

Audit and Governance Committee 27th November 2023

Report Title	Strategic Risk Register Update
Report Author	Rachel Ashley-Caunt, Chief Internal Auditor

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: Strategic Risk Register

Appendix 2: Risk heat map

Appendix 3: Risk scoring methodology

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 To provide the committee with a quarterly update on the Council's Strategic Risk Register entries.

2. Executive Summary

2.1 The Council's Risk Management Strategy defines the Council's risk management approach and the practices required to make it work. Quarterly updates on the Strategic Risk Register are provided for the Audit & Governance Committee.

2.2 An updated register is provided for the Committee's consideration. The content has been reviewed by the Corporate Leadership Team, informed and supported by regular review of all directorate level risk registers.

3. Recommendations

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

a) Note the risk management update.

3.2 Reason for Recommendations –

- For the Committee to exercise its duties and responsibilities within its Terms of Reference and provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment.

4. Report Background

- 4.1 The Strategic Risk Register details the strategic risks faced by the Council in relation to achieving its corporate priorities. The Register also notes the current mitigation action being taken to control these risks and reflects the current, residual risk score.
- 4.2 The content of the Strategic Risk Register entries has been reviewed and updated by Corporate Leadership Team and a copy is provided for the Committee's information, as Appendix A to this report. The amendments made to the risk entries since the last report to Audit and Governance Committee are summarised in Table 1.
- 4.3 It should be noted that whilst Internal Audit assist with the facilitation of risk management, CLT are responsible for defining all risk entries and scoring, and applying the Risk Management Strategy.

Table 1: Updates to Strategic Risk Register entries

Risk entry	Update
Risk 16 Breaches of health and safety responsibilities result in injuries/harm to staff, tenants or service users.	Inherent score reduced from 25 to 15 due to reduced impact (reduced from 5 to 3). It is noted that corporate plans are in place to lower risk and development of our safety management system (SMS) is ongoing. Officers have started to carryout audits this year to measure compliance with and effectiveness of the SMS. Only when there is some real assurance across a broad range of areas will the score be lowered for likelihood.

- 4.4 To assist in informing the review of the risk register, a summary has also been provided in Appendix 2 to this report, in the form of a heat map, showing the current scores in relation to the risk framework.
- 4.5 A copy of the risk scoring methodology is provided as Appendix 3 to this report, for the Committee's information in reviewing the register. This is an extract from the Council's Risk Management Strategy.

5. Issues and Choices

- 5.1 The report provides an update on the Strategic Risk Register. The Committee has the opportunity to review the entries and scoring within the register and obtain assurance that this suitably reflects the risk environment and the risk management process is effective.

6. Implications (including financial implications)

- 6.1 Resources and Financial

6.1.1 None specific to this report.

6.2 **Legal**

6.2.1 None specific to this report.

6.3 **Risk**

6.3.1 The maintenance of an effective risk management framework is crucial to managing risk effectively. The Strategic Risk Register is a key part of that framework. The report itself does not give rise to any specific risks for consideration.

6.4 **Consultation**

6.4.1 None specific to this report.

6.5 **Consideration by Scrutiny**

6.5.1 Not required on this occasion.

6.6 **Climate Impact**

6.6.1 None specific to this report.

6.7 **Community Impact**

6.7.1 None specific to this report.

7. Background Papers

7.1 None.