

Risk Management Policy, Strategy and Framework Report by Gerald Tait, Risk and Audit Manager

1. Introduction

This report invites scrutiny from the Audit Committee on an updated Risk Management Policy, Strategy and Framework.

2. Background

Governance

The Council has had a risk management policy, strategy and framework since the introduction of best value legislation in 2003.

Cabinet has normally approved the policy, strategy and framework, the Corporate Management Team and below manages it, the Audit Committee promotes risk management while the officer Risk Management Group monitors the management of risk at all levels.

On 18 September 2012, the Audit Committee endorsed the ongoing, annual risk control programme for 2012/13. This is to be presented as a mid-year report to Cabinet later this year. At the same meeting we are wishing to present the updated policy, strategy and framework to Cabinet, after it has been scrutinised today.

3. Report Implications

3.1 Resource

There are no direct resource implications arising from this report and risk management is operated within the existing staffing and other resources.

3.2 Risk

Risk Management is contained in legislation, it has to be properly organised and demonstrated in a Council and become a part of the role of elected members and management. Having a clear policy, strategy and framework, as well as a robust risk control programme and performance indicators have become essential.

3.3 Policy

Strategy – this report addresses directly the council's policy to have a robust management of risk approach and effective governance.

Consultation – Risk and Audit Services and the risk management group.

Equalities – there are no equalities issues arising from this report, although within one risk register the inequalities risk is registered and monitored.

Sustainability – an effective policy, strategy and framework assists the stability of the Council and its services. A Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required for this policy and strategy.

4. Recommendations

The Audit Committee is recommended to:-

1. Scrutinise and endorse the Risk Management Policy, Strategy and Framework;
and
2. Note that it will be presented to Cabinet, along with an update on the annual risk control programme at a later date.

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Report Author: Gerald Tait, Risk and Audit Manager

Tel: 0131-271-3284

E-Mail: Gerald.tait@midlothian.gov.uk