



**Report Reference Number:** A/20/20

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**To:** Audit and Governance Committee  
**Date:** 27 January 2021  
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**Lead Officer:** Karen Iveson; Chief Finance Officer

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## **Title: Review of the Risk Management Strategy**

### **Summary:**

The report presents to Councillors the reviewed Risk Management Strategy following consultation with the Leadership Team. It was last brought to the Audit and Governance committee in January 2020.

### **Recommendation:**

**To note the revisions to the Risk Management Strategy.**

### **Reasons for recommendation:**

The Audit and Governance Committee has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of an effective risk management framework and reviewing the effectiveness of risk management.

#### **1. Introduction and background**

1.1 This report and document sets out a strategy for managing risk within Selby District Council.

#### **2. The Report**

2.1 The primary objectives of the strategy are to:

- Ensure risk management is part of all decision-making processes and that it is embedded through ownership, both at officer and Councillor level;
- To integrate risk management into the day-to-day activities of the Council;
- Manage risk in accordance with best practice and in response to changes in the internal and external environment;
- Create and maintain effective processes that will allow the Council to produce risk management assurance statements annually.

- 2.2 The content of the strategy remains largely unchanged following the review. However, two amendments have been made to its structure. The first is that the text relating to critical links between the strategy and wider business processes has been moved to the section on corporate planning. The second is that the table showing the recurring actions undertaken in support of the strategy has been given its own section in recognition of their importance to the successful achievement of risk management objectives. These changes have been made so as to improve readability of the strategy and to better connect related elements and concepts.
- 2.3 Where any changes have been made to the text these have been highlighted as tracked changes in the attached Appendix 1. This includes the change made to the introduction to the strategy where the Council's refreshed strategic priorities from its 2020 – 2030 plan have been included.
- 2.4 Clearly 2020 was an exceptionally challenging year, not just for Selby District Council and wider local government but for almost all sectors and industries. Professional bodies such as the Institute of Risk Management, CIPFA, and the Institute of Internal Auditors have already started to reflect on the role that risk management has played, and ought to play, in ensuring the continued success of organisations. The Council will continue to work alongside Veritau to ensure that any learning from the events of 2020 and beyond is factored into future strategy-setting and to ensure that the Council's risk management arrangements continue to meet good practice.

### **3. Implications**

- 3.1 There are no legal, financial, policy and risk, corporate plan, resource or other implications from this report.

### **4. Conclusion**

- 4.1 The revised strategy will help to ensure that risk management arrangements are in line with best practice and embedded into the Council's processes and procedures.

### **5. Background Documents**

Risk Management Strategy – January 2020

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#### **Appendices:**

Appendix 1 - Risk Management Strategy – January 2021.

