

Subject	Annual Review of the Risk Management Framework	Status	For Publication
Report to	Audit and Governance Committee	Date	14 December 2023
Report of	Head of Governance		
Equality Impact Assessment	Not Required	Attached	No
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1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To allow members of the Committee to consider the annual review of the Risk Management Framework.
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2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are recommended to:
- a. **Note the contents of this report and consider whether any additions or changes are required to the Risk Management Framework; and**
 - b. **Approve the updated Risk Management Framework for publication.**
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3 Link to Corporate Objectives

- 3.1 This report links to the delivery of the following corporate objectives:
Effective and Transparent Governance

To uphold effective governance always showing prudence and propriety.

4 Implications for the Corporate Risk Register

- 4.1 The issues dealt with in this report concern the effectiveness of the risk management framework rather than any specific individual risk.

5 Background and Options

- 5.1 The terms of reference of the Audit and Governance Committee require that it review the Risk Management Framework on an annual basis. This report is intended to fulfil that requirement.
- 5.2 The Risk Management Framework is at Appendix A and the current strategic risk register at Appendix B.

- 5.3 The Senior Management Team have continued to review the strategic risk register monthly and update scores and control measures as necessary, together with commentary to support the making of changes to scores (or not). This provides members of the Authority with assurance that risk management arrangements at the strategic level are being operated as intended.
- 5.4 Following the expansion of the Governance team, we have been able to provide more dedicated focus to the area of risk management across the organisation. The team are in progress with implementing the use of risk management software (Pentana) for risk management which will improve the efficiency and clarity with which risks are recorded, managed and monitored.
- 5.5 Additionally, work has progressed to introduce an additional layer of operational risk registers to be managed by the middle managers which will help to embed the culture of risk management throughout the organisation as well as to support and inform the strategic risk register.
- 5.6 External training on risk management has been delivered in the year to SMT and Middle Managers to refresh and/or equip them with knowledge and understanding of risk management principles and practices as part of enhancing our risk management arrangements and in readiness for ensuring greater ownership and involvement of middle managers. Following this training and the advice of the trainer, a full review has been undertaken of the Strategic Risk Register involving some of the middle managers along with the Governance team to separate out the control measures into preventative and mitigating controls and to add review dates of planned actions. The operational risk registers will be developed with each middle manager in the coming months.
- 5.7 Internal audit review has provided assurance that the Risk Management Framework continues to operate effectively in its current form. However, given the robust enhancements to risk that have been undertaken this year a comprehensive review of the Framework has been completed. Members are asked to endorse this approach and the revisions to further strengthen the revised Risk Management Framework.

6 Implications

- 6.1 The proposals outlined in this report have the following implications:

Financial	None directly
Human Resources	None directly
ICT	None directly
Legal	None directly
Procurement	None directly

Jo Stone

Head of Governance

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection