

REPORT TO AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 27 July 2022

Report of: Chief Executive & Growth Director

Title: Corporate Risk Register

Is this a Key Decision?

No

Is this an Executive or Council function?

Risk management is a Council function.

Risk Management 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?

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

2. Recommendations:

2.1 That the Committee reviews and notes the Corporate Risk Register.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

3.1 To comply with the Council's Risk Management Policy which states that this committee is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the Council's risks and reporting all new and updated risks to the Chief Executive & Growth Director.

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

4.1 Directors and Senior Managers, as appropriate, are asked to update the Corporate Risk Register on a quarterly basis. The register is reviewed regularly by the Chief Executive & Growth Director, the Strategic Management Board and the Health and Safety Board. This process is currently facilitated by Internal Audit.

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

5.1 In respect of the financial risks on the register, it is clear that the current economic challenges will have a significant impact on the Council's financial position. The impact of the pay award, higher fuel and utility costs and general supplies and services will cause budget pressures. Whilst these may be offset by challenges in recruiting staff and acquiring products and services, the reality is that the cost pressures will be embedded into the future.

6. What are the legal aspects?

6.1 None identified

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

7.1 The content of this report raises no issues for the Monitoring Officer.

8. Report details:

8.1 The Corporate Risk Register (Appendix A) has been reviewed and updated by members of SMB as follows:

- **Risk 1 Failure to deliver anticipated benefits of major projects**

As St Sidwell's Point has now been delivered, it has been agreed by SMB to remove this risk.

- **Risk 2 Insufficient business continuity arrangements to recover critical services effectively**

SMB have agreed that that this item has been mitigated to low risk and can therefore be removed from the Corporate Risk Register (CRR) to be managed as part of the Executive Support Operational Risk Register.

- **Risk 3 Inability to deliver Carbon Net Zero aspirations for Exeter by 2030 (External)**

This risk is an external risk and relates to Exeter City (as a whole) becoming Net Zero by 2030. It is a separate target and risk and one that Exeter City Council have devolved to Exeter City Futures (ECF). The Chief Executive & Growth Director is taking a paper on this issue to Executive in June/July which will clarify the Council's intentions. Following that paper, ECF will produce a Risk Register against this target for the City which can be appended to the Council's CRR but is essentially a separate register given the limit of the Council's direct control over the City wide target.

- **NEW Risk 9 Inability to deliver Carbon Net Zero aspirations for Exeter City Council operations by 2030 (Internal)**

At the request of Members, with effect from June 2022, this risk is now the subject of a separate Risk Register to be presented half yearly to the Audit & Governance Committee by the Corporate Energy Manager, Net Zero Team.

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

9.1 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?

10.1 Any risks should be captured in either this document or the Operational Risk Register.

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:

11.4.1 The report does not set policy.

12. Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

12.3 There are no direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from the recommendations.

13. Are there any other options?

13.1 Not applicable.

Chief Executive & Growth Director

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

Background papers used in compiling this report:-

None

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