

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



**Epping Forest  
District Council**

**Report Reference: FPM-031-2010/11**

**Date of meeting: 21 March 2011**

**Portfolio: Performance Management.**

**Subject: Risk Management – Amendments to the Corporate Risk Register.**

**Responsible Officer: Edward Higgins (01992 564606).**

**Democratic Services: Gary Woodhall (01992 564470).**

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**Recommendations/Decisions Required:**

- (1) To consider the recommended amendments to the Corporate Risk Register;**
- (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 Corporate Risk Register has been reviewed by both the Risk Management Group on 21 February and the Corporate Governance Group on 23 February. Three new risks have been identified and an amendment to one current risk is also proposed. At the meeting of this committee on 17 January, Members asked for a review of risk number 23 – Fraud, again this was considered by both groups.

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

**Report:**

1. The Risk Management Group and the Corporate Governance Group considered three new risks for the Corporate Risk Register. These new risks are presented to Members in Appendix 1.
2. Each of the new risk has been scored above the tolerance line. Therefore an action plan for each of the risks is also included within Appendix 1.
3. Risk 23 – Fraud was also considered, the Chief Internal Auditor advised the Risk Management Group that the Audit Commission have identified a number of high risk fraud areas which include Housing lettings, Housing Benefit, Procurement and Council Tax. These areas and others within Epping Forest District Council have undergone recent audit review which demonstrated that appropriate controls are in place. It was decided that the scoring of the risk should remain at C3.

4. The groups have proposed a change to the wording of Risk 1, currently known as, recruitment in key areas. It is proposed to change the name to Recruitment freeze. The proposed amended wording can be seen in Appendix 2. The risk score remains C3 and therefore does not require an action plan.

5. Members are now asked to consider the new risks in Appendix 1, the proposed amendment in Appendix 2 and also advise 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:**

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 consulted.

**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.

Equality and Diversity:

*Did the initial assessment of the proposals contained in this report for relevance to the Council's general equality duties, reveal any potentially adverse equality implications?* No

*Where equality implications were identified through the initial assessment process, has a formal Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken?* N/A

*What equality implications were identified through the Equality Impact Assessment process?*  
N/A

*How have the equality implications identified through the Equality Impact Assessment been addressed in this report in order to avoid discrimination against any particular group?*  
N/A