



Audit and Risk Management Committee
Tuesday, 22 November 2016

REPORT TITLE:	CORPORATE RISK REGISTER
REPORT OF:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides an update in respect of one of the corporate risks. Progress towards the development of Risk Registers for Pledge Strategies, new Delivery Units and the revised Transformation Programme are also summarised. A copy of the Register is appended to the report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. That Members note the update to the controls for the 'Safeguarding' risk.
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 None

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 Following adoption of the Wirral Plan in 2015 the Strategic Leadership Team revised the Council's Corporate Risk Register. This was reported to this committee on 14 June 2016.
- 3.2 An initial review of the Register which took account of developments in the mitigation of the risks as at the end of quarter 1 2016/17 was undertaken on 16 August and the outcome reported to this Committee on 26 September.

DEVELOPMENTS

- 3.3 Since the review carried out on 16 August Ofsted has published a report on its inspection of the Council's services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers, and in addition reviewed the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. Overall Ofsted judged that children's services in Wirral are inadequate and that the Wirral Safeguarding Children's Board is also inadequate. This has rightly led to reconsideration of the effectiveness of the existing controls for the corporate 'Safeguarding' risk and the need for additional action.
- 3.4 As a result the Director of Children's Services has proposed amendments to the entry in the corporate risk register relating to Safeguarding. These will be considered by the Strategic Leadership Team at the quarter 2 review and are shown in the full version of the Register appended to this report.
- 3.5 It could be considered that the findings of the Ofsted report mean that safeguarding is no longer a risk but an issue to be addressed. However the safeguarding risk within the Register is concerned with an actual safeguarding incident that leads to significant harm. It is my view that whilst the Council's response to the Ofsted report has rightly led to reconsideration of the effectiveness of the controls for this risk as a topic it should remain on the Register.

- 3.6 The Risk and Insurance Manager has addressed a number of Wirral Plan Pledge Strategy Steering Groups over recent weeks to advise them of the need to identify and document their key risks and to offer to support them in this task.
- 3.7 Risk registers are also in the process of being produced for programmes within the revised Transformation Programme and for the business plans of each of the three functions in the New Operating Model.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- 3.8 The quarter 2 review of the Corporate Risk Register is scheduled to be undertaken by the Strategic Leadership Team on 22 November. The outcome of the review will be reported to the next meeting of this Committee.
- 3.9 Initial risk registers for the majority of Pledge Strategies should be developed by the end of December 2016.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

- 6.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 There are no risks arising directly from this report.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Arrangements for the production of risk registers for Pledge Strategies, the Transformation Programme and business plans have been developed in consultation with the Policy, Performance & Scrutiny and Change teams.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

REPORT AUTHOR: *Mike Lane*
Manager: Risk and Insurance
telephone: (0151) 666 3413
email: mikelane@wirral.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Corporate Risk Register (following Ofsted review)

REFERENCE MATERIAL

N/A

SUBJECT HISTORY

Council Meeting	Date
Audit & Risk Management Committee	26 September 2016
Audit & Risk Management Committee	13 June 2016
Audit & Risk Management Committee	17 February 2016
Audit & Risk Management Committee	24 November 2016