



**Audit and Risk Management Committee
Monday, 25 September 2017**

REPORT TITLE:	CORPORATE RISK REGISTER: UPDATE
REPORT OF:	Chief Executive

REPORT SUMMARY

This report confirms the outcome of the 2016/17 year-end review of the register and its refresh by the Strategic Leadership Team. The potential impact of a governance review on future monitoring and reporting arrangements is also indicated. A copy of the refreshed register recently agreed by the Strategic Leadership Team is appended.

RECOMMENDATION/S

1. That Committee considers the refreshed corporate risk register.
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 (SLT) revised the Council's Corporate Risk Register. This was reported to this Committee on 14 June 2016.
- 3.2 A review is undertaken at the end of each quarter by SLT. This addresses progress in relation to the management of the existing corporate risks as well as emerging risk areas for possible addition to the Register.

REVIEW QUARTER FOUR 2016/17

- 3.3 The quarter four review was undertaken by the Strategic Leadership Team on 13 July.
- 3.4 To support the review a summary of the status of key mitigating actions for all of the existing corporate risk at the end of Quarter 4 was provided to the team.
- 3.5 The summary indicated that all mitigating actions appeared to be progressing as planned with the exception of:
 - Development of Extra Care Housing (Risk 5: Integration of Health and Social Care)
 - Review of the Members' Code of Conduct (Risk 8: Governance)
 - Implementation of the new Asset Strategy (Risk 10: Resources and Infrastructure).
- 3.6 None of the exceptions were considered to be so significant as to warrant additional or alternative action in respect of those risks.
- 3.7 A number of emerging risk areas were also discussed by the Team
 - 3.7.1 The absence of permanent holders of key posts including statutory positions.

- 3.7.2 Uncertainty around future central government policy and the tactical approach to the UK's departure from the European Union following the outcome of the general election.
- 3.7.3 The importance of robust emergency planning and response highlighted by the tragic incident at Grenfell Tower in London in June and the continuing threat of terrorist incidents
- 3.7.4 The Council's capacity (both Member and officer) to deliver a significant change programme as well as maintaining 'business as usual' services.
- 3.7.5 Uncertainty over the outcome of the most recent Ofsted visit. (Issues raised by the Ofsted report and a Serious Case Review concerning a significant CSE incident both feature in the draft Annual Governance Statement for 2016/17).
- 3.7.6 Uncertainty over the outcome of an inspection of the Council's services for children and young people with special educational needs and / or disabilities.
- 3.7.7 Signs of increasing tension nationally between local authorities and the NHS over addressing the rising levels of demand (particularly through the hospital system).

CORPORATE RISK REGISTER REFRESH

- 3.8 In addition to the quarterly review process information on key control actions is refreshed each year to take account of new programmes and activity which will assist with the mitigation of the existing corporate risks. The Lead Officer for each corporate risk has reviewed the key control actions and has proposed amendments. Those amendments were considered by the Strategic Leadership Team on 5 September. A copy of the revised register as agreed by the Team is appended to this report.

DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER RISK REGISTERS

- 3.9 The Business Services and Delivery Services functions have produced baseline risk registers as part of the 2017/18 service planning process. Risk registers for both elements of the revised Transformation Programme are also in place in accordance with the Corporate Risk Management Policy. These are being reviewed and updated each month.
- 3.10 The review of action plans for the Wirral Plan and capacity limitations in the Risk and Insurance team had meant that work on developing risk registers for Pledge strategies had been deferred. However this work is now being progressed.

GOVERNANCE REVIEW

- 3.11 A review of the Council's corporate governance arrangements has been initiated. This will specifically consider the nature and extent of information considered by political and executive leaders including that relating to risk. As such it could have major implications for future arrangements for the reporting

of the Council's most significant risks. Any planned changes in this area will be confirmed to this committee.

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 were developed in consultation with the Intelligence and Change teams.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are none arising directly from this report.

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

APPENDICES

Corporate Risk Register

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Not applicable

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Audit & Risk Management Committee	12 th June 2017
Audit & Risk Management Committee	14 th March 2017
Audit & Risk Management Committee	30 th January 2017
Audit & Risk Management Committee	22 nd November 2016