

1. Supporting Communities							
Inherent Risk Score	Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required			
Likelihood 3 x Impact 4 = High 12	Communities are likely to be negatively impacted due to the current rate of inflation driven (in part) by a high utility price, and the knock-on implication this is having to the cost of food, whilst in the context of a sustained inflated fuel price. This will create additional pressures on local businesses and job security.  Communities are impacted through a shortage of housing including affordable housing Supply being delivered within the District.  The Council needs to do more to support communities with enhanced digital channels for transacting and communicating with the Council.  There will also be some challenges around the delivery of the Freeport.	<ul> <li>A. Targeted funding streams and support for voluntary and community sectors.</li> <li>B. Engagement in discussions of fundamental activities such as Solent Freeport and County Deals.</li> <li>C. Close working partnerships with key stakeholders such as the Community Safety Partnership and the Skills Advisory Group.</li> <li>D. Effectively review and apply the Council's Local Plan, including active monitoring of the implementation, while proactively working with developers to provide enabling infrastructure and continuously reviewing the Local Plan.</li> <li>E. Roll-out Digital Strategy prioritising customer needs.</li> <li>F. Corporate Plan 2020-2024 and the development of the next Corporate Plan in 2023.</li> <li>G. Collaborative working with key partners through the Cost of Living Steering Group to implement a Poverty Action Plan.</li> <li>H. Establishment of a referral system to aid vulnerable residents.</li> <li>I. Regular engagement with the voluntary sector</li> <li>J. Participation on the board and its sub-committees of Solent Freeport Consortium Limited, ensuring collaborative working and shared goal achievement to advance the economic, social and environmental well-being of the District.</li> <li>K. The Council's Housing Revenue Account is actively seeking opportunities to bring forward additional affordable homes within the District, under Council ownership.</li> </ul>	Likelihood 2 x Impact 3 = Medium 6	A. Allocate resource to support Corporate Plan priorities. Progress update: Alignment of resource to priorities to take effect after finalisation of 24-28 corporate plan. B. Continue to work in partnership for example with the Solent Freeport and with other public sector partners to explore new and existing opportunities to deliver to residents and businesses. Progress update: Having agreed New Forest priorities for delivery through the Solent Freeport with the Future New Forest Growth Board and Waterside Steering group build into a delivery plan for Cabinet approval. C. Understanding the results from the resident survey and taking stock of these learning points to ensure they feed into the Corporate Plan 2025- 2028. Progress update: Subject to consultation and final approval in April 2024, deliver actions arising from new Corporate Plan objectives, under the People priority of Helping those in our community with the greatest need. D. Continued support to the Cost of Living Steering Group is provided, bringing a multi-agency approach to tackling issues affecting the most vulnerable in the community, working alongside the Local Partnership Campaign Manager to explore and promote further support to household. Progress update: Council Wide Cost of Living group who have an Action Plan which is reviewed and updated.			



E. Continuing to explore all housing enabling avenues across planning and housing.  Progress update: The push to increase affordable housing availability spearheaded by the Council and Housing Associations is making progress, despite facing a challenging environment (lack of strategic sites coming forward, construction costs and interest rates both increased). By the end of FY33/24, it is anticipated that the Council will have successfully overseen the completion of 340 new Council homes and is on track to add 115 more.  Within planning, efforts are focused on enforcing Local Plan policies and accelerating development with
accertaing development with necessary infrastructure as stipulated by the plan. Collaboration continues with the New Forest National Park Authority to ensure advelopment within the National Park that aligns with its own Local Plan. An NFDC local plan review is planned to commence early in FY24/25 to update development criteria.



