



Report Reference Number: (A/18/1)

To: Audit and Governance Committee
Date: 25th July 2018
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Lead Officer: Karen Iveson; Chief Finance Officer

Title: Risk Management Annual Report 2017/18

Summary:

The report provides a summary of risk management activity in 2017/18 and proposed actions to be taken in 2018/19.

Recommendation:

Councillors note the risk management activity undertaken in 2017/18 and comment on the proposed actions for 2018/19.

Reasons for recommendation

To support the Audit and Governance Committee's responsibility for considering the effectiveness of the council's risk management arrangements.

1. Introduction and background

1.1 It is the responsibility of all service managers to identify and manage risks associated with the delivery of their services. Veritau provides support to this process by facilitating risk management activity and providing advice and training to managers and the committee. This report summarises work undertaken by the council to review risk registers during the year, and summarises work done to support this by Veritau.

2. The report

2.1 Over the past year, the following action has been taken to develop risk management activity and review current risks.

- Veritau held practical training sessions with officers to supplement the risk management guidance notes and provide additional support in the use of Pentana (the new name for the Covalent System). These have included specific risk assessment and management activities which can be used within their own service areas on an ongoing basis.
- The Council's Corporate Risk Register (CRR) was reported to the Audit and Governance Committee in September 2017 and January 2018. This included the addition of trend information for all risks recorded.
- The Risk Management Annual Report 2016/17 was presented to the Audit and Governance Committee in June 2017.
- A review of the Risk Management Strategy was completed and reported to the Committee in January 2018.
- Officers have been reminded to update Service Based Risk Registers (SBRR) to ensure they accurately reflect new and emerging risks and that their registers are aligned to current service structures.
- Veritau has supported managers to review risks in their service areas and to identify mitigating actions where necessary.

2.2 Further activity planned for 2018/19 includes the following:

- A complete refresh of the Corporate Risk Register. This has already been completed and the revised register is included as a separate agenda item alongside this report. The revised register is based on a risk workshop held in May 2018 with the Extended Leadership Team.
- A health check review of risk management activities for risk at SDC and the provision of feedback to services and ELT.
- Specific project risk management training, as identified in the 2016/17 Capital Accounting audit.
- Completion of the annual review of the Risk Management Strategy.
- Regular reporting of the Corporate Risk Register to Extended Leadership Team and to Audit and Governance Committee.
- Continuation of the risk drop in and training sessions.
- Ongoing support and advice to officers on risk management. Veritau will continue to work with officers to ensure the development of risk management information recorded on the Pentana system will help to ensure risk management is integrated into the culture and working practices within the Council.

3. Legal/Financial Controls and other Policy matters

3.1 Legal Issues

3.1.1 There are no legal implications.

3.2 Financial Issues

3.2.1 There are no financial implications.

4. Conclusion

4.1 Ongoing action continues to be taken to further embed sound risk management processes within the Council. Work to be undertaken in 2018/19 will ensure that proactive risk management continues to develop throughout the Council.

5. Background Documents

Risk Management Strategy – revised January 2018.

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Appendices:

No appendices.