

MONTH ELEVEN – 2007/08

CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

1. The Corporate Risk Register, which accompanies this report, includes actions that need to be taken to mitigate the risks, the responsible officer for the action is named and a target date for completion or review of actions is included.

Current Position

2. The main issues arising from the register are as follows:
 - a. The number of Corporate Risks has decreased to 15 (from 21) due to the integration of some and the removal of others due to the risk either being of a time barred nature or accountability being divulged to Directorate level.
 - b. There are six risks that continue to score 'high' even after the mitigating actions have been taken into account. These risks are:
 - i) CR2 – 'Corporate Spending pressures outweigh the level of resources available to meet them. Particular pressures prevalent in Adult Social Care, Childrens Social Care and ICT Services and Customer Services.'
 - ii) CR5 – 'The inability to provide critical services due to the failure of the ICT networks'.
 - iii) CR17 – 'Reduction in the Use of Resources overall assessment'.
 - iv) CR28 – 'Deliverable benefits from Herefordshire Connects not realised'.
 - v) CR29 – 'Both Data Centres are in leased accommodation, are near capacity, plus there are environment issues such as power and fire suppression that need to be addressed. Loss of data centres will affect delivery of all services. This is linked with accommodation strategy risk CR13.'
 - vi) CR32 – 'Currently the Council's websites use the Star internet feed which is becoming increasingly unreliable. The TOM target is to move the internet feed to the 16 Mbytes pipe as soon as possible, however feedback from Networks is that this is already reaching capacity usage at peak times from School traffic which already uses this feed. In addition the MLE/VLE hosted externally

will place additional demands on this bandwidth but the level of additional traffic is not known.'

- c. Further note should be made concerning the following matters:
- i) Risk CR2 - Review dates for end of March 2008 have been entered for actions 1 and 2. The remaining four actions require updating, removing or new review dates provided.
 - ii) Risk CR4 – A new risk description has been entered here to replace that in connection with maintaining a CPA 3 start rating. The new risk focuses attention on the Council's ability to prepare adequately for the CAA.
 - iii) Risk CR5 – Although this is indeed a corporate risk part of the mitigation actions lies with each directorate and service area ensuring that they have up to date and tested service continuity plans and that the ICT requirements, in the need to implement the plan, have been communicated to ICT. The Audit Commission's comments in the Use of Resources report for 2008, regarding the need for a consolidated continuity plan, have also been added.
3. It should be noted that there are clear links between CR13 and CR29 and therefore there should be synergy between the respective management teams when considering the relevant mitigating actions.
 4. In addition CR5, 29, 30 and 32 all have a common theme relating to the provision and or failure of ICT systems. This therefore highlights the need for the Council to ensure that any mitigating strategies and projects are coalesced.
 5. The next review of the Corporate Risks will be undertaken in connection with the month 12 IPR to be reported in April 2008. It will bring together the highest rated risks from the Council's Corporate Risk Register, PCT Board Assurance Framework and the HPS risk register.