

STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 The Cabinet are requested to adopt the Strategic Risk Register, noting it will be under constant review.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Council's Strategic Risk Register was reviewed following the development of the Council's new 'Community Matters Corporate Plan 2020-2024'.
- 2.2 The Coronavirus Pandemic then necessitated a review of the Council's Strategic Risk Register, proving the need for this to be a fluid document, and not just something that will be drawn up once and 'put on the shelf'.
- 2.3 The Strategic Risk Register now included within this report contains the significant risks, as identified by senior and executive council officers in consultation with the Portfolio Holders, in the Council achieving the priorities set out in the 'Community Matters Corporate Plan 2020-24'.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Risk management aims to identify the risks that may impact on the Council achieving its objectives. Its purpose is to evaluate, design and implement effective measures to reduce both the likelihood and potential impact of these risks occurring.
- 3.2 The Council has a statutory responsibility to have in place arrangements for managing risks under the Accounts and Audit Regulations; which require a sound system of internal control, facilitates the effective exercise of the body's functions and includes arrangements for the management of risk. As such it features strongly in the Council's Local Code of Practice for Corporate Governance and is one of the primary assurance strands in the Annual Governance Statement, which places significant reliance on a robust risk management framework.

4. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

- 4.1 The revised Strategic Risk Register (Appendix 1) captures the most significant risks to the delivery of the current Corporate Plan and the proposed actions to mitigate these risks.
- 4.2 These risks have been identified with senior and executive council officers working alongside the Portfolio Holders to ensure a joined-up approach in capturing and documenting these risks. The risks are listed within the Portfolio Holder Dashboards, now regularly shared with the relevant scrutiny panels (commenced January 2021). The mitigation offered is closely aligned to portfolio resource and service plans and, in some cases, relies on working with partners to help achieve the objectives. Other risks specific to service delivery and their mitigations are considered within individual Service Manager Dashboards.
- 4.3 Audit Committee members were given Risk Management training in which was provided by our current insurer Protector. The purpose of this training was to support members in providing feedback to the Strategic Risk Register. The Strategic Risk

Register was presented to Audit Committee on the 29 January 2021. Audit Committee noted the contents of the Strategic Risk Register with no further feedback.

- 4.4 Since the Audit Committee meeting in January 2021, a new risk has been added to the Leader and Corporate Affairs Portfolio. This demonstrates the Strategic Risk Register being a fluid document where existing risks will be monitored on a regular basis for any changes and any additional risks that need to be included.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are none arising directly from this report, although strong risk management and a solid understanding of risk helps to support robust financial management.

6. CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

8. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

9. PORTFOLIO HOLDER COMMENTS

- 9.1 It is important that the Council identifies and, where practical, mitigates risk. Portfolio Holders will work with officers to monitor the strategic risks identified within their portfolios.

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Background Papers:

None