

Report

Audit Committee



Part 1

Date: 14 March 2018

Item No: 5

Subject Draft Revised Corporate Risk Strategy

Purpose To present an updated version of the Corporate Risk Strategy

Author Rhys Cornwall, Head of People and Business Change

Ward All

Summary This report contains an updated version of the corporate risk strategy which outlines the councils approach to risk and the processes needed to ensure a robust risk register which mitigates and manages risks to an acceptable level.

The risk strategy was originally developed in 2014 so it is timely that in be reviewed to support the current corporate plan which was agreed by full Council in November 2018.

Proposal Audit committee is asked for comments and feedback on the Draft Revised Corporate Risk Strategy.

Action by Chief Executive, Strategic Directors and Heads of Service

Timetable Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Corporate Management Team

Signed

Background

1. Corporate Assessment

As part of its governance arrangements the Council has a risk management strategy and a corporate risk register is monitored quarterly. Through the Corporate Assessment Review 2014 the WAO noted that “The Council has improved its approach to and presentation of its corporate risk register. The risk register now includes a before and after mitigation risk score at an assessed date and a breakdown of the probability and impact of that risk. The register includes current actions to address each risk and assigns responsibility to senior officers, cabinet member and scrutiny committee”.

2. Risk Management Strategy

The Risk Management Strategy was agreed by Cabinet in September 2014. It was updated to reflect a revised approach to risk management and improved processes for identifying and escalating risk. Potential benefits of an improved risk management approach are improved decision making, avoidance of shocks and the ability to mitigate threats and take advantage of opportunities.

The Risk Management Strategy is under review to ensure that the sustainable development principle of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 are embedded in the process and frame each risk.

3. Role of Audit Committee

Since the introduction of the Local Government Measure 2011 the local authority’s Audit Committee have a role in reviewing and assessing the risk management, internal control and corporate governance arrangements of the authority. Processes and Strategies about risk management should be reviewed by the Committee however the content of the risk register including setting and changing risks included in the register is *not* the role of the Audit Committee.

Financial Summary

- There are no direct costs associated with this report

Risks

Risk	Impact of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect	Who is responsible for dealing with the risk?
That the strategy and process are not robust enough to capture all high risks	M	L	Reviewing, testing and embedding processes to ensure that they are fit for purpose	Directors, Heads of Service and Performance Team

* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Robust risk management practices increase the chances that all of the council's priorities and plans will be implemented successfully

management, internal control and corporate governance arrangements of the authority. However, the identification of corporate risks, for inclusion within the risk register, is an executive decision for Cabinet.

Background Papers

Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 18th December 2015
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 28th January 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 14th March 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 24th March 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 6th June 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 23rd June 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 12th September 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 22nd September 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 21st December 2016
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 26th January 2017
Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 24th April 2017
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 30th May 2017
Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 13th September 2017
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 25th September 2017
Corporate Risk Register, Cabinet, 17th January 2018
Corporate Risk Register, Audit Committee, 23rd January 2018

Dated: March 2018