AUDIT & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 21

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject: Strategic Risk Focus Report: SR35; SR36; SR23 and

SR21

Date of Meeting: 27 October 2020

Report of: Executive Lead Officer, Strategy, Governance & Law

Contact Officer: Name: Jackie Algar Tel: 01273 291273

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Ward(s) affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 To report to the Audit & Standards Committee on the latest quarterly update to the city council's Strategic Risk Register (SRR).
- 1.2 The Committee has agreed to focus on at least two strategic risks at each of their meetings. For this meeting there are four strategic risks to receive focus and to better enable Members' questions to be responded to there will be attendance by Risk Owners in relation to:

SR35 Unable to manage serious risks and opportunities resulting from the impact of Brexit on the local and regional society and economy;

SR36 Not taking all actions required to address climate and ecological change, and making our city carbon neutral by 2030;

SR23 Unable to develop an effective Regeneration and Investment Strategy for the Seafront and ensure effective maintenance of seafront infrastructure; and

SR21 Unable to manage housing pressures and deliver new housing supply.

1.3 The Risk Owners who will be in attendance are the Executive Lead Officer for SR35; the Executive Director, Economy, Environment and Culture for both SR36 and SR23; and the Interim Executive Director, Housing, Neighbourhoods & Communities for SR21.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 2.1 That the Audit & Standards Committee note the SRR detailed within Table 1 of this report.
- 2.2 That the Committee note Appendix 1 the CAMMS Risk report with details of the Strategic Risks and actions taken ('Existing Controls') and those planned.

- 2.3 That the Committee note that there are opportunities for Members, or any staff, to raise issues on Strategic Risks at various points and levels. The process is set out in the amended Appendix 2 which also provides a guide on the risk management process and how Members might want to ask questions of Risk Owners, or officers connected to the strategic risks.
- 2.4 That the Committee make recommendations for further action(s) to the relevant council body.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The city council's Strategic Risks (SRs) are reviewed quarterly by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) after comments are made by Directorate Management Teams.
- 3.2 The Audit & Standards Committee has a role to monitor and form an opinion on the effectiveness of risk management and internal control.
- 3.3 The ELT on 15th July 2020 confirmed all 19 SRs as shown in Table 1 below. Please note that:
 - a) No new risks were added.
 - b) No risks were removed.
 - c) The only change to the SRs was an increased initial risk score on SR21 'Unable to manage housing pressures and deliver new housing supply' due to increased uncertainty of council finances for housing as some of the funding allocation by the Department of Communities, Housing and Local Government to the city council is pending.

Table 1 shows the current 19 Strategic Risks in the highest Revised Risk order which takes account of future actions to reduce or mitigate the risks:

Risk Nos.	Risk Title	Initial Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Revised Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Committee & Chair	Risk Owner
SR 2	The Council is not financially sustainable	5 x 4 RED	4 x 4 RED	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Acting Chief Finance Officer

Risk Nos.	Risk Title	Initial Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Revised Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Committee & Chair	Risk Owner
SR 36	Not taking all actions required to address climate and ecological change, and making our city carbon neutral by 2030	5 x 4 RED	4 x 4 RED	Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee – Cllr. Heley	Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture
SR 20	Failure to achieve Health and Social Care outcomes due to organisational and resource pressures on the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC)	5 x 4 RED	4 x 4 RED	Health & Wellbeing Board – Cllr. Shanks	Executive Director, Health & Adult Social Care
SR 33	Not providing adequate accommodation and support for people with significant and complex needs	4 x 4 RED	3 x 4 AMBER	Health & Wellbeing Board – Cllr. Shanks and Housing Committee – Cllr. Gibson and Cllr. Hugh-Jones	Executive Director, Health & Adult Social Care
SR 37	Not effectively responding to COVID-19 in Brighton and Hove	4 x 4 RED	3 x 4 ◀▶ AMBER	Health & Wellbeing Board – Cllr. Shanks and Housing Committee – Cllr. Gibson and Cllr. Hugh-Jones	Executive Director, Health & Adult Social Care

Risk Nos.	Risk Title	Initial Risk Score	Revised Risk Score	Committee & Chair	Risk Owner
		Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)		
SR 32	Challenges to ensure health & safety measures lead to personal injury, prosecution, financial losses and reputational damage	4 x 4 RED	3 x 4 AMBER	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Assistant Director Human Resources & Organisational Development
SR 35	Unable to manage serious risks and opportunities resulting from the impact of Brexit on the local and regional society and economy	5 x 4 RED	4 x 3 AMBER	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Executive Lead Officer, Strategy, Governance & Law
SR 18	The organisation is unable to deliver its functions in a modern, efficient way due to the lack of appropriate technology	4 x 4 RED	3 x 4 The state of the state o	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Assistant Director, Human Resources & Organisational Development
SR 38	Difficulty in restoring trust and confidence in the home to school transport service and sourcing sufficient capacity to resolve issues raised by the independent review	4 x 4 RED	3 x 4 AMBER	Children, Young People & Skills Committee – Cllr. Clare	Acting Executive Director Families, Children & Learning
SR	The lack of	4 x 4	3 x 4	Policy &	Assistant

