

AUDIT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 5
16 SEPTEMBER 2019	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Peter Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director Resources	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr David Seaton, Cabinet Member for Finance	
Contact Officer(s):	Peter Carpenter, Acting Corporate Director Resources Katherine Hlalat, Head of the PMO	Tel. 452520 07834315674

RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM: Acting Corporate Director Resources	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that Audit Committee</p> <p>1. Note and comment on the Risk Management Report.</p>	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted as an update on the analysis undertaken by the Project, Programme and Assurance Office for each Directorate's Risk and Issue register.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The purpose of this report is for the Audit Committee to note and comment on the Risk Management Report.

2.2 This report is for the Audit Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No 2.2.2.12:

To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance in the council.

2.3 *How does this report link to the Corporate Priorities?*

This report sets out identified risks and mitigating actions in order that the Council delivers its Statutory and Corporate priorities.

3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	
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4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

4.1 The effect of uncertainty on an organisation's objectives is risk. Risk management is the process of identifying what might go wrong, what the potential consequences could be, and how to best

mitigate the likelihood of the risk occurring. If it does go wrong, as is inevitable sometimes, proactive risk management will ensure the impact is kept to a minimum.

4.2 In order to formalise risk management arrangements across the business, Peterborough City Council has developed a Risk Management Strategy.

The objectives of this strategy are to maintain the effective management of risk through:

- Increasing the likelihood of achieving the organisation’s goals and delivering outcomes;
- Improving the identification of opportunities and threats across the project portfolio;
- Improving governance, stakeholder confidence and trust;
- Establishing a reliable basis for informed decision making and planning;
- Effectively allocate and use resources for risk treatment;
- Improving organisational resilience.

4.3 Peterborough City Council is committed to effective risk management arrangements as a means of achieving the council’s strategic objectives. As such the risk management vision is to consolidate and improve existing arrangements to bring about the following benefits:

- Key risks are identified, are being managed and mitigated, both by the council and its partners;
- Resources are directed to the risks that matter and away from risks that don’t - leading to fewer surprises;
- Opportunities are exploited from risk taking, because risks are understood and managed.

4.4 The following criteria is applied to determine if a risk is also a corporate risk:

1. If it would cause reputational damage to the council
2. If it would have a financial impact on the council

Overall the Council has the following Corporate Risks:

Department	High level Risks	Medium level Risks	Low Level Risks
Chief Executive’s	2	11	8
Place and Economy	1	6	1
People and Communities	3	4	1
Public Health	1	0	0
Resources	5	8	0

The high level corporate risks are listed below:

- General election or referendum as a result of Brexit
- Leaseholds of 50 homes to aid with the homeless situation
- Corporate HR IT System
- Reduction affordable permanent rented accommodation
- Meeting demand for School Places
- Shared Service
- Safeguarding
- National public health grant allocation is below target
- "Brexit" impact on EU funding and regulatory framework
- Financial Resilience
- Failure to achieve MTFs savings targets
- Local Government Funding Review outcome & a possibility of losing grant with short notice
- Failure to maintain an effective business continuity plan

[Appendix A](#) sets out the council's high level corporate risks in more detail, including their likelihood, impact, and factors being taken to mitigate them. It should be noted, that the risks are taken at a snapshot in time, and due to mitigation and circumstances, will move in level from period to period.

There are a number of risks where the authority has limited ability to reduce impact - for example the uncertainty around Brexit. However, over the last twelve months all risks have been regularly reviewed, mitigation has been scrutinised and risks have been consolidated wherever possible.

4.5 Uncertainty around the future for the UK and the European Union (EU) continues.

The UK is due to leave the EU on 31st October 2019, an extension to the original date of 29th March. This extension has led to prolonged uncertainty on the economy, pushing any interest rate and gross domestic product (GDP %) increases further into the future.

A Brexit 'no deal' situation would mean a number of key changes for Councils such as:

- How EU funded programmes will operate
- Procurement
- State Aid
- Importing and Exporting (Where the authority has a port, importing certain animal species etc.)
- Labelling products (including food, chemicals, enforcement, tobacco products etc.)
- Personal data and consumer rights

The LGA have produced a Brexit advice hub, which can be found [here](#)

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 There is a bi-monthly Risk Management meeting where lead officers update departmental Risk Registers and review a detailed analysis of both departmental and corporate risks.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 That risks to the delivery of council services are identified and rated in a timely manner and mitigating actions are put in place to minimise their impact.

That risks are reviewed on a periodic basis to ensure their impact and likelihood are correctly stated and mitigating actions are being delivered.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 The Audit Committee must be assured that the council has processes in place to identify risks on a timely basis and that actions are put in place to monitor and mitigate their effects.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 N/A

9. IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

- 9.1 None in this report, however there may be costs associated with individual risk mitigations. These are picked up in the normal monthly monitoring process.

Legal Implications

9.2 N/A

Equalities Implications

9.3 N/A

10. APPENDICES

10.1 [Appendix A](#)