

WIRRAL COUNCIL

AUDIT & RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

8 JUNE 2015

SUBJECT	CORPORATE RISK REGISTER
WARD/S AFFECTED	ALL
REPORT OF	CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 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 now presented on a regular basis detailing the key risks facing the authority and how these are being managed.

2.0 BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 The Corporate Risk Register summarises those areas of uncertainty which have greatest potential to prevent or frustrate delivery of the Corporate Plan 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 Service 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.

2.2 Existing Corporate Risks

- 2.2.1 Following the Quarter 3 review undertaken by the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) and which was reported to this Committee on 18 March the register contained 32 risks.

2.3 Review Quarter Four 2014/15

- 2.3.1 The Risk and Insurance Officer has collated information on progress towards the implementation of key additional controls for all current corporate risks as at 31 March 2015. That information is summarised in the Appendix to this report.
- 2.3.1 The above mentioned summary and the Quarter 4 Corporate Risk report were considered by the Corporate Governance Group at its meeting on 30 April. The report summarised high level risks within Directorate risk registers with an emphasis on those where officers believe that further mitigation will prove difficult. These documents will inform SLT's Q4 review of the register scheduled for 9 June.

2.3.2 Because SLT has not yet conducted the Q4 review there have been no changes to the register as reported to this committee on 18 March.

2.3.3 The next review will also consider / evaluate the risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) which was added to the corporate risk register at the Quarter 3 review.

2.4 Governance Commissioning and Improvement Portfolio Holder Briefings

2.4.1 Councillor Ann McLachlan has continued to examine a small number of the most critical corporate risks at each of her briefings. These examinations are structured around a summary from the Risk & Insurance Officer. Other officers with more detailed knowledge of the risks in question are also present to answer questions on the controls their effectiveness and whether further action could be taken.

2.4.2 The March briefing considered 'Withdrawal of support for the content management system could affect the security and effectiveness of the Council's web-site' (DA3) and 'Failure to ensure sufficient capacity and technical knowledge to deliver effective and compliant commissioning and procurement' (PE6). The current position in relation to the management of these risks is contained within the appendix. The next briefing planned for 16 June will consider 'Increasing demand for socially provided care exceeds the resources available - Council and NHS' (PE6) and 'Poor lifestyle choices continue to adversely affect public health and require different public provision' (SO2).

2.6 Next Steps

2.6.1 The Strategic Leadership Team will conduct the Quarter 4 review of the register. The outcome will be reported to this committee.

2.6.2 The Portfolio Holder for Governance Commissioning and Improvement will consider additional significant corporate risks at her monthly briefings.

2.6.3 Information on additional controls for corporate risks will be updated with relevant projects and activities identified in Directorate plans for 2015/16. The updated risk register will be considered by SLT at its Quarter 1 review and reported to this committee.

3.0 RELEVANT RISKS

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

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 These are not applicable in respect of this report.

5.0 CONSULTATION

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

6.0 OUTSTANDING PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ACTIONS

6.1 None.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS

7.1 None.

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS

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

9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

11.0 CARBON REDUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

13.1 That Members consider the report on progress with management of the corporate risks.

13.2 That further reports on the Corporate Risk Register be brought to future meetings of this Committee.

14.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

14.1 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.

14.2 The provision of regular reports to this Committee on the Corporate Risk Register is a requirement of the Council's Corporate Risk Management Policy.

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APPENDIX

2014/15 CRR Controls 310315

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Audit & Risk Management Committee	18 March 2015
Audit & Risk Management Committee	27 January 2015
Audit & Risk Management Committee	25 November 2014
Audit & Risk Management Committee	17 September 2014
Audit & Risk Management Committee	23 June 2014