



## **GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - 16TH MARCH 2022**

**SUBJECT: CORPORATE RISK REGISTER (Q2 21/22 6 MONTH UPDATE)**

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

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

- 1.1 To provide an update of the Corporate Risk Register in accordance with the Council's Risk Management Strategy.
- 1.2 The updated Corporate Risk Register (CRR) (Appendix A) is presented to Governance and Audit Committee so there is 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.

### **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 submitted to Cabinet. Updates are also provided to Governance and Audit Committee, which has the role of reviewing and challenging the Risk Register and where relevant, and any resultant action plans for the Council's key strategic or corporate risks.
- 2.2 In order to present the most recent information, this report focuses on the Corporate Management update as of December 2021.
- 2.3 There are currently 15 risks on the register.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

The Brexit risk should be removed going forward. The ongoing impacts are now being reflected elsewhere, for example through the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

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

- 4.1 For the Governance and 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 The Authority identifies and manages risks at different levels. Service priorities identify risks to delivering business whilst directorate risks can be more significant risks that may have cause and effect across a Directorate. The Corporate Risk Register is the highest level of risks to the whole authority, the strategic risks often referred to as the Corporate Risk Register (CRR).
- 5.2 This report, updates on the risks within the CRR only. The directorate risks are updated on a quarterly basis within the 'Directorate Performance Assessment' (DPA) and this is presented to the relevant Scrutiny twice a year.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 Risks were last updated to Governance and Audit Committee on 20th July 2021.

In summary there are 15 Risks on the Risk Register (Appendix A) of which 11 are medium and 4 are rated as high.

There are 2 new risks that have been added since the register was last reported in Governance and Audit Committee in July 2021. The first relates to changes to the supply and demand chain which has been given a rating of medium. The other relates to the Recruitment & Retention of Staff which has been given a risk rating of high.

There are 2 risks that were high but are now classed as medium, they are CRR 05 and CRR 06. CRR 11 was a medium risk but has now been increased to a high risk.

The remaining risk ratings have stayed the same.

No risks have been removed from the register since July 2021.

It is recommended that the Brexit risk is removed moving forward as the ongoing impacts are now being reflected elsewhere.

- 5.5 Covid-19 recovery has a separate risk register which is noted under CRR12, but this does not replicate the content of the Covid risk register. The Covid register is a dynamic document and updates are frequently monitored by Corporate Management Team
- 5.6 The Annual Governance Statement for 2021 identified the need to update the Council's Risk Strategy and this is one of the priorities to take forward 2021/22. A draft updated Risk Management Strategy was presented to Governance and Audit on 22nd January 2022.

## **Conclusion**

- 5.7 In line with the approved Risk Management Strategy the Corporate Risk Register is periodically reviewed and updated and is presented to the Governance and 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 We assume that resources remain the same for the foreseeable future in addressing the risks for the future.

## **7. SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 7.1 This report does not relate to the development of a policy, strategy, practice or project so no specific Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken on this report, however Risk Management is part of the 7 organisational activities within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and as such also needs to recognise risk to the citizen over the long term and look at ways to prevent further impact occurring.

## **8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no personnel implications arising from this report.

## **10. CONSULTATIONS**

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

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

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

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Consultees: Christina Harray, Chief Executive  
Richard (Ed) Edmunds, Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services  
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Dave Street, Corporate Director Social Services & Housing  
Steve Harris, Head of Financial Services & S151 Officer  
Rob Tranter, Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning and Strategy  
Deborah Gronow, Internal Audit Manager

Background Papers:

Appendices:

**Appendix A – Corporate Risk Register 6-month update 2021/22 (as at Quarter 2)**