

## **AGENDA ITEM**

### **REPORT TO AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE 29 JULY 2024**

### **REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES**

## **RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE REPORT**

### **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the progress made in revising the Council's approach to the management of risk.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:-

1. Members note the progress made in revising the approach to Risk Management.

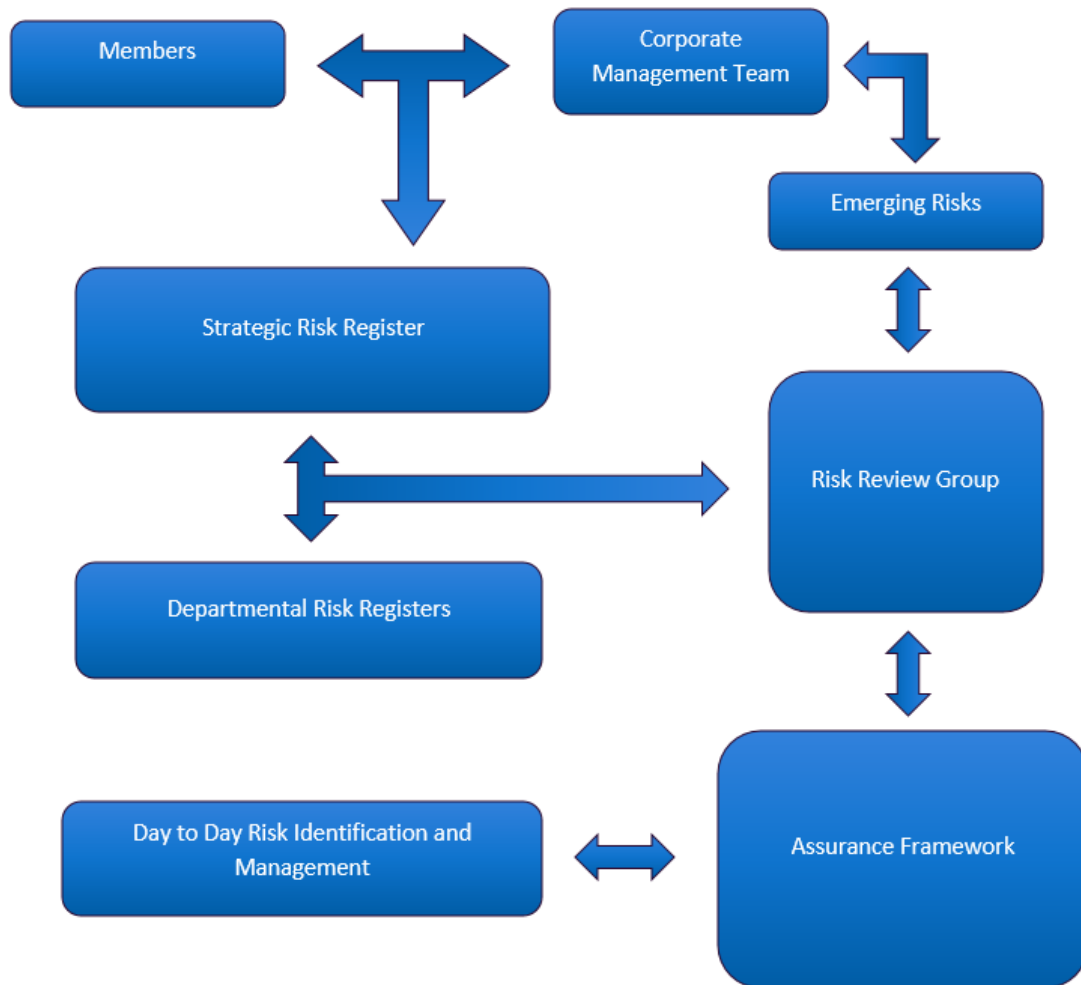
### **DETAIL**

1. The current strategic risk register is primarily linked to the objectives in the current Council Plan. Assessment of the risks has relied heavily on the results of Internal Audit's work.
2. The revised approach has seen a new set of strategic risks developed, the wording of these risks is still being finalised, however the focus of the risks is not expected to change materially. The revised strategic risks are:
  - Risk of failure to support children who need help and protection
  - Risk of failure to support children in our care to achieve appropriate outcomes in care
  - Risk of failure to deliver effective strategies that support care leavers to achieve appropriate outcomes
  - Risk of failure to support children maximise their potential in education
  - Risk of failure to support children with disabilities and special educational needs to maximise their potential and understand future demands
  - Risk of failure to establish and maintain safe systems of care for adults
  - Risk of failure to manage and deliver good quality, sustainable care, treatment and support to vulnerable adults
  - Risk of failure to improve outcomes that support people to live healthy lives and reduce their future needs for care and support
  - Risk of failure of people to find suitable accommodation
  - Risk of failure to support people to feel safe in their communities

- Risk of failure to enable a growing economy to maximise business growth, employment and to generate Business Rates and Council Tax
  - Risk of failure to enable effective highways and transport infrastructure
  - Risk of failure to deliver transformation projects
  - Risk of failure to provide robust and resilient ICT infrastructure and systems, making effective use of new/emerging technologies
  - Risk of failure to effectively support our workforce to enable them to meet the challenges faced by the council and our residents
  - Risk of failure to maximise the use of Council owned land and property assets
  - Risk of failure to effectively deliver services within the agreed budget and to maintain a balanced MTFP
  - Risk of failure to operate good corporate governance
  - Risk of failure to maximise the use of Council owned vehicles and transport assets
  - Risk of failure to reduce carbon emissions and contribute to reducing the impact of global warming
  - Risk of failure to deliver a waste service which reduces the amount of waste to Energy From Waste whilst increasing levels of recycling.
  - Risk of failure to plan and deliver large scale capital projects
  - Risk of failure of residents to cope with the cost of living and to reduce poverty
  - Risk of failure to communicate effectively with residents, communities and partners
  - Risk of failure to plan and deliver large scale capital projects - CSEC Strand
  - Risk of failure to plan and deliver large scale capital projects - Adult's & Children's Strand
  - Failure to plan and deliver large scale capital projects - Regeneration Strand
3. Risk assessment has been strengthened, the risks are assessed by an independent Risk Review Group supported by an assurance framework. The assurance framework brings together evidence from a number of sources to establish the current status of the risk:
- Performance Information
  - Finance
  - Workforce
  - Contracts/Partnerships
  - Governance
  - Independent Feedback (Incorporating Internal Audit and other external sources such as Ofsted & CQC)
4. The Risk Review Group is made up of senior officers from each of these areas who have a detailed knowledge of the issues in their area and how these relate to the risks in the risk register.
5. Another key feature the revised approach is a simplification of the way in which the current risk status is assessed. Risks will be rated using a RAG rating:
- Red - Immediate concerns, actions must be developed to mitigate some of those immediate concerns in the short-term
  - Amber - Concerns identified, actions required but these can be planned over the medium term
  - Green - No current concerns

Note: Red/Amber risks may be tolerated, the concerns will still exist but it may be decided not to take any action depending on resources/priorities, this needs to be recorded.

6. The framework for managing risks can be summarized as follows:



7. A revised Risk Management Strategy will be presented to members and future reports to this committee will be structured around the revised strategic risk register as a separate report.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None directly

### RISK ASSESSMENT

This is a summary of the Council's risk environment.

### COUNCIL PLAN IMPLICATIONS

None

## **CONSULTATION**

N/A

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