

TITLE	Risk Management Audit 2020-21
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Audit Committee on 23 September 2020
WARD	None Specific
LEAD OFFICER	Deputy Chief Executive - Graham Ebers

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Residents will have assurances regarding the Council's Risk Management arrangements.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the findings of a recent Internal Audit review of Risk Management.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

As part of the 2020/21 Audit and Investigation Plan that was agreed by this Audit Committee in February 2020, a review of Risk Management arrangements has been undertaken. As part of this Committee's responsibility for overseeing the Corporate Risk Register, it was agreed that the findings of this audit be brought to a future meeting of the Committee.

The audit concluded that controls over the risk management process were "substantially complete and effective." The audit included researching good practice from other local authorities and this learning has already been incorporated into the presentation of the Corporate Risk Register over the summer months.

The audit identified three areas to which management has responded – details can be found in appendix 1.

Background

The principal objective of this audit was primarily an information-gathering exercise, which was requested by CLT, to obtain details from other councils and organisations on risk management (RM) and their Covid19 pandemic response.

In addition, during the audit a process for refreshing the Departmental Risk Registers was started, which will feed into an update of the Corporate Risk Register (CRR). There has also been consultation with External Audit on the RM process and, as a result, timescales are in the process of being added to the Risk Registers.

There are 3 concerns identified in this Audit Report. All have been assessed as posing a medium risk to the service. Details can be found in the Management Action Plan attached to the report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe funding pressures, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. It is therefore imperative that Council resources are focused on the vulnerable and on its highest priorities.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	Nil	Yes	Revenue
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	Nil	Yes	Revenue
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	Nil	Yes	Revenue

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

N/a

Cross-Council Implications

None

Public Sector Equality Duty

Please confirm that due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty has been taken and if an equalities assessment has been completed or explain why an equalities assessment is not required. N/a

Reasons for considering the report in Part 2

N/a

List of Background Papers

Internal Audit of Risk Management report

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