## A shi aving future financial regiliones

2. Achieving future financial resilience						
Inherent Risk Score	Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required		
Likelihood 3 x Impact 3 = High 9	The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan is affected by numerous external economic factors, such as the high bank base rate and the current rate of inflation (cost of living). These factors place significant pressure on expenditure and impact the ability to generate income, noting the longer-term implications of recovering from economic challenges.  Other factors, more specific to the Council include pay award, levelling up, the fair funding review, the impact of a business rate reset and increased salary costs resulting from a need to align pay with the wider market.  The Council may also need to do more to support communities due to the potential for closure of local businesses and job losses as a result of the cost of living crisis.  Given financial constrains affecting the Local Government sector as a whole, Local Authority Partners, may look to the District Council to support their own respective financial sustainability over the Medium term.	<ul> <li>A. Regular review of the Council's MTFP including reserve levels and future changes to funding.</li> <li>B. Annual budget setting for revenue and capital including funding.</li> <li>C. Utilisation of external financial support that provides support for funding modelling.</li> <li>D. Regular budget monitoring reports and updates to senior officers and Members.</li> <li>E. Currently in the process of creating a Transformation Strategy that contains ample measures to support the successful implementation of the plan. This strategy encompasses numerous actions that will aid effective delivery of the transformation plan.</li> <li>F. Development of savings plans and invest to save initiatives.</li> <li>G. Treasury Management Strategy to ensure the Council is acting within the prudential indicators.</li> <li>H. Maintain appropriate level of financial reserves as contingency arrangements to provide resilience over the medium term.</li> <li>I. Development of capital plans in accordance with Capital Strategy with full financial appraisal and revenue implications.</li> <li>J. Working with County Council, Towns and Parishes to maximise opportunities for joint working.</li> </ul>	Likelihood 2 x Impact 3 = Medium 6	<ul> <li>A. Continue to keep abreast of developments in: <ul> <li>pay award</li> <li>Fair Funding</li> <li>National Business Rate Policy</li> <li>Levelling Up</li> <li>County Deals</li> </ul> </li> <li>Progress update: Medium Term Financial Plan updated accordingly.</li> <li>B. Maintain momentum and presence within the delivery of the Solent Freeport. <ul> <li>Progress update: NFDC presence maintained on board and committees.</li> </ul> </li> <li>C. Development of the Transformation <ul> <li>Programme to deliver enhanced services and financial efficiencies to support the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan.</li> <li>Progress update: Implementation of the transformation strategy to deliver enhanced services and financial efficiencies to support the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Plan.</li> </ul> </li> <li>D. Keep up discussions with upper and lower tier authority partners to ensure effective and efficient service delivery to residents. <ul> <li>Progress update: Respond as appropriate to Hampshire County Council budget consultations and service reviews, representing the needs of New Forest residents, and continue the work to ensure efficiency re delivery and consistency with third party charging.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		





# Ensuring efficient and effective internal control, governance and

complian				
Inherent Risk Score	Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required
Likelihood 3 x Impact 4 = High 12	As a local authority we need to show appropriate compliance and controls:  - Financial Regulations - Financial Management Code - Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard Accreditation - Production and publication of various statutory documents - Effectiveness of the Capital Change and Delivery Board - Effectiveness of the new Project Management Framework - Timeliness of External Audit completion  We continue to follow best practise in terms of documenting our Annual Code of Corporate Governance review, and preparation of an Annual Governance Statement, both with actions plans.	<ul> <li>A. Annual internal audit plan developed by senior officers and members is targeted at key risks areas and responsive to new areas of risk.</li> <li>B. External/internal audit regime.</li> <li>C. Annual Assurance Statements compiled testing compliance with key business activities, supporting Annual Governance Statement compilation.</li> <li>D. Range of performance indicators that monitor internal controls.</li> <li>E. Maintenance of a range of policies that underpin the control framework – Financial Regulations, Counter Fraud Strategy, Risk Management Framework, Contract Procedure Rules coupled with staff training.</li> <li>F. Regular reporting at Audit Committee.</li> <li>G. Compliance with Transparency Code.</li> <li>H. Compliance with Local Code of Corporate. Governance.</li> <li>I. Key compliance roles identified and assigned i.e., Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer, Data Protection Officer, H&amp;S, Facilities Lead etc.</li> <li>J. Compliance with information governance including the UK General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018.</li> <li>K. Review and update of Business Continuity Plans.</li> <li>L. Housing and Facilities Compliance reported regularly through EMT.</li> <li>M. Information Governance Team in place with regular reporting through EMT.</li> <li>N. Financial Regulations and workflows built into core financial system.</li> </ul>	Likelihood 2 x Impact 4 = Medium 8	<ul> <li>A. Continue through information governance work programme, including updated document retention and destruction schedules for all services.</li> <li>Progress update: The corporate retention and destruction schedule has now been completed and was approve by Executive Management Team on 11 July 2023. Work continues to review and improve all areas of information governance compliance.</li> <li>B. Management to undertake actions from the internal audit reports.</li> <li>Progress update: Regular updates with Chief Internal Auditor and outstanding actions followed up on.</li> <li>C. Ongoing engagement with external audit.</li> <li>Progress update: Ongoing through regular meetings and liaison inbetween.</li> <li>D. Continue to assess the effectiveness of the new Project Management framework for projects to ensure appropriate Governance arrangements are in place for all projects.</li> <li>Progress update: We're currently exploring a virtual project management office as part of the transformation programme arrangements to ensure consistency in the management, governance and monitoring of projects using standardised templates and a</li> </ul>

