



## **AUDIT COMMITTEE - 15TH OCTOBER 2019**

**SUBJECT: CORPORATE RISK REGISTER MONITORING (Q1) 2019/20**

**REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & CORPORATE SERVICES**

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### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide an update on the Corporate Risk Register in accordance with the Council's Risk Management Strategy.
- 1.2 The updated Corporate Risk Register (Appendix 1) is presented to the Audit Committee to provide an opportunity for the Committee to satisfy itself that appropriate arrangements are in place for the Council's risk management processes to be regularly and robustly monitored and scrutinised.
- 1.3 To update the Audit Committee on changes being made to the overall Performance Reporting Framework through the introduction of Directorate Performance Assessments (DPA's).

### **2. SUMMARY**

- 2.1 Under the Council's Risk Management Strategy, the Corporate Management Team (CMT) own, manage, monitor and review the Council's Corporate Risks on a quarterly basis, with six monthly progress reports being submitted to Cabinet. Updates are also provided to the Audit Committee, which has the role of reviewing and challenging the Corporate Risk Register and where relevant, resultant action plans for the Council's key strategic and corporate risks.
- 2.2 In order to present the most recent information, this report focuses on the CMT update of 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Audit Committee considers the content of the Corporate Risk Register and associated mitigating actions.

### **4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 For the Audit Committee to satisfy itself that robust processes and procedures exist and are applied for the management of top level risks. Members have a critical role to play in evaluating the Council's risk management arrangements and in particular understanding how the council identifies, manages and, where possible, mitigates/removes risk.

## **5. THE REPORT**

- 5.1 Risks within the Authority are identified and managed at different levels. Service Plans identify risks to delivering business whilst Directorate risks identify more significant risks that may have cause and effect across a Directorate. The CMT Risk Register is the highest level of risks to the whole authority, often referred to as the Corporate Risk Register.
- 5.2 The Council's Performance Management Framework has been reviewed and redesigned over the course of the last 12 months and this has included how risk is reviewed. As such, this is the first time the Corporate Risk Register has been presented to the Audit Committee this calendar year. Although there has been a delay in providing the Audit Committee with an update, the Corporate Risk Register has continued to be monitored by CMT as part of the process of developing new Directorate Performance Assessments (DPA's).
- 5.3 The DPA's are a new way of reporting that brings together a range of information into one 'single source of the truth'. The DPA's include an update on Directorate priorities, performance data, finance and resource data, people data such as sickness information and risks. The purpose is to gain a 'holistic view' of a service and how it performs and to identify any cause and effect in performance. The DPA's will be updated on a quarterly basis and the risks identified as part of this will be escalated where appropriate to the Corporate Risk Register. A significant advantage of this new approach is that CMT will have a view of risks laterally across Directorates as well as 'top down'.
- 5.4 The Corporate Risk Register is a 'living document' and will change when reviewed and assessed on a quarterly basis. New risks will emerge and some existing risks will be closed. Furthermore, risk ratings will change (red/amber/green) and mitigating actions and progress comments will be updated.

### **Conclusion**

- 5.5 In line with the approved Risk Management Strategy the Corporate Risk Register is periodically reviewed and updated and is presented to the Audit Committee to provide an opportunity for the Committee to satisfy itself that appropriate arrangements are in place for the Council's risk management processes to be regularly and robustly monitored and scrutinised.

## **6. ASSUMPTIONS**

- 6.1 There are no assumptions in this report.

## **7. LINKS TO RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES**

- 7.1 Corporate Plan 2018-2023 (reviewed and updated 2019).

## **8. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS**

- 8.1 Management of risk is an important element in delivering council priorities and ensuring contribution to the Well-being Goals as set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 [WBFGA]:
- 8.2 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 [WBFGA] identifies a core set of activities that are common to the corporate governance of public bodies where change needs to happen:
- Corporate Planning
  - Financial Planning

- Workforce Planning
- Procurement
- Assets
- **Risk Management**
- Performance Management

8.3 The Corporate Risk Register incorporates the five ways of working (ICLIP) identified within the sustainable development principle in the WBFGA. These are:

- **Involving** a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them.
- Working with others in a **Collaborative** way to find shared sustainable solutions.
- Looking to the **Long-term** so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Taking an **Integrated** approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives.
- Understanding the root causes of issues to **prevent** them from occurring.

8.4 Risks are assessed in terms of their implications for the well being of future generations.

## 9. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

9.1 The Local Government Measure defines fairness and access as one of the criteria that constitutes 'improvement' within the Wales programme for Improvement 2009.

9.2 Promoting equalities is a fundamental requirement of the Future Generations legislation, with specific resonance for meeting the Well-being Goals of: *A More Equal Wales*, and *A Wales of Cohesive Communities*

9.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) is not needed as this report relates to identified risks and any actions to address risks that require a report will have an EIA if required.

## 10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report, although Appendix 1 identifies risks regarding the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

## 11. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

## 12. CONSULTATIONS

12.1 This report has been sent to the consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

## 13. STATUTORY POWER

13.1 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 and Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

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Appendices: Appendix 1 – Corporate Risk Register (Quarter 1, 2019/20)