

**RISK REGISTER - OPTION APPRAISAL FORM  
(Report by the Audit & Risk Manager)**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In line with the Council's risk management strategy a risk register has been developed that identifies corporate level risks. The strategy requires that Cabinet consider all very high 'red' risks that are identified so that they can decide whether they wish them to be further mitigated by cost-effective and affordable actions.
- 1.2 Since this matter was last reported to Cabinet in May 2007, one new very high 'red' risk has been identified.

**2. RISK TREATMENT OPTION FORMS**

- 2.1 The Head of Planning Services has identified a risk that may have serious implications for the long term development of Huntingdon. The attached option appraisal form explains the risk and the current level of controls that are in place. Both the Chief Officers' Management Team and the Risk Management Group have had the opportunity to review and comment upon the risk.
- 2.2 COMT are of the opinion that no further cost-effective mitigating controls can be introduced at this time.

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

Members are invited to consider the option appraisal form and decide whether to accept the level of risk identified or not.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Risk Register  
Risk Management Group papers

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## Risk Treatment Option Form

Risk Treatment – Action Plan					
Description of risk from register:	Risk ID No: 104	Current residual risk score: Likelihood x Impact	2	5	10
<p><b>Delays to the construction of the new A14 may significantly reduce the amount of new development land that becomes available for housing and other developments, leading to a failure to achieve the longer term development/regeneration strategy for Huntingdon and in particular Huntingdon Town Centre, thereby potentially undermining the vitality and viability of the local economy and causing significant problems in terms of the Councils ability to deliver new housing, commercial and retail developments and to resist inappropriate planning proposals.</b></p>					
<p>Controls already in place as listed on the risk register:</p> <p>Promote early implementation of the A14 by lobbying the Highways Agency and Central Government and by committing appropriate resources to any public inquiry etc.</p>					
<p>Are these controls operating effectively? Yes</p>					
<b>Risk Action Plan (All actions listed in priority order)</b>					
Proposed actions to reduce risk using existing resources			New residual risk score <sup>1</sup>		Extra resources required <sup>2</sup>
			L	I	
a.					
b.					
c.					
Actions requiring additional resources					
1.					
2.					
3.					
<b>Decision</b>					
Agreed Option:		Implementation Date		Risk Owner	
				<b>Head of Planning Services</b>	
Decision taken by:			on:		

<sup>1</sup> **New Residual Risk Score:** after the action has been introduced

<sup>2</sup> **Extra Resources:** only complete if extra resources will be required to allow the proposed action to be introduced e.g. financial costs and staff time

## Risk Treatment Option Form

Remember, when considering treatment options that the Council's aim is to manage risk rather than eliminate it completely – successful risk management is about improving risk taking activities whilst minimising the frequency of the event occurring.

Issues that should be considered when making the risk treatment decision are listed below.

Administration	<p>Is the option easy to implement?          Will the option be neglected because it is difficult to implement?          Do staff have sufficient expertise to introduce the option?</p>
Continuity of effects	<p>Will the effects of the risk treatment option be long term/continuous or short term?          If short term, when will further risk treatments be needed?          Does the risk need to be treated at all as it will 'disappear' in the short term (e.g. a project it refers to will be completed or in the next three months)</p>
Cost effectiveness	<p><i>Costs need to be estimated accurately as it's the base against which cost effectiveness is measured.</i></p> <p>Can the cost of implementing further control be justified compared to the risk reduction benefits expected?          What financial loss is to be expected if no action is taken?          Could the same results be achieved at lower cost by other means?</p> <p>Will running costs go up or down?          What capital investment will be needed?          What other costs will there be?</p>
Benefits	<p>What will happen to service levels?          What will happen to service quality?          What additional benefits or risk reductions will occur in other areas?          Can other controls in place be amended to deal with this risk?          How will you evaluate this option to see if it is reducing the identified risk?</p>
Objectives	<p>Will reducing risk advance the Council's overall objectives?          What will be the economic and social impacts?          What will be the impact on the environment of leaving the risk as it is?</p>
Regulation and complying with the Law	<p>Does the lack of treating the risk (or the current method of control) breach any laws or regulatory requirement?          Is the treatment option proposed, including its cost, totally disproportionate to the risk?</p>
Risk creation	<p>What new risks will be created from introducing the option?</p>