

REPORT TO AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 24 September 2014

Report of: Corporate Manager (Policy, Communications and Community Engagement)

Title: Corporate Risk Register

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Risk Management is a Council function and is an important element of the Council's Code of Corporate Governance. Regular monitoring of the Council's corporate risks helps to ensure that the Council's business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively.

1. What is the report about?

The report advises the Committee of the Council's risk management progress and presents the updated Corporate Risk Register (Appendix A).

2. Recommendations:

That the Committee reviews the updated Corporate Risk Register.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

To comply with the Council's Risk Management Policy which states that this Committee is responsible for monitoring the effectiveness of risk management throughout the Council and regularly reviewing the Corporate Risk Register.

4. What are the resource implications including non financial resources.

Assistant Directors, Corporate Managers and other officers, as appropriate, are asked to update the Corporate Risk Register on a quarterly basis. This process is facilitated by the Policy, Communications and Community Engagement team.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

Amongst the risks set out are a number of areas relating to finance. I am comfortable at the moment that the mitigations in place and proposed, will reduce the risk to the Council.

6. What are the legal aspects?

There are no issues to raise on the content of this report.

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

There are no issues to raise on the content of this report.

8. Report details:

The Corporate Risk Register provides details of those risks which could have a major impact on the city or the Council and need to be monitored and managed at a senior management/political level. Risks which could have an impact on a service, but which would not necessarily impact on a council-wide or city basis, are contained in the operational risk register and managed by Assistant Directors and Managers.

Assistant Directors, Corporate Managers, the Deputy Chief Executive and the Chief Executive and Growth Director have reviewed the Council's risks. The Corporate Risk Register has been updated to reflect this. No significant changes have occurred since the last reporting period. The notes column contained in the register identifies those risks which have been updated since the last reporting period.

Some emerging risks have been identified and work will be conducted over the next three months to define and score these. These risks include the delay in responding to land charge searches, universal credit and how this may have a financial impact on the Council and the future work around the combined authority approach.

9. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?

This decision helps to ensure the delivery of the Council's purpose 'Well Run Council'.

10. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

Any risks should be captured in either this document or the operational risk register. However, the existing risk management process and procedure is to be audited over the coming months and this may highlight weaknesses or risks within the existing process and procedure. A further report will be presented to this Committee upon the completion of the audit.

11. What is the impact of the decision on equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, community safety and the environment?

The decision to regularly review the Corporate Risk Register will ensure that any risks or issues identified under the above headings will be identified and managed at a senior level. Most of the risks contained within the Corporate Risk Register would have an impact on one or more of the headings identified above.

12. Are there any other options?

Options on how the risk management process and procedure can be improved may be identified as part of the forthcoming audit.

Corporate Manager (Policy, Communications and Community Engagement)

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

Contact for enquires: Democratic Services (Committees), Room 2.3, 01392 265275