

Meeting:	Audit and governance committee
Meeting date:	Wednesday 19 September 2018
Title of report:	Corporate risk register
Report by:	Directorate services team leader

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose and summary

To consider the status of the council's corporate risk register in order to monitor the effectiveness of the performance, risk and opportunity management framework. Since the corporate risk register was last reported to committee, six new risks have been added:

CR042 - Partnerships

CR043 - Recruitment

CR044 - Brexit

CR045 - Development Regeneration Partnership

CR046 - Capital Programme

CR047 - NMiTE University

Recommendation(s)

That:

the committee determine any recommendations it wishes to make to ensure effective risk management.

Alternative options

1. The committee could choose not to monitor the corporate risk register; this would not be recommended as this would not provide assurance that risk was being managed effectively within the council.

Key considerations

2. The committee's role is to monitor the effective development and operation of risk management in the council and therefore periodically reviews the corporate risk register to assess whether risks have been rated in accordance with the performance, risk and opportunity management (PROM) framework. The committee currently receives the corporate risk register quarterly.
3. The corporate risk register is compiled from risks identified at a directorate level which have been escalated as per the PROM, along with those high-level generic risks which require strategic management. Entries within the corporate risk register reflect those risks identified by management board and are endorsed by cabinet, thereby strengthening their strategic perspective, management response and controls.
4. The inclusion of risks within any level of risk register does not necessarily mean there is a problem. Their inclusion reflects the fact that officers are aware of potential risks and that they have devised strategies for mitigating and controlling them.
5. Each entry within the register is scored to provide an assessment of the level of risk. All risks are scored based on an assessment of their impact and likelihood, adopting the scoring criteria within the PROM. These assessments are made at two points: before any actions are in place (inherent risk); and after identified controls are in place (residual risk).
6. Whatever level of residual risk remains, it is essential that the controls identified are appropriate, working effectively and kept under review.
7. The following six new risks have been added to the corporate register. Details of which can be referred to within appendix 1:

CR042 - Partnerships
CR043 - Recruitment
CR044 - Brexit
CR045 - Development Regeneration Partnership
CR046 - Capital Programme
CR047 - NMiTE University
8. At its meeting of 21 March, the committee asked to see the directorate risk registers so as it could assure itself that the escalation/ de-escalation of risk was being appropriately assessed in line with the PROM framework. Following its meeting of 30 July, the committee asked that the directorate registers be presented again alongside the corporate risk register in order to assure themselves that, in particular, the RAG rating was being consistently applied; the correct risk owners were carried through between the directorate and corporate risk register; and that direction of travel indicators were being applied. A review of the directorate registers has taken place since being last reported to ensure that the PROM is being correctly applied, and are attached as appendices 2-4.

Community impact

9. In accordance with the principles of the council's adopted code of corporate governance, the council must ensure that it has an effective performance management system that facilitates effective and efficient delivery of planned services. Effective risk management is an important component of this performance management system.

Equality duty

10. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
11. There are no equality duty implications arising from this report.

Resource implications

12. There are no resource implications arising from this report.

Legal implications

13. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Risk management

14. There are no risks arising directly from this report. By reviewing the corporate risk register greater assurance is given that the council is managing its risks appropriately.

Consultees

15. None.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Corporate risk register
Appendix 2	Adults and wellbeing risk register
Appendix 3	Children's wellbeing risk register
Appendix 4	Economy, communities and corporate risk register

Background papers

None identified.