

**Report to the Finance and Performance
Management Cabinet Committee**



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Report reference: FCC-029-2008/09

Date of meeting: 16 March 2009

Portfolio: Finance and Performance Management

Subject: Risk Management – Updated Corporate Risk Register

Responsible Officer: Edward Higgins – (01992 – 56 4606)

Democratic Services Officer: Gary Woodhall - (01992 - 56 4470)

Recommendations/Decisions Required:

- (1) That the proposed amendments to the Corporate Risk Register be agreed;**
- (2) To consider whether there are any new risks that are not on the current Corporate Risk Register: and**
- (3) To consider whether the tolerance line on the risk matrix should be amended.**

Executive Summary:

The meeting of this Committee on 26 January 2009 agreed to change the scoring of two risks on the Corporate Risk Register and also asked for a risk to be added in view of current concerns about a number of the Council's income streams. The register and the proposed new risk have subsequently been considered by the Risk Management Group on 24 February and the Corporate Governance Group on 4 March. Following these reviews a further new risk has also been proposed to cover workforce development planning.

Reasons for Proposed Decisions:

It is essential that the Corporate Risk Register is regularly reviewed and kept upto date. The decisions are a necessary part of this well-established process.

Other Options for Action:

Members may not agree with the suggested scores for the two new risks and could ask for them to be rated differently.

Report:

1. The February meeting of the Risk Management Group and the March meeting of the Corporate Governance Group reviewed the risks and their scores to take account of any changes since 26 January. The wording of the new risk requested by this Committee was considered and the risk was given the short name "Shortfall in key income streams" (also shown as risk number 27). It was felt that to reflect the current state of the economy and the level of uncertainty around a number of income streams the score for the risk should be A2 (Very High Likelihood, Critical Impact). This places the risk above the risk tolerance line and so an action plan has also been included.

2. The Risk Management Group reflected on the higher priority being given to workforce development planning and the new requirement for the inclusion of this item in business plans. Given the higher profile of this issue and the potential consequences of failures in workforce development planning it was felt appropriate to include a risk on the Corporate Risk Register. This has been included as risk number 28 and scored as C2 (Significant Likelihood, Critical Impact). The inclusion and scoring of this risk was agreed by the Corporate Governance Group.

3. Members are now asked to consider the attached updated Corporate Risk Register (Annex 1) and whether the risks listed are scored appropriately, whether there are any additional risks that should be included and whether the tolerance line needs to be amended.

Resource Implications:

No additional resource requirements.

Legal and Governance Implications:

No legal 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 the Corporate Governance Group have been involved in this process.

Background Papers:

None.

Impact Assessments:

No equalities impacts.

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.