



## GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

**SUBJECT: CORPORATE RISK REGISTER QUARTER 2 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, 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 **October 2023**
- 2.3 There are currently 19 risks on the Corporate Risk Register with 2 new one added.

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### 4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

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 Council identifies and manages risks at different levels. Service priorities identify risks to delivering business whilst directorate risks can be more significant risks and 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 routine basis within the 'Directorate Performance Assessment' (DPA)
- 5.3 The Corporate Risk Register is a 'living document' and will change when reviewed and assessed on a quarterly or more frequent basis. New risks will emerge, and some existing risks will be closed. Risk ratings will change (red/amber/green), and mitigating actions and progress comments will be updated.
- 5.4 The Risk Register was last updated to Governance and Audit Committee June 2023.

Currently there are **19** Risks on the Risk Register (Appendix A) of which 9 are rated as a high risk, 9 medium and 1 low.

Movement of risk rating from the last update is that 1 risk CRR12 regarding the Covid-19 Recovery and Future wave response has reduced from medium to a lower risk at this time as many of the building blocks are in place and moving into to day to day business.

There are **2** new risks have been added to the register, up and coming Winter pressures and the conflict in Israel. There are no risks that are suggested to be removed or deleted in this reporting period.

Following a proposal for improvement from the Governance and Audit Committee in March 23, the Risks (where relevant) have now been cross referenced to any local reports received by Audit Wales from their local audit and assurance work, and as cross referenced in the 'Recommendation tracker'.

The same risks but to the Well-being of Future Generations have been reviewed and 4 have been changed to reflect how the risk could impact future generations and scores changed accordingly.

## **5.5 Conclusion**

- 5.6 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 It is a reasonable assumption that the significant financial and demand challenges facing the authority will continue, however it is assumed that resource will be reviewed for those significant risks where required.

## **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 Integrated 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 although there is a risk around the Resilience and Well-being of Staff.

## **10. CONSULTATIONS**

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

## **11. STATUTORY POWER**

- 11.1 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.  
11.2 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

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Consultees: Christina HARRY, Chief Executive  
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Dave Street, Deputy Chief Executive  
Steve Harris, Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer  
Rob Tranter, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer  
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning and Strategy  
Kathryn Peters, Corporate Policy Manager  
Deborah Gronow, Internal Audit Manager

Background Papers:

Appendices:

**Appendix A – Corporate Risk Register (as at Quarter 2)**