



**TO:** Audit Committee

**FROM:** Audit & Assurance Manager

**DATE:** 24 September 2013

**PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED:** All

**WARDS AFFECTED:** All

**TITLE OF REPORT: Risk Management – 2013/14 Quarterly Review**

**1. PURPOSE**

To provide Members with details of the risk management activity that has taken place since the last report to Audit Committee in June 2013.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are recommended to re-affirm their support for the Council’s approach to Risk Management and to note progress made on the Corporate Risk Register as at the end of Quarter 1 2013/14.

**3. KEY ISSUES**

The Corporate Risk Register records the risks that relate to the achievement of the Council’s strategic objectives. Actions have been identified to strengthen controls.

The Corporate Risk Register currently contains a total of 12 risks. A full list of the risks is attached at Appendix 1.

Currently the top corporate risk is:

Priority	Risk Ref No.	Risk Summary	Risk Owner
1	001	Adequacy of Resources	Denise Park

As part of the Council’s Risk Management process we have to review and monitor our Corporate Risk Register on a regular basis, this is monitored through the Strategic Risk and Resilience Forum. The Strategic Risk and Resilience Forum met with the Risk, Business Continuity and Governance Group in August 2013 to review and challenge the corporate risk register. This was to ensure that we had the appropriate corporate risks going forward into 2013/14.

Proposed changes to the Corporate Risk Register are as follows:

- To add 5 new risks to the Corporate Risk Register around the following key areas; education and skills, housing, IT infrastructure, information governance and vulnerable people;
- To delete No.2 and No.8 on the current risk register (see Appendix 1);

- To increase the Strength of Existing Controls on No.7 on the current risk register (see Appendix 1) from 'Fair' to 'Good' following the recent Zurich report.

Risk assessments around the proposed new risks areas will be produced in conjunction with the relevant risk owners and key contacts. Progress will be monitored and reported to future meetings.

A guidance note has been drafted setting out details of the two sources of risk management support/budget which are available to Directors, Heads of Service and Managers to facilitate the implementation of risk management initiatives within the Council and the associated approval process. The details have been circulated to the departmental risk champions.

This support and budget is available to be used to review key risk areas, strengthen the risk management arrangements in place and/or reduce the level of insurance claims that the Council receives, reducing future insurance premiums.

#### **4. RATIONALE**

The Council recognises that risk management is not simply a compliance issue, but rather it is a way of viewing its operations with a significant impact on long-term viability. Risk Management helps to demonstrate openness, integrity and accountability in all of the Council's activities. It also benefits how we operate.

Risk management is an on-going process and requires review and monitoring.

As stated in the Corporate Risk Management Strategy the Audit Committee will receive a summarised quarterly report setting out progress against corporate risk management action plans.

#### **5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

#### **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

#### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

#### **8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

#### **9. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no equality implications arising from this report.

#### **10. CONSULTATIONS**

The Corporate Risk Register has been updated by the Strategic Risk & Resilience Forum and the Risk, Business Continuity and Governance Group.

CONTACT OFFICER: Jodene Bibby & Colin Ferguson  
DATE: 13 September 2013  
BACKGROUND PAPERS: None.