



AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	Risk Management Strategy
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Meeting Date:	7 th November 2011
Policy Document:	No
Directorate:	Finance and Support
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr Alan Bottwood

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To provide the Committee with an opportunity to review and comment on the Council's updated Risk Management Strategy.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the updated Risk Management Strategy.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 The Council's Risk Management Strategy undergoes a bi-annual review.
- 3.1.2 In response to the 2011 review, the Strategy has been updated. The updated Strategy is attached, Appendix A.
- 3.1.3 As the Audit Committee has a specific role in considering the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements, the Audit Committee's comments are sought prior to the final Strategy going before Cabinet for approval.

3.2 Issues

- 3.2.1 The key developments within the draft Risk Management Strategy are set out below:
- Risk Appetite – the Council's Risk Appetite was reviewed and updated by Management Board. The Council's Risk Appetite has been adjusted from a score of 12 to 15.

- Risk Management Hierarchy – changed to reflect the introduction of ‘Corporate’ risks, high-level risks owned by a particular service area but with crosscutting implications.
- Risk Management Methodology – revised in line with the introduction of an ‘actual’ score. The actual score is the current position of the risk, only taking into account those mitigations that are currently in place.
- Risk Integration – updated to incorporate strategic developments across the authority, introduction of new policies, procedures and strategies.
- Monitoring and Reporting – this section has been updated to reflect the changes adopted by the Council in the frequency and forum of some risk monitoring activities.
- Strategy Action Plan – updated to outline the actions to be undertaken in 2012/13 to further improve the Council’s Risk Management Function.

3.3 Choices (Options)

3.3.1 None.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

4.1.1 The updated Risk Management Strategy has no new policy implications.

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 There are no specific resource implications arising from this report.

4.3 Legal

4.3.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 There are no specific equalities implications arising from this report.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

4.5.1 The Director of Finance and Support and the Head of Finance.

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

4.6.1 Deliver value for money services.

4.6.2 Sustain effective and prudent financial management.

4.6.3 Be an agile, transparent organisation with good governance.

4.7 Other Implications

4.7.1 None.

5. Background Papers

Appendix A – Draft Risk Management Strategy.

Sue Morrell
Corporate Risk Manager, ext 8420