

RISK REGISTER

(Report by the Audit & Risk Manager)

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To inform the Panel of the significant changes that have been made to the risk register in the period from September 2009 to February 2010 and the current residual risk scores.

2. Updating of the Risk Register

- 2.1 Since the last meeting of the Panel, the register has been updated with the significant operational risks identified by Activity Managers, the controls in place to manage those risks and the sources of assurance available to manage those controls. This information will help the Panel when it considers the annual governance statement.
- 2.2 The process by which the register is reviewed by Heads of Service is now well established and dovetails with the COMT quarterly performance reporting timetable. A similar review process is intended to be introduced with Activity Managers, albeit on a six monthly basis.
- 2.3 All changes to the register are reviewed by the Audit & Risk Manager on a monthly basis. This allows general over-sight and challenge of the risk entries and the inherent and residual scoring. The full risk register is available on the risk management intranet site.

3. Current Register

- 3.1 Since the last report to the Panel in September 2009, the following changes have been made to the risk register:
- 44 new register entries
 - 3 Corporate
 - 41 Operational
 - 1 operational risk has been deleted.
- 3.2 The attached annexes show the reduction in risk achieved by the controls that managers have in place for both Corporate and Operational risks. Risks with a “very high” residual risk are listed separately. Risks have also been analysed by the corporate objectives outlined in Growing Success.

3.3 The risk management strategy requires the Cabinet to consider each of the very high residual risks to identify whether they should be further mitigated by cost-effective and affordable actions. Four of the six very high residual risks in the register have not yet been considered by Cabinet. It is intended that risk option forms will be presented to Cabinet shortly.

4. Future Developments

4.1 The Risk Management Group considers that risk management is now embedded across services. It has agreed the following development programme over the next year:

- Improving training for staff
- Linking risk reporting to performance management information
- Considering how to identify risk issues in reports to Members
- Benchmarking the Council's approach to risk management

5. Recommendation

5.1 It is recommended that the Panel note the report.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

Risk Register

Minutes of the Risk Management Group

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