

CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17**AUDIT COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE 2017/18****13 September 2017****CLASSIFICATION:****Open****If exempt, the reason will be listed in the
main body of this report.****WARD(S) AFFECTED****ALL WARDS****GROUP DIRECTOR****Ian Williams, Group Director, Finance and Corporate Resources.**

1. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report informs Members about the areas of work undertaken by the Corporate Risk Management Service during 2016/17. The annual report is attached as Appendix 1 and includes a summary of progress made, along with plans for the future.
- 1.2 This report assists the Committee in its role of overseeing corporate governance and is presented for information and comment.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Audit Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note this report of the Corporate Risk Management Service's outcomes for 2016/17.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1 Not applicable

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Risk management is fundamental to effective business management and it is vitally important that we know, understand and monitor the key risks and opportunities of the Council. Officers and members are then able to consider the potential impact of such risks and take appropriate actions to mitigate those as far as possible. Some risks are beyond the control of the Council but we nevertheless need to manage the potential impact or likelihood to ensure we deliver our key objectives to the best of our ability. For other risks, we might decide to accept that we are exposed to a small level of risk because to reduce that risk to nil is either impossible or too expensive. The risk management process helps us to make such judgements, and as such it is important that the Audit Committee is aware of this.
- 4.2 The Corporate Risk Service continues to be based in the Audit and Anti-Fraud Division of the Finance and Corporate Resources Directorate, having moved in May 2011 from the Financial Management Division.
- 4.3 This report provides details of the activities of the Corporate Risk Management Service and seeks to give reassurance that the service is being effectively delivered and is continually seeking to improve the standards of its service.
- 4.4 This report is produced each year and was last reviewed by Audit Committee in September 2016.
- 4.5 **Policy Context**
All risk related reporting is in line with the Council's Risk Policy, ratified biennially by the Audit Committee, and also fully supports the framework and ideology set out in the Risk Strategy.
- 4.6 **Equality Impact Assessment**
For the purposes of this report, an Equality Impact Assessment is not applicable, although in the course of Risk Management (and associated duties) all work is carried out in adherence to the Council's Equality policies.
- 4.7 **Sustainability**
This report contains no new impacts on the physical and social environment.

4.8 **Consultations**

In order for Risk Registers to progress to Audit Committee, they will already have been reviewed by the relevant Senior Management Team within the corresponding Directorate. Any senior officer with any accountability for the risks will have been consulted in the course of their reporting.

4.9 **Risk Assessment**

There are no actual risks to assess in this report.

5. **COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES**

5.1 Effective management of risk is a key requirement for good financial management and stability. This becomes more significant as funds available to the Council are reduced and budget reductions are made.

5.2 The Directorate seeks to mitigate risks as they are identified. In some instances, where there are volatile external factors and uncertainty, this might require use of reserves maintained by the Corporate Director of Finance and Corporate Resources.

5.3 There are no direct costs arising from this report.

6. **COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL SERVICES**

6.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the Council to have a sound system of control which includes arrangements for the management of risk. This Report is part of those arrangements and is designed to ensure that the appropriate controls are effective.

6.2 There are no immediate legal implications arising from this report.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Corporate Risk Management Annual Report 2016/2017

BACKGROUND PAPERS

In accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) England Regulations 2012 publication of Background Papers used in the preparation of reports is required

None

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