

AUDIT COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
17 OCTOBER 2022	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Cecilie Booth, Executive Director of Resources and s.151 Officer	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Andy Coles, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Governance	
Contact Officer(s):	Steve Crabtree, Chief Internal Auditor	Tel. 384 557

CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

RECOMMENDATIONS	
FROM : Steve Crabtree, Chief Internal Auditor	Deadline date : N / A
<p>It is recommended that Audit Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the information provided in this report and determine whether any further action is needed in respect of the identified risks. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to Audit Committee as a scheduled report on risks across the Council. It is set out within the agreed Work Programme.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 The Terms of Reference for the Audit Committee (agreed at Full Council) set out the key roles of the Committee including the following

2.2.1.18: To monitor the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance in the Council.

2.2 The purpose of this report is to present to Members details of the current risks being managed across the Council as set out within the risk registers. It enables Audit Committee to monitor the effective development and operation of risk management together with considering compliance with the agreed framework.

3. TIMESCALE

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

- 4.1 To support the Committee's responsibility in relation to Risk Management, the Committee receive and agree the Risk Management Policy and also updates on the risks impacting on the Council. These key risks are monitored on a monthly basis through the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) and bi-monthly through the Risk Management Board (RMB).
- 4.2 Audit Committee holds CLT accountable for the effective management of risks and monitors these arrangements through regular reports. The Council's risk management arrangements are reflected in the previously agreed policy. The latest risk update was discussed at CLT and RMB in August 2022 (set out in **Appendix A**) and confirmed ongoing focus on a range of key risks with the highest risk areas being agreed as:

- Financial sustainability; and
- Financial resilience

While there are various controls and mitigating plans in place to deliver sustainability via the proposals adopted in the Improvement Plan, this is somewhat offset by the emergence of new risks in the period 'post' pandemic, in the main caused by global and UK economic pressures, the cost-of-living crisis, inflation and price rises and the effects of the war in Ukraine.

5. CONSULTATION

- 5.1 This report has been issued to the Corporate Director of Resources for consideration.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

- 6.1 That the Audit Committee is informed of the proactive measures taken across the Council to reduce the impact of risks.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

- 7.1 To enable the Audit Committee to continue to monitor the Council's approach to risk management and its implementation.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 8.1 None necessary. Having robust risk management processes in place is a requirement of the Council. The corporate risk register has been developed in line with the framework.

9. IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Financial Implications

The risk management arrangements set out in this report help the council to target and prioritise resources to help reduce costs, deliver savings and achieve value for money. Should any of the corporate risks arise, there would be financial and staffing resource implications to deal with the risk.

9.2 Legal implications

The council's risk management arrangements support the authority's compliance with the statutory requirement under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 10115 to have "a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of that body's functions and the achievement of its aims and objectives; ensures that the financial and operational management of the authority is effective; and which includes arrangements for the management of risk".

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

None

11. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Risk Register as at August 2022

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