

Report to the Finance and Performance Management Cabinet Committee



**Epping Forest 15/
District Council**

Report reference: FPM-027-2015/16

Date of meeting: 21 January 2016

Portfolio: Finance

Subject: Risk Management – Corporate Risk Register

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Recommendations/Decisions Required:

- 1. To agree the updating of the Vulnerabilities, Trigger and Consequence within the Action Plan for Risk 1;**
- 2. To agree the updating of the Effectiveness of controls/actions for Risk 2;**
- 3. To agree the updated Key date and the removal of one Existing Control/action to address risk, for Risk 3;**
- 4. To agree the updated Vulnerability within Risk 4;**
- 5. To agree the updated Existing Control and Required further management action within Risk 6;**
- 6. To agree the updated Existing Control and Required further management action within Risk 7;**
- 7. To agree the amended Effectiveness of Control/Actions and the Required further management actions within Risk 8;**
- 8. To agree the updated Action Plan for Risk 9;**
- 9. To agree the updated Vulnerability within Risk 10;**
- 10. To consider whether there are any new risks that are not on the current Corporate Risk Register; and**
- 11. To agree that the amended Corporate Risk Register be recommended to Cabinet for approval.**

Executive Summary:

The Corporate Risk Register has been considered by both the Risk Management Group on 10 December 2015 and Management Board on 16 December 2015. These reviews identified amendments to the Corporate Risk Register.

Reasons for Proposed Decisions:

It is essential that the Corporate Risk Register is regularly reviewed and kept up to date.

Other Options for Action:

Members may suggest new risks for inclusion or changes to the scoring of existing risks.

Report:

1. The Corporate Risk Register was reviewed by the Risk Management Group on 10 December and Management Board on 16 December. A number of amendments have been identified and incorporated into the register (Appendix 1).
2. Risk 1 Local Plan – The first vulnerability has been amended to advise the Government's announcement that Local Authorities must complete the Local Plan by 2017 or face sanctions. An additional Vulnerability, Trigger and Consequence has been added to advise of the proposed changes to the New Homes Bonus regime where planning approvals granted on appeal may not qualify for bonus, which could result in lost revenue.
3. Risk 2 Strategic Sites – The Effectiveness of controls/actions have been amended to advise the updated position for the key sites.
4. Risk 3 Welfare Reform – The Key date has been amended to advise that the start date for the full implementation of universal credit is still unclear. The Action Plan item for restructure of Audit and Housing Benefit arising from the single fraud investigation service has been removed, as both Internal Audit and Housing Benefit are operating effectively.
5. Risk 4 Finance Income – The Vulnerability has been updated to advise that the Government will be consulting on significant changes to responsibilities and financing. District Councils are likely to suffer large reductions in grant income and New Homes Bonus.
6. Risk 6 Data / Information – The Existing control has been amended to advise that the updated Data Protection policy has been approved by Corporate Governance Group and is being rolled out through meta-compliance. The Required further management action has been updated to advise the new F.O.I. system is being implemented in early 2016.
7. Risk 7 Business Continuity – The Existing control/action has been updated following the adoption of the Corporate Plan. The Required further management action has been updated, showing the need for guidance to be issued on updating service plans.
8. Risk 8 Partnerships – Internal Audit has carried out an audit of Partnerships and gave a substantial assurance rating. The Existing Control has been updated to reflect this rating. The audit report recommended Directorates should identify Partnerships and Joint Working within their service areas to ensure risks are identified, managed and incorporated in the Directorate risk register as necessary. This has been added to the required further management action within the risk action plan.
9. Risk 9 Safeguarding – The Action Plan for the risk has been updated to reflect the progress made. The update advises that the number of safeguarding issues identified has quadrupled. This has resulted in both the Safeguarding Officer and the associated part time admin post being proposed for CSB growth. This is advised with the Existing control/action and the Effectiveness of controls/actions within the risk action plan.
10. Risk 10 Housing Capital Finance – The risk Vulnerability has been updated to advise that the Government is introducing right to buy for tenants of housing associations which may be financed through the sale of Council properties as they become void. The scheme is initially being piloted and developed with five housing associations before a national scheme is put in place.
11. Members are now asked to consider the attached updated Corporate Risk Register and whether the risks listed are scored appropriately and whether there are any additional risks that should be included.

Resource Implications:

No additional resource requirements.

Legal and Governance Implications:

The Corporate Risk Register is an important part of the Council's overall governance arrangements and that is why this Committee considers it on a regular basis.

Safer, Cleaner, Greener Implications:

None.

Consultation Undertaken:

The Risk Management Group and Management Board have been involved in the process.

Background Papers:

None.

Impact Assessments:Risk Management

If the Corporate Risk Register was not regularly reviewed and updated a risk that threatened the achievement of corporate objectives might either not be managed or be managed inappropriately.

Due Regard Record

This page shows **which groups of people are affected** by the subject of this report. It sets out **how they are affected** and how any **unlawful discrimination** they experience can be eliminated. It also includes information about how **access to the service(s)** subject to this report can be improved for the different groups of people; and how they can be assisted to **understand each other better** as a result of the subject of this report.

S149 Equality Act 2010 requires that due regard must be paid to this information when considering the subject of this report.

Date / Name	Summary of equality analysis
06/01/16 Director of Resources	The purpose of the report is to monitor corporate risks. It does not propose any change to the use of resources and so has no equalities implications.