

Report to: **Audit, Best Value and Community Services Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **17 March 2015**

By: **Chief Operating Officer**

Title of report: **Strategic Risk Monitoring**

Purpose of report: **To update the Committee on current strategic risks faced by the Council, their status and risk controls / responses.**

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee is recommended to note the current strategic risks and the risk controls / responses being proposed and implemented by Chief Officers.

1. Financial Appraisal

1.1 There are no direct financial implications from this report. There are however, significant financial implications that could arise through the failure to operate a sound risk management regime.

2. Supporting Information

2.1 We continue to strengthen our approach to risk management in response to the changing risk landscape across the public sector and a changing risk profile for the County Council. The aim is to further embed sound risk management practice within the culture of the Council and to move towards a more mature, dynamic and real time approach which supports the Council in managing the delivery of priority outcomes with reducing resources.

2.2 The Strategic Risk Register is attached as Appendix A. This is formally reviewed by DMT's and CMT on a quarterly basis. Members should note that this version of the Strategic Risk Log was reviewed by CMT on 11th February 2015 and was presented to Cabinet on 10th March 2015.

2.3 Since the last review by the ABV&CSSC in November 2014, the overall number of risks in Appendix A has remained the same. All risks have been reviewed and, whilst there are no changes to any existing risk scores, a number of improvements and amendments in relation to risk controls and responses have been made. These are as follows:

- Risk 1(Roads);
- Risk 4 (Health);
- Risk 5 (Resource);
- Risk 6 (Local Economic Growth);
- Risk 7 (Schools);
- Risk 8 (Capital Programme);
- Risk 10 (Welfare Reform).

2.4 We will continue to explore opportunities to further strengthen the council's risk management arrangements and for mitigating our key strategic risks. It is however, important to recognise that in some cases there is an inherent risk exposure over which the Council has only limited opportunity to mitigate or control.

3. Risk Improvement Activity

3.1 Regular reviews of risk registers continue to be carried out in conjunction with departmental risk coordinators to ensure that relevant risks are identified and risk controls / responses are effective.

3.2 As part of our plans to help strengthen project and programme risk management, a risk review in support of the Agile Programme has been undertaken, and ongoing risk management support is being provided. A series of risk management workshops have also been held to support Programme managers in identifying, articulating and effectively mitigating programme relevant risks.

3.3 Finally, the Council's Risk Management Framework has recently been reviewed and updated and is due to be reported to this committee in June 2015 for agreement.

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Background documents :
None