



## AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Q4 Corporate Risk Register</b>
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**AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC**

**Audit Committee Meeting Date: 8th July 2019**

**Policy Document: No**

**Services: Chief Finance Officer**

**Accountable Cabinet Member: Jonathan Nunn - Leader**

### 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 This report sets out the update of the Council's corporate risk register for Q4 2018/19 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.
- 1.2 Corporate Management Board on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019, have collectively reviewed, considered, and where appropriate, confirmed, challenged and/or moderated the risks identified.
- 1.3 The corporate risk register is an important strategic document which captures those risks that could potentially be a barrier, a constraint or a threat (or in equal and opposite terms alternatively a positive opportunity) to the achievement of the Council's strategic objectives as outlined in the Corporate Plan.

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.1 That review, comment and where appropriate, confirm the risks contained in the register and the related risk exposures and mitigating actions are relevant.

### **3. Issues and Choices**

#### **3.1 Report Background**

- 3.1.1 Risk management is a key priority for the Council. Critical to the development of better risk management is the development of a tighter culture of risk identification, assessment and mitigation at all levels of the Council, including at the corporate level, with proper and regular updates to assessments of potential risks.
- 3.1.2 This report captures those risks identifiable at the corporate level of the Council which, should they impact, would have a corporate-wide impact and effect.

#### **3.2 Issues**

- 3.2.1 17 risks are recorded on the corporate risk register as of March 2019. Of these 12% are rated red, 76% amber and 12% rated green.

- 3.2.2 Two items have had the risk rating reduced in Q4.

**Risk #1:** Failure to deliver a balance budget - reduced from 12 to 4 to reflect the involvement from Officers and Members in relation to budget away days and workshops and also to reflect the balanced budget for 19/20.

**Risk #7:** Regeneration of Northampton – reduced from 12 to 8 as a reaction to the Town Centre regeneration strategy being developed by new partnership 'Northampton Forward' and the expression of interest submitted to the Government for town centre funding.

- 3.2.5 The corporate risk register will be updated for Q1 2019/20 during June/July 2019. Any significant changes will be reported to Cabinet and Audit Committee.

### **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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#### **4.1 Policy**

- 4.1.1 The update of the corporate risk register is a key aspect of procedures required by the Council's risk management policy. The next review of the Risk Management Framework policy will be January 2020.

#### **4.2 Resources and Risk**

- 4.2.1 There is no additional capacity required for the completion and continuous update of the corporate risk register. The Governance and Risk Manager will update the register on a quarterly basis with the Heads of Service. Any significant changes will be reported through to Corporate Management Board.

### **4.3 Legal**

4.3.1 The Council has various legal duties and obligations to ensure it facilitates the effective exercise of its functions and the achievement of its aims and objectives. The risks identified in the Corporate Risk Register and the related actions to mitigate them will directly address identified barriers to the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities and will also assist in enabling the Council to demonstrate that it is complying with its legal duties.

### **4.4 Equality and Health**

4.4.1 There are no equality and health implications to this report.

### **4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)**

4.5.1 The Council's Management Board and Executive Programme Board have been internally consulted to date on the update of corporate risk register attached.

4.5.2 PWC conducted a review of the corporate risk register in April/May 2018. Recommendations made as a result of the review were acknowledged and, where relevant, have been incorporated into the register.

### **4.6 Other Implications**

4.6.1 None

## **5. Background Papers**

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5.5.1 None

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