central point for the provision of advice.



	E. Financial Management Code — complete outstanding actions identified through the initial assessment.  Progress update: Mandatory financial training was provided to all members as part of the induction programme. New performance framework will be developed after finalisation of the new corporate plan, this will take effect during 2024.  F. Enhance member and officer development by offering continuous
	development by offering continuous training, development and engagement opportunities.  Progress update: Initial Member Induction and Training nearing end, resources on Sharepoint for later use. Equality, Diversity, Inclusion training by LGA in early 2024. Ongoing promotion of LGA Leadership and Councillor resources, with thematic months. Feedback being collected to improve future training. Regular Member Briefings update on key priorities before decision-making meetings.
	G. Continue to ensure high levels of statutory compliance standards across services.  Progress update: Half-yearly update on information governance and Housing and Facilities compliance reports presented to Executive Management Team during October and November 2023 respectively.



4. Crea	ating the right culture	, capacity and capabilit	v	
Inherent Risk Score	Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required
Likelihood 3 x Impact 3 = High 9	The Council needs to attract, recruit and retain the high calibre of employee that it requires to fulfil its expectations in Service delivery.  The Leadership review has concluded and the Council now has a settled top tier leadership structure. There is however a risk around the time required to achieve organisational/cultural change.  The pandemic demonstrated the Council's ability to adapt to changing circumstances swiftly and ensure prioritised operations continued.  Accordingly, it is crucial that we continue this momentum and uphold the positive experiences and benefits that have emerged from recent changes. Moreover, steps must be taken to address and improve upon any negative experiences and challenges encountered in service delivery, thereby ensuring a more efficient and satisfactory experience for all involved.  There are still some actions to complete as a result of the staff survey completed during 2022.	<ul> <li>A. Employee Forum to encourage collaboration and engender a culture that enables change and innovation.</li> <li>B. Learning and development programme to be developed and rolled out to provide training, tools and techniques to develop the necessary skills.</li> <li>C. Regular 1-1's and annual PDI process</li> <li>D. Investigation and identification of further collaborations that will support building capacity and capability (and resilience) including both public and corporate business.</li> <li>E. Staff Suggestion scheme.</li> <li>F. Transformation framework in progress.</li> <li>G. Communications plan (internal) allowing for regular staff engagement/progress updates.</li> <li>H. Staff/union engagement.</li> <li>I. Project management/capability.</li> <li>J. Performance management and key performance indicators in place.</li> <li>K. Staff/officer wellbeing and support.</li> <li>L. Development of Workforce Strategy and enabling an agile workforce.</li> <li>M. Corporate plan 2020-2024.</li> <li>N. Hybrid working increasing potential pool of staff.</li> <li>O. More support and training on virtual working/managing staff.</li> <li>P. Further ICT training to ensure maximum return on investment.</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>A. Embedding of new Council Leadership structure (including necessary backfill).</li> <li>Progress update: Focus on securing the capacity within the wider leadership team in light of staff changes, and the successful implementation of the leadership development programme including 360 degree appraisal and coaching.</li> <li>B. Progress learnings from employee survey.</li> <li>Progress update: Working group was set up and findings have been shared with all staff and posted on ForestNet.</li> <li>C. HR developing plans to work with third parties to deliver a consistent and structured approach to training and development.</li> <li>Progress update: New Learning Management system has been procured and is currently being implemented.</li> <li>D. Keep abreast of developments in pay award negotiations and be ready to respond accordingly.</li> <li>Progress update: Pay awards for 2023 have now been agreed and have been implemented (including back pay) in November.</li> </ul>



