

**Appendices:
Corporate Risk
Register as at 30th
April 2017**



AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	Corporate Risk Register Update
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Audit Committee Meeting Date:	27th June 2017
Policy Document:	Corporate Risk Register
Directorate:	Borough Secretary
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr Eldred

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Further to the Committee's role in providing independent assurance to the Executive on the adequacy of the Council's arrangements and framework for risk management this report sets out the current update of the Council's corporate risk register.
- 1.2 The corporate risk register is an important strategic document which captures those risks that could potentially be a barrier, a constraint or a threat (or in equal and opposite terms alternatively a positive opportunity) to the achievement of the Council's strategic objectives which are its six deliverable Priorities outlined in the Corporate Plan
- 1.3 It is intended that the Committee will review, consider, and where appropriate, confirm, challenge and/or moderate the above risks identified as being the barriers to the achievement of the Council's strategic objectives

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee review, comment, constructively challenge, and where appropriate, confirm or moderate the risks contained in the register to inform further work on the register's content, including the risks identified in it and the related risk exposures and mitigating actions.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

- 3.1.1 Risk management is a key priority for the Council and a key theme in the Governance Action Plan.
- 3.1.2 Critical to the development of better risk management is the development of a tighter culture of risk identification, assessment and mitigation at all levels of the Council, including at the corporate level, with proper and regular updates to assessments of potential risks.
- 3.1.3 This report documents the update of the corporate risk register during April 2017 and those captures risks identifiable at the corporate level of the Council and which should they impact would have a corporate-wide impact and effect.

3.2 Issues

- 3.2.1 14 risks are in total stated on the corporate risk register as at April 2017. Of these 64% are rated red, 22% amber and 14% green.
- 3.2.2 The most significant risk on the register is indicated to be the potential failure for the Council to deliver a balanced income and expenditure budget over the financial medium-term between 2018/2022.
- 3.2.3 Underlying this key financial risk exposure are a cluster of further red risks indicated as linked by a theme of a need to grow and develop organisational governance, particularly programme and project management governance, and also its organisational capacity, being in place at the Council which could further inhibit or prevent or frustrate the achievement of Northampton's corporate priorities.
- 3.2.4 These higher-level risks are both operational and reputational for the Council.
- 3.2.5 The Committee's attention is drawn to these and the other risks on the register and the related mitigating actions as detailed in the risk register.
- 3.2.6 No new and/or emergent risks have been identified in the period.
- 3.2.7 The Committee's attention is also drawn to Risk 14 inability to provide environmental services within cost and meeting customers' needs which has been closed due principally to the passage of time on out-sourced the contract in the run up to imminent re-tendering for this service.
- 3.2.8 It is intended the corporate risk register will be updated on a quarterly basis with FY 17/18 Q1 update available to the Committee at the next meeting.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1 The update of the corporate risk register is a key aspect of procedures required by the Council's risk management policy which the Council is now in the process of reviewing and will report on the outcome of which to the Committee at the current meeting.

4.2 Resources and Risk

- 4.2.1 The additional capacity required to produce and maintain the corporate risk register has been agreed and put in place effective from May 2017 with the appointment of the Governance and Risk Manager. This has been through the normal decision-making processes and financial implications will be reported through the budget process.

4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 The Council has various legal duties and obligations to ensure it facilitates the effective exercise of its functions and the achievement of its aims and objectives. The risks identified in the Corporate Risk Register and the related actions to mitigate them will directly address identified barriers to the achievement of the Council's corporate priorities and will also assist in enabling the Council to demonstrate that it is complying with its legal duties, including Statutory Instrument No 234: The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

4.4 Equality

- 4.4.1 There are no equalities implications to this report.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

- 4.5.1 The Council's Management Board and its Corporate Governance and Support Officer Programme Board have been internally consulted to date on the update of corporate risk register attached.

- 4.5.2 There has been no external consultation to date.

4.6 Other Implications

- 4.6.1 None specifically

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 The Risk Management Policy

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