

AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**17TH FEBRUARY 2016**

REPORT TITLE	CORPORATE RISK REGISTER
REPORT OF	CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT SUMMARY

Under the terms of the Council's Constitution one of the functions of the Audit & Risk Management Committee is to provide independent assurance that the Council's risk management framework is effective.

A key output from the Council's risk management framework is the Corporate Risk Register. To support this Committee's work in considering the effectiveness of the framework a report is presented on a regular basis detailing the key risks facing the authority and how these are being managed

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the refreshed set of corporate risks be reported to this committee.
2. That further reports on the Corporate Risk Register be brought to future meetings of this Committee.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 Having an understanding of the Council's principal risks and their controls supports the Committee's responsibility in relation to the adequacy of the Council's risk management framework.
- 1.2 The provision of regular reports to this Committee on the Corporate Risk Register is a requirement of the Council's Corporate Risk Management Policy

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Not applicable to this report

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The Corporate Risk Register summarises those areas of uncertainty which have the greatest potential to prevent or frustrate delivery of the Council's plans and confirms how the authority is seeking to tackle them. At a strategic level these risks help to inform future priorities and interventions. The actions required to mitigate the risks also influence the content of Directorate plans and the allocation of resources. In that way they are a key component of the corporate planning process and so success in managing these risks is a key factor in overall corporate performance.

3.2 Existing Corporate Risks

- 3.2.1 Following the Quarter 2 review undertaken by the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) and which was reported to this Committee on 24 November 2015, the register contained 31 risks.

3.3 Refresh of the Corporate Risk Register

- 3.3.1 The Council and its partners have adopted the Wirral Plan: A 2020 Vision. This sets out a refreshed set of priorities and a different tactical approach to the delivery of outcomes. Given such major changes the most significant threats to the delivery of the Plan could differ substantially from those which we have faced previously.
- 3.3.2 I have approved a mechanism proposed by the Risk and Insurance Manager through which information would be collated to inform a discussion amongst the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) as to the matters which should feature in the refreshed register and be subject to regular monitoring.

- 3.3.3 The first element of the exercise comprised a series of interviews with political and executive leaders. This was completed in December.
- 3.3.4 There were two parts to each discussion. The first covered major influences on the success of the Plan both from within the partnership and in the wider operating environment. The second considered potential changes over the life of the Plan and the impact that they could have.

3.4 Next Steps

- 3.4.1 A report will be prepared for SLT covering the output from the exercise and providing a national perspective on the critical risks facing the local authority sector. This will be discussed and a refreshed set of corporate risks agreed.
- 3.4.2 Information as to the controls in place which help to mitigate the risks will be collated. SLT will use this to evaluate the significance of each risk. Drawing on the output from the recent risk appetite survey the team will also consider whether additional action is warranted to mitigate the risk further.
- 3.4.3 The outcome of this process and the revised risk register will be provided to future meetings of this committee.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Whilst there are no direct implications effective management of the corporate risks will help to mitigate negative impacts on the Council's financial resources.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 Whilst there are no direct implications effective management of the corporate risks will help to mitigate negative impacts on the Council's ICT, human resources and other assets.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 The issues contained in the register are considered by the Strategic Leadership Team to present the most significant risks to achievement of the Councils objectives and priorities. As such failure to manage them effectively could have severe implications for delivery of the Wirral Plan.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 No specific consultation has been undertaken with regard to this report.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

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APPENDICES

None

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Audit & Risk Management Committee	
Corporate Risk Register	24 November 2015
Corporate Risk Register	22 September 2015
Corporate Risk Register	8 June 2015
Corporate Risk Register	18 March 2015