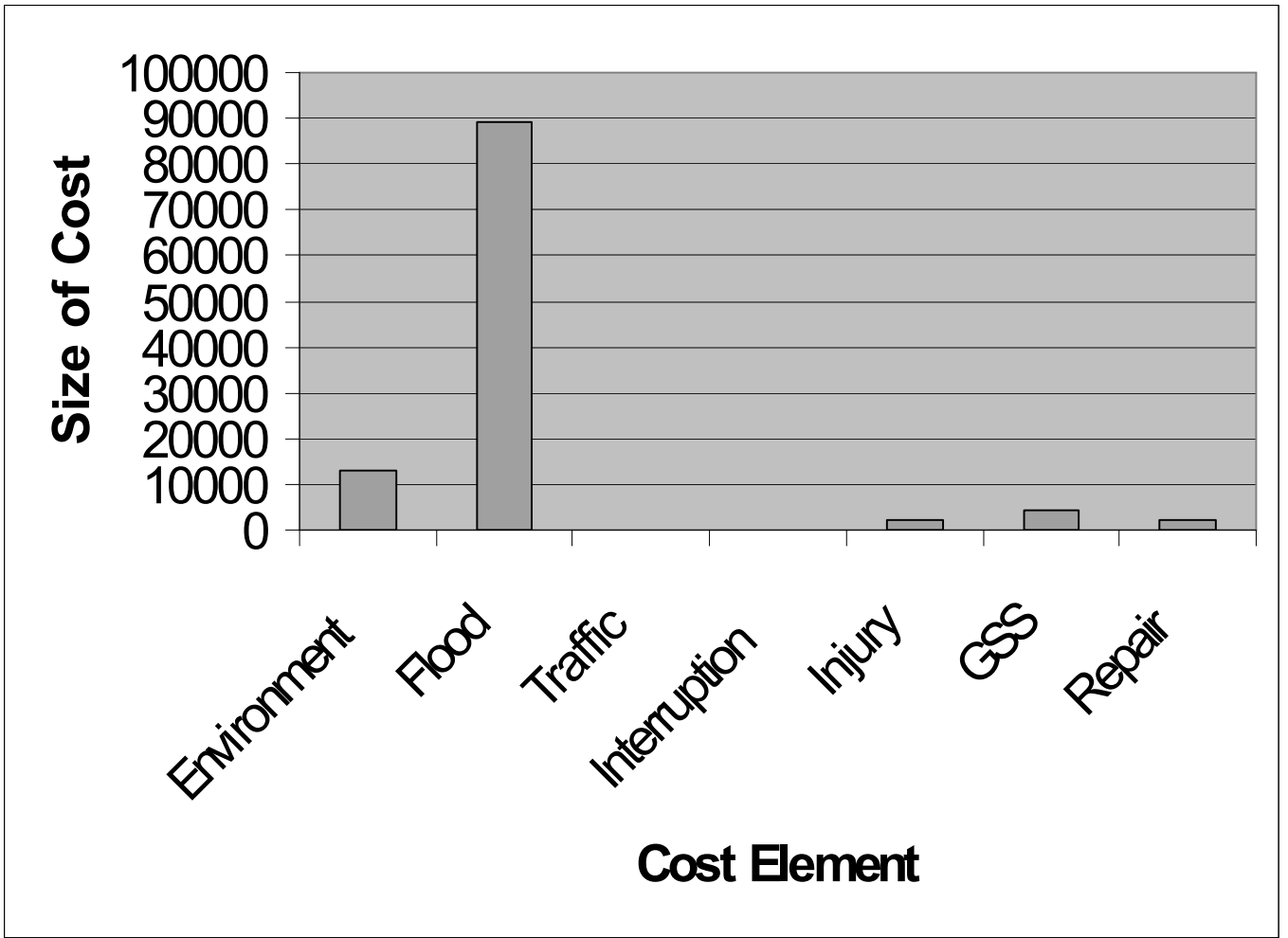
Application of the OCC

- Cost models developed for OCC were applied to a limited number of case studies (pipelines)
- Objectives:
 - To demonstrate how effectively they could be applied
 - Assess the data requirements of each cost model
 - Preliminary assessment of the relative importance of each cost element.

- Repair costs
- Environmental damage
- Flood damage to properties
- Traffic disruption
- Personal injury
- Interruptions to supply
- GSS payments (sewer flooding event)

- Physical properties from asset register
- Reasonable estimates for environmental data, based on local knowledge
- Traffic information supplied by local borough council in 2003

Sewer, large town



- Main cost of consequence was 'flood damage to properties'
- 'Environmental damage' and 'GSS payments' were the other main contrib

Conclusions (cont.)



- 'Environmental damage' and 'GSS payments' would be significant if small watercourses, parks and open areas are present, or if there are a large number of properties in the vicinity of the failure event
- The costs of consequence for 'traffic disruption' were minimal as the levels of traffic were below 22,000 vehicles per day. A rise of only 2,000 vehicles per day in the large town would see this cost increase from £615 to over £700,000
- The cost elements that appear most critical are: **'potential flood damage to properties'**, **'personal injury'** and **'traffic disruption'** (but only if the daily traffic flow is greater than 22,000)

- The sensitivity of the OCC methodology means that could be dominated by one or two cost elements, such as 'personal injury' or 'flood damages'
- 'Personal injury' is an unlikely outcome, and therefore an attempt to include probability of consequence has been included in the model. However, this is not calibrated and the current model tends to highlight the 'potential' to injury
- The effect of 'traffic disruption' takes much greater effect when the daily traffic flow reaches 22,000.
- The current flood model needs to be strengthened. A LIDAR method has now been identified

Recommendations



- Further testing of Cost Models and OCC
- Calibrate the models to ensure the right pipelines are classed as critical
- Further investigation of repair costs be undertaken to improve the robustness of the model
- Develop the 'flood damage' and 'injury elements' to take into account (more fully) the probability that once a failure event has occurred the damage will occur
- Incorporate the use of specific tools such as GIS to aid in the application of OCC
- Incorporation of failure probability and development to ensure Common Framework compatibility