E. Transformation plan being formulated to include design principles for a new operating model, approach, implementation, and necessary resources. A key aspect of the design principles will be our people strategy and organisational development opportunities. A Transformation Strategy will be presented to the new administration in 2023.

Progress update: A key theme of the transformation strategy is how we organise and develop our people and culture, making sure roles, structures. behaviours and skills evolve to meet new service designs and needs. A priority action will be the delivery of a People Strategy during 2024.

F. Continue to identify further opportunities that should be progressed in connection with improving service delivery.

Progress update: Implement transformation strategy to identify further opportunities that should be progressed in connection with improving service delivery.

- G. Allocate resource to support Corporate Plan ambitions.
- Progress update: The update for this is aligned with 1A.
- H.—Continue to work in partnershipwith other public sector partners toexplore new and existing opportunities to deliver to residents and businesses.

Progress update: Risk owner has requested for this to be deleted as not specific.



#### Ensuring robust security measures to protect the Council's digital data and ICT accore from ovtornal throate

Inherent Risk Score	Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required
Likelihood 4 x Impact 4 = High 16	This risk relates to the Council's ability to defend itself against the constantly evolving threat from cyber based attack. The Council, in common with other public bodies, should be regarded as a high-profile target given the impact and publicity a successful attack can have.  The current insurance market for public sector cyber risks is volatile.	<ul> <li>A. Up to date Disaster Recovery plan is in place.</li> <li>B. Awareness training of officers and staff on the threats of cyber attacks.</li> <li>C. Continued reviewing and tightening of existing IT Security Policy to ensure measures adapt to the changing threat, including awareness, familiarisation and training.</li> <li>D. Acceptable use of IT policy to ensure staff are using equipment safely and appropriately.</li> <li>E. Relationships with other agencies to ensure best practice is established.</li> </ul>	Likelihood 3 x Impact 4 = High 12	A. Continued development of O365 services to improve email and antivirus protections.  Progress update: Microsoft E5 licenses provide email protection using multiple threat protection policies including Anti-Phishing, Ant Spam, Anti-Malware, Safe Attachments, Safe Links and a global allow / block list. Data Loss Prevention (DLP) policies are being introduced in partnership between Information Communication Technology and Information Governance department for emails. Microsoft Defender technology is in the process of being tested for endpoint anti-virus protection.  B. Carry out annual penetration test. Progress update: Information Communication Technology department conducts an annual Information Technology health check, which encompasses a complete penetration test. Any vulnerabilities discovered are ranked and addressed according to a plan based on their criticality. The most recent assessment occurred from 29/08/23 to 08/09/23, during which all critical and high vulnerabilities were either remedied or mitigated to lower associated risks.