Risk Nos.	Risk Title	Initial Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Revised Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Committee & Chair	Risk Owner
25	organisational capacity leads to sub-optimal service outcomes, failure to meet statutory obligations, and reputational damage	RED	AMBER	Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Director Human Resources & Organisational Development
SR 13	Not keeping Vulnerable Adults Safe from harm and abuse	4 x 4 TRED	3 x 4 AMBER	Health & Wellbeing Board – Cllr. Shanks	Executive Director, Health & Adult Social Care
SR 15	Not keeping Children Safe from harm and abuse	4 x 4 RED	3 x 4 AMBER	Children, Young People & Skills Committee – Cllr. Clare	Acting Executive Director Families, Children & Learning
SR 21	Unable to manage housing pressures and deliver new housing supply	4 x 4 RED	3 x 3 AMBER	Housing Committee – Cllr. Gibson and Cllr. Hugh-Jones	Interim Executive Director, Housing, Neighbourhoods & Communities
SR 10	Corporate Information Assets are inadequately controlled and vulnerable to cyber attack	4 x 4 RED	4 x 3 AMBER	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Chief Executive
SR 24	The needs and demands for services arising from the changing and evolving landscape of Welfare Reform	4 x 3 AMBER	3 x 3 AMBER	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Acting Chief Finance Officer

Risk Nos.	Risk Title	Initial Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Revised Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Committee & Chair	Risk Owner
	is not effectively supported by the council				
SR 23	Unable to develop and deliver an effective Regeneration and Investment Strategy for the Seafront and ensure effective maintenance of the seafront infrastructure	3 x 4 ◆► AMBER	3 x 3 ◀▶ AMBER	Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee – Cllr. Heley; and Tourism, Equalities, Communities & Culture Committee – Cllr. Ebel and Cllr. Powell	Executive Director, Economy, Environment & Culture
SR 29	Ineffective contract performance management leads to suboptimal service outcomes, financial irregularity and losses, and reputational damage	3 x 4 AMBER	3 x 3 AMBER	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Acting Chief Finance Officer
SR 30	Not fulfilling the expectations of residents, businesses, government and the wider community that Brighton & Hove City Council will lead the city well and be stronger in an uncertain environment	3 x 4 ◀▶ AMBER	2 x 4 AMBER	Policy & Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Chief Executive
SR	Ambitions to	3 x 4	2 x 3	Policy &	Assistant

Risk Nos.	Risk Title	Initial Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Revised Risk Score Likelihood (L) x Impact (I) & Direction of Travel (DOT)	Committee & Chair	Risk Owner
34	improve offer for staff which have been stated in Our People Promise may not be realised	AMBER	YELLOW	Resources Committee – Cllr. Mac Cafferty	Director Human Resources & Organisational Development

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

4.1 Through consultation with ELT the Risk Management process currently in operation was deemed to be the most suitable model.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

5.1 This is an internal risk reporting process and as such no engagement or consultation has been undertaken in this regard.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 The council must ensure that it manages its risks and meets it responsibilities and delivers its Corporate Plan, risk management is evidence for good governance.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

7.1 For each Strategic Risk there is detail of the actions already in place ('Existing Controls') or work to be done as part of business or project plans ('Risk Actions') to address the strategic risk.

Potentially there may have significant financial implications for the authority either directly or indirectly. The associated financial risks are considered during the Targeted Budget Management process and the development of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

Finance Officer Consulted: James Hengeveld Date: 02/10/20

Legal Implications:

7.2 All or any of the Strategic Risks which are reported to the Audit & Standards Committee may potentially have legal implications. Where those implications are of a direct nature, they may be noted in the Appendices to this Report.

Lawyer Consulted: Victoria Simpson

Date 01/10/20

Equalities Implications:

7.3 The SRR is shared with the Equalities Team. It is a corporate requirement that equalities implications are included within the performance management framework which includes risk management. There is an expectation that data will be used to evidence how service improvements are being made which have the aim of reducing inequalities.

Sustainability Implications:

7.4 Sustainability will be improved by practicing risk management.

Brexit Implications:

7.5 SR35 specifically considers this risk and actions which have taken place or are planned.

Any Other Significant Implications:

7.6 None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

- 1. CAMMS Risk report on SR35, SR36, SR23 and SR21.
- 2. A guide on the risk management process and how Members might want to ask questions of Risk Owners.

Background Documents

1. None.