

## **REPORT TO EXECUTIVE**

Date of Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

Report of: Strategic Director for Corporate Resources

Title: Risk Management Policy

### **Is this a Key Decision?**

No

### **Is this an Executive or Council Function?**

Risk management is an Executive function.

Risk Management is an important element of the council's Code of Corporate Governance.

### **1. What is the report about?**

1.1 The report seeks consideration and approval of the updated Risk Management Policy (Appendix A) which has been updated to reflect the new Strategic Leadership structure and reporting arrangements.

### **2. Recommendations:**

2.1 That the Executive considers and approves the updated Risk Management Policy in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Council's Financial Regulations.

### **3. Reasons for the recommendation:**

3.1 To ensure that the council has a robust policy and approach to identifying, managing, and monitoring corporate risks which could impact on the delivery of the council's strategic priorities.

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

4.1 The Executive, Strategic Directors, and Heads of Service, as appropriate, are asked to comply with the policy by reviewing the council's corporate risks on a quarterly basis. The risks are reviewed quarterly by the Strategic Management Board.

### **5. Section 151 Officer comments:**

5.1 The Council's Risk Management Policy sets out how the council manages and reports risks to Members and Officers. This ensures 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.

### **6. What are the legal aspects?**

6.1 Risk management is an essential management tool in order to manage, assess and prioritise risks. The Risk Management Policy is designed to support the management of risk.

## **7. Monitoring Officer's comments:**

7.1 Members will note the legal aspects above and the content of this report. The process of risk management is an essential tool to manage risks and to ensure that risks are brought to the attention of Members and Officers. By proactively managing risk, good governance will be maintained.

## **8. Report details:**

8.1 The council's Risk Management Policy sets out the council's objectives and approach to managing risk. The aim of the policy is not to eliminate risk from the council's activities, but rather, to ensure that every effort is made to manage risk appropriately and in line with the council's risk appetite. The policy also defines roles and responsibilities in the council and the process for reporting risk within the council.

8.2 The policy has been updated to reflect changes to the new council structure and the requirement to report the Corporate Risk Register and progress against mitigations to Executive Committee as well as Audit and Governance Committee. The updated Risk Management Policy can be found at Appendix A. Members are asked to consider and approve the updated Risk Management Policy.

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

9.1 Good governance contributes to the Council's purpose of a "Well Run Council."

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

10.1 N/A

## **11. Equality Act 2010 (The Act)**

11.1 Under the Act's Public Sector Equalities Duty, decision makers are required to consider the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other prohibited conduct;
- advance equality by encouraging participation, removing disadvantage, taking account of disabilities and meeting people's needs; and
- foster good relations between people by tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

11.2 In order to comply with the general duty authorities must assess the impact on equality of decisions, policies, and practices. These duties do not prevent the authority from reducing services where necessary, but they offer a way of developing proposals that consider the impacts on all members of the community.

11.3 In making decisions the authority must take into account the potential impact of that decision in relation to age, disability, race/ethnicity (includes Gypsies and Travellers), sex and gender, gender identity, religion and belief, sexual orientation, pregnant women and new and breastfeeding mothers, marriage, and civil partnership status in coming to a decision.

11.4 In recommending this proposal no potential impact has been identified on people with protected characteristics as determined by the Act because the report is for information only.

## **12. Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:**

12.1 No direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from the recommendations.

12.2 Actions to mitigate the risks identified in the Corporate Risk Register may result in some future impact, however, any actions proposed would be subject to a specific report and the impacts would be considered in that report.

## **13. Are there any other options?**

13.1 N/A

**Strategic Director for Corporate Resources, Dave Hodgson**

Author: Lorraine Betts, Organisational Transformation Programme Lead

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

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

Contact for enquires:  
Democratic Services (Committees)  
Room 4.36  
01392 265275