

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Report to:	Audit and Corporate Governance Committee
Lead Cabinet Member:	Cllr John Williams
Lead Officer:	Anne Ainsworth

NOVEMBER 2022 RISK REGISTER

Executive Summary

1. This report provides an update on changes to risk reporting in the Council; the recent review of corporate risks; and a summary of the current strategic risks.

Key Decision

2. This is not a key decision.

Recommendations

3. Committee is invited to review the Strategic Risk Register for the Council as of November 2022 and make any comments and suggestions as appropriate for future reporting on Risk.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. To ensure that the approach to managing, reporting and mitigation of strategic risks is appropriate across the Council.

Details

- 5. Since September 2022 Leadership team has overseen a review of our organisational approach to risk management which has considered the recording, review and reporting of both corporate and strategic risks.
- 6. The review has also included consideration of the individual risks themselves, and current strategic risks facing the organisation, and the measures in place to help reduce them.
- 7. Key actions have included:

- a. To comprehensively review the corporate risk register; facilitated by risk champions who have been established in each service.
- b. To re-appraise the software system used for risk recording and reporting and to adopt a simplified interim approach while other systems can be reviewed.
- c. To move the corporate home of risk management from Finance to Policy and Planning (in the Transformation team, alongside the performance reporting function) and ensure adequate resources to support ongoing risk management.
- d. To review the strategic risks facing the organisation (summary presented in Appendix 1).
- 8. Next steps for the continued development of risk management focus on embedding the culture of timely, appropriate review of risks and an expectation of regular updates and reporting changes by exception.
- 9. Corporate Management Team and Leadership Team will be reviewing risks quarterly at a minimum, and particularly as external pressures change.
- 10. The Policy and Performance team will further develop the approach to risk management and review options for recording risk, and longer term will formalise and refine our risk management strategy.
- 11. In line with good practice, we would suggest that Audit Committee review the Strategic Risk register for the Council twice annually.

Implications

12. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered:-

Financial

13. There are no resource implications associated with the approach to risk management outlined within this report. Some of the risks reported on will have financial implications if risks are not mitigated as outlined or if external factors change. Timely review and appropriately planned mitigations will ensure these are identified as early as possible.

Alignment with Council Priority Areas

The management of risks affects all areas of the Council's business and inherently aims to support achievement of all priorities.

Background Papers

The SCDC corporate risk register contains more details on some of the strategic risks described here and contains the set of corporate risks which are being managed across all teams.

Appendices

Appendix A: Strategic risks

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