#### Ability to be agile and shift focus in response to policy and national nolitical change

pontica	i change			
Inherent Risk Score	Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required
	The significance of the current cost of living crisis and inflation, coupled with the need to repay the COVID bill may impact on government priorities and planning.  Changes in national politics and the required general election (by Jan 2025), as well as a new NFDC administration with an altered political balance all have the potential to have an impact.  Other legislation that will affect the council include:  - Levelling up white paper  - The environment bill  - Future planning reform  - Changes the regulatory landscape to housing  There is a possibility of experiencing a shift in the political landscape leading up to the general election.	<ul> <li>A. Continuous monitoring of political landscape to allow for early indicators of policy change.</li> <li>B. Prudent financial and strategy assumptions to allow for agile responses.</li> <li>C. Corporate Plan 2020-2023 reviewed and updated where appropriate as changes identified that could impact on the Council and its plans i.e., Covid-19.</li> <li>D. Section 151 Officer role providing advice to the Council on current/ future financial challenges.</li> <li>E. Reports to committee include explicit assessment of implications and therefore should identify/reflect current and future challenges.</li> <li>F. The Executive should conduct horizon scanning to proactively anticipate and identify potential challenges and opportunities in order to influence outcomes through consultation.</li> <li>G. Membership of Local Government Association etc providing information/insights to the Council.</li> <li>H. Members' roles and responsibilities including involvement in local networks, County Council, other agencies and national forums, enabling insight to be gained and shared with the Council.</li> <li>I. Staff membership of professional bodies enabling own development and also providing for insights through membership of challenges that may present themselves to the Council.</li> <li>J. Officer/member forums and networks.</li> <li>K. Review of Coastal Strategy and Actions. Climate Change Action Plan.</li> </ul>	Likelihood 2 x Impact 4 = Medium 8	<ul> <li>A. Making sure the workforce is aware that training is available. Progress update: The new Learning Management System will make this easier for staff and managers to track.</li> <li>B. Ensuring professional training availability as this impacts departments e.g., Planning and Legal Progress update: Managers will be better equipped to track this with the new Learning Management System.</li> <li>C. Encouraging staff to undertake professional development and service-related training. Progress update: Training budgets for 2024/25 have been reset to allow consistency across all departments across the Council to ensure equal opportunity to all staff.</li> </ul>



D. Prepare and implement the national changes arising out of the new Social Housing Charter. which represents the biggest change in social housing for 40 vears. Work has been ongoing for the last 2 years to prepare and implement the necessary changes including reporting to EMT, Housing & Homelessness Overview & Scrutiny Panel and Cabinet. Progress update: A new Tenant Engagement Strategy is due for approval by Cabinet in April 2024, and work to engage with tenants (through newly recruited positions) has already delivered a new digital engagement platform. Performance monitoring against the new regulatory regime's 22 Tenant Satisfaction Measures is well underway with a 6 month progress report presented to EMT in October 2023. Other work is ongoing to prepare for the forthcoming consumer standards and positive improvements to neighbourhoods.



## Delivering Council Services through adverse environmental conditions

	7. Delivering Council Services through adverse environmental conditions							
Inherent Ris	k Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required				
Likelihood 2 x Impact 4 Medium 8	3 , ,	<ul> <li>A. Business Continuity framework and individual service continuity plans.</li> <li>B. Threat response plans which will include ICT Infrastructure response, alternative accommodation provisions and reallocation of staff.</li> <li>C. Emergency Planning Strategy and defined roles assigned.</li> <li>D. Communication with NFDC residents on all platforms e.g., social media.</li> </ul>	Likelihood 2 x Impact 3 = Medium 6	<ul> <li>A. Annual programme of Emergency Planning training to be established. Robust training continues to be arranged and carried out for officers involved in emergency planning. Work continues in ensuring business continuity plans are in place, including for interruptions due to energy outages. Progress update: Training matrix in place for officers with emergency planning roles. Training courses and exercises undertaken and further planned for near future. Plans ae in place with services for energy outages. B. Review and challenge of functional Service Continuity Plan and conclude Business Continuity Planning. Progress update: Action plan highlighting requirements to review these plans going to Executive Management Team in December 2023 C. Regular reporting to EMT on progress against Emergency Planning and Business Continuity action plan. Progress update: Executive Management Report in June and Dec 2023 with circulated email update on Oct 23</li> </ul>				
nowforest con ul		· ·		nowforestds nowforestany				



(	0			
			D.	Continuity to increase capacity for service to manage this risk.  Progress update: To be reviewed.
			E.	Set up links to Town and Parish councils as they would be involved in implementing actions through adverse conditions.  Progress update: The Community Forum has established connections and is preparing for its next meeting in March, where the focus will be on discussing community resilience. A new initiative is underway to update plan templates in order to assess community skills and assets for improved preparedness. This progress will be closely monitored and integrated into the collaboration with the Local Resilience Forum and Verdatus.



