

Corporate Risk Register
Report by Gerald Tait, Risk and Audit Manager

1. Introduction

This report presents a progress report on the Corporate Risk Register and invites Audit Committee scrutiny.

2. Background

The Corporate Management Team received a report on 16 July on the Council's Corporate Risks. The papers are attached and include:-

- A covering report to CMT (Appendix 1);
- A risk barometer over the 12 registered risks (Appendix 2);
- The corporate risk register (Appendix 3);
- The method adopted to score the 12 risks (Appendix 4); and
- Risk Assessment Guidance (Appendix 5)

The CMT was invited to review the positive progress in extra risk actions, recommend any extra actions, note the enhanced transparency in the management of the register, note the current risk scores, scrutinise the target risk scores and dates and note that internal audit would be testing controls.

It was also discussed that originally (around 18 months ago when the current risk register was set up) the risk scores were high and since then management has been able bring risk scores down into the medium or low risk categories.

A focus was also on the current risk scores which is the present-day risk exposure and it was agreed that:-

- the 'People' risk be reviewed to analyse threats further to the achievement of a high-performing workforce;
- the 'Balancing Budgets' risk be reviewed further to analyse the potential for problems in the coming years; and
- the 'Corporate Change and Transition' risk be reviewed further to foresee any issues arising in this period of change.

The Chief Executive remarked that all three risks were interlinked. Analysis is currently ongoing through Q2 2102/13 performance reporting.

Since the CMT meeting, management has agreed that the 'Welfare Reform' current risk score can be lowered from high risk into medium risk.

3. Report Implications

3.1 Resource

There are unlikely to be any direct resource implications arising from this report. However, in the future resource may have to be reallocated to deal with any pressing risk exposures. A past example is that resource was reallocated to deal with the Welfare Reform Bill.

3.2 Risk

Risk exists in all aspects of the Council's aims, objectives and services and the Corporate Risk Register has been developed to assess high-level risks of a corporate nature that could have the potential to damage the Council's services, area, citizens, employees, finances and reputation. The risk register is a robust means of identifying risks, assessing their likelihood and impact and identifying successful internal controls to mitigate risk.

3.3 Policy

Strategy – this report addresses directly at the corporate level the council's policy to have a robust risk management system.

Consultation – the attached corporate risk register has been discussed with CMT members, Internal Audit and the Risk Management Group. We are also benchmarking our corporate risk register with Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire and East Lothian Councils..

Equalities – during the reviews of the corporate risk register , we found no equalities issues to report on.

Sustainability – the corporate risk register assists in the sustainability and governance of the Council.

4. Recommendations

The Audit Committee is invited to:-

- (1) Scrutinise the current Corporate Risk Register

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