

Public
Key Decision – No

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Corporate Risk Register

Meeting/Date: Corporate Governance Committee
15 July 2025

Executive Portfolio: Executive Councillor for Governance &
Democratic Services
Cllr Jo Harvey

Report by: Corporate Director – Finance and Resources

Wards affected: All

Executive Summary:

This report provides an update on the Corporate Risk Register, presents a heat map relating to the current residual risk scores and a summary report. It provides the Committee with the opportunity to comment on and offer challenge to the Corporate Leadership Team as part of the active management of risks.

The Committee is

RECOMMENDED

To comment on the reports in the appendices and progress with risk management.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report informs the Committee of the approach and work undertaken on the Corporate Risk Register including the latest heat maps relating to the corporate risks.

2. WHY IS THIS REPORT NECESSARY

- 2.1 Effective Risk Management is a critical part of the organisation's governance. The Risk Register identifies those areas where the Council should take action to mitigate its exposure and informs the annual plan for Internal Audit.
- 2.2 Presenting the Risk Register to each meeting of the Committee is an integral part of the overall governance process as set out in the Council's Risk Management Strategy

3. CURRENT RISK REGISTER

- 3.1 At the meeting of this Committee held in March 2025, there was a request that Corporate Leadership Team particularly review the wording of the following two risks:

- 3.1.1 Risk Corp0011 relating to Climate Change

- 3.1.2 Risk Corp0019 relating to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

- 3.2 The risk relating to the implications of Climate Change has been revised to add in the wording set out below in italics.

Failure to ensure that the Council responds effectively to its environmental obligations (both legislative and policy); undertakes its activities whilst ensure environment compliance where appropriate; and effectively responds to the climate change challenge *in so far as it relates to the Councils policies and obligations to the District.*

- 3.3 In respect of the risk relating to LGR the likelihood of this occurring was challenged based on the single line narrative. The narrative description sets out that the risk relates to the failure to plan effectively. Wider narratives have been included the appendix to this paper.
- 3.4 Further work is progressing with each Head of Service to take a similar approach to identify that the operational risk registers facilitated by RSM as part of the risk support work.
- 3.5 Control actions are being added to each of the corporate risks which will be reviewed by the Risk Officer once they are appointed. Recruitment closed on 30 June and at the time of writing this paper, shortlisting was in progress.

4. KEY IMPACTS

- 4.1 An up-to-date corporate risk register enables the organisation to ensure it is focusing on the key risks and that the work of internal audit is informed by the register. The corporate risk register ensures that internal audit activity can give sound assurance and adds value to the organisation and its corporate governance.

5. WHAT ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN/TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 5.1 The next steps are for corporate risk owners to review further actions associated with those risks, with appropriate target dates.
- 5.2 Further work will be undertaken with Heads of Service to do the same exercise relating to each service area / function in order to develop service and function risks, scores, maps and actions.

6. LINK TO THE CORPORATE PLAN, STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND/OR CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- 6.1 Ensuring we are a customer focused and service led Council – to become more business-like and efficient in the way we deliver services. Effective management of corporate risks is a demonstration of this approach.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 RSM are providing capacity and facilitation to support this activity and during the first quarter of 2025/26, the Corporate Director will assess the resource requirements for this activity and the use of the Risk & Controls Officer post.

8. LIST OF APPENDICES INCLUDED

Appendix 1 – Corporate Risk Summary

Appendix 2 - Heat Maps

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