## Responding to the Climate and Nature Emergency

Inherent Risk Score	Current circumstance	Risk Control	Residual Risk Score	Action Required
Likelihood 4 x Impact 4 = High 16	NFDC declared a Climate Change and Nature Emergency in 2021 in response to global temperature rise and the associated impacts on natural and built environments. Declaring an emergency demonstrates NFDC's commitment to the legally binding target set by Central Government for the UK to reach net zero carbon by 2050, however progress in achieving the agreed targets is significantly off track at national and global levels.  As a result of climate change, the New Forest area is expected to experience:  • Hot drier summers and warmer winters  • More frequent and extreme heatwaves, droughts flooding and coastal erosion  Failing to reduce emissions, improve environmental quality and adequately adapt to climate change will have impacts for NFDC residents, tenants, businesses, visitors, and the economy.  Responding at a pace and scale comparable to the declared emergency will ensure that the environmental, social, financial and reputational risks to NFDC are minimised, and any opportunities arising from the changing climate are maximised.  National and local actions are key to achieving environmental goals, which include grid decarbonisation, policy planning, and enabling a green economy. However, funding these initiatives is challenging and could affect residents' costs of living.	<ul> <li>B. Deliver, monitor and report on four key programmes of work: carbon reduction, climate adaptation, nature recovery and programme management.</li> <li>C. Governance and oversight from Climate and Nature Steering Group and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Panel.</li> <li>D. Climate Change and Nature Emergency Annual Report to inspire behaviour change, demonstrate corporate leadership and ensure transparency, accountability, and governance detailing action to date, progress against targets and future actions.</li> <li>E. Service risk assessments and business continuity plans to be developed.</li> <li>F. Consideration of climate change and sustainability issues in the early stages of all activities, including projects, plans, strategies, and procurements.</li> <li>G. Prioritisation of climate change and sustainability in the Corporate Plan, Local Plan and other key strategies.</li> <li>H. Ensuring adequate resources for climate and sustainability efforts including third party financial support.</li> </ul>	Likelihood 3 x Impact 4 = High 12	<ul> <li>A. Successful delivery of projects within the organisational and area-wide Climate Change and Nature Emergency Action Plan. Progress update: Delivery of projects is on track. Action Plan will be reviewed for 2024/25.</li> <li>B. Climate and Sustainability to be identified as key priorities in the new Corporate Plan, Local Plan and other key strategies e.g., Greener Housing Strategy Progress update: New Corporate plan is in process of being drafted with climate and sustainability embedded within it.</li> <li>C. Development of policy framework to ensure business as usual activities of NFDC services contribute positively to climate and sustainability objectives. Progress update: Policy development is underway. </li> <li>D. Creation of a 5-year strategy and action plan with aligned resources and targets. Progress update: The Climate Change and Nature Emergency Strategy will cover the period 2024-2028 to align with the new Corporate Plan. Resources requirements and targets will be aligned to the resulting action plans. </li> </ul>



0	0	•		
			E.	risks in service level risk assessments and business continuity plans. Progress update: Ongoing process and review.
			F.	members, particularly O&S panel members, on climate change, nature and sustainability issues.  Progress update: Initial training for officers and members took place in 2023. Further training is scheduled for early 2024.
			G.	Aligning level of resourcing to meet emerging corporate priorities.  Progress update: To be determined alongside adoption
				of new corporate plan.