



Member Report

Corporate Risk Register Update

Public

To:	Governance Committee	Date:	25 November 2024
From:	Managing Director (Head of Paid Services)	Decision type:	For information
Portfolio:	Resources	Forward Plan Reference:	
Priority:	All Priorities		

1 Summary of report

The Governance Committee has responsibility for reviewing the adequacy of the Council's corporate governance arrangements and this includes risk management arrangements. To enable the Committee to do this, Members receive updates twice per year on the current corporate risks, and a full review of corporate risks is undertaken.

2 Recommendation

It is recommended that Members of the Governance Committee note the bi-annual update of the current corporate risk register and update on corporate risks at Appendix 1 and 2.

3 What are the objectives of the report and how do they link to the Council's priorities?

To achieve the Corporate Plan's priorities, vision, and values, it is essential that the Council manages the range of risks that could threaten the realisation of those values. By having effective risk management, the Council can also have the confidence to pursue suitable opportunities. It is important to note that effective risk management is not just about avoidance, but about understanding risk to enable appropriate opportunities to be taken. The Council recognises that effective risk management is a key element of effective corporate governance and supports the maintenance of a robust internal control environment.

4 What options have been considered

Since the last update to committee, we have reviewed the risks, and the corporate risk register now has 7 corporate risks of which 5 have a residual scoring of 16 or more, thereby making them red-rated risks. The remaining 2 risks are amber. All green risks are treated as directorate-only risks and are, therefore, not included on the corporate risk register.

4.1 Update on risks

The update in Appendix 2 provides an update for both red risks as well as amber risks, this follows on from feedback at the last committee where Members requested updates on the amber risks, on the corporate risk register. Any suggestions regarding further improvement would be welcomed and incorporated into future reports.

4.2 Proposed change to red risks

After review, the corporate risks for both flooding and coastal erosion have been downgraded to directorate level. As most of the mitigations are on-going inspection, maintenance and monitoring the risk owner will keep mitigating them at directorate level, to try and reduce the likelihood of an incident occurring. However, in terms of reducing the impact and with the increase in events due to climate change and global warming a new corporate risk has been created adapting and responding to the impact of extreme weather events as a result of climate change. This not only will include

adapting to increased flooding and coastal erosion, but also hotter and drier summers, risk of heat and extreme weather events, such as storms and captures the mitigations that are being investigated to tackle the impacts these events have on the borough.

4.3 Amber risk update

The two amber risks on the corporate risk register, have their first updates being brought to governance committee, for both workforce capacity and loss of critical skills through an inability to recruit new employees and retain current employees on some areas and non-compliance with data protection legislation because of inadequate records management practices across the Council.

5 Impact assessment

Climate Emergency Impact

No specific impact, Officers have reduced travel time with meetings held via Teams.

Health and Safety

The assurance of the Health and Safety team, which is charged with validating health & safety practices are operating in accordance with policy will ensure that the Council is performing as required in relevant areas. Effective risk management includes effective health and safety risk management.

Social Value

Effective risk and opportunity management is aimed at supporting management to take the right decisions for the benefit of service improvement to the local community. It is aimed at mitigating the materialisation of risks that could cause harm or damage.

Legal

By managing risks, the Council has a process in place for identify and mitigating against the risks of failing to comply with legislation.

Financial

There are clear links from risk management to the financial spend of the Council. By managing risks, the Council can highlight any trends and manage these to ensure that there is no detrimental financial impact. Risk appetite is closely linked to the cost of insurance.

Human Resources

No Implications

Equality and Diversity

There are no direct implications from this report on equality and diversity although aspects of risk management work may involve a review of issues affecting equality and diversity.

6 Consultation and Engagement

The Managing Director, Executive Management Team, Directorate Management Team, Assistant Directors, and Risk Management Group work together to ensure risks are managed well and that the organisation's risk culture is promoted. Risk owners are responsible for updating their risk profiles and for reporting on mitigation actions.

7 Appendices and background papers

Appendix 1 – Summary of Corporate Risk Register

Appendix 2 – Update on Corporate Red Risks

8 Contact officer

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