

Subject:	<i>Risk & Opportunity Management (ROM) Update – Agreement of Improved Procedure to Refresh the Corporate Risk Register</i>		
Date of Meeting:	30 March 2010		
Report of:	<i>Director of Finance & Resources</i>		
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Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 The Council's Corporate Risk Register (CRR) is reviewed and updated on a six monthly basis by The Management Team (TMT) in May and November each year.
- 1.2 As a result of an Audit Committee recommendation from the 15 December 2009 meeting, Appendix 1 outlines an improved procedure to ensure Cabinet Member involvement in sign off of changes to the CRR.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Audit Committee notes the improved procedure to refresh the Corporate Risk Register (Appendix 1).

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- 3.1 The Risk & Opportunity Management (ROM) Strategy 2008 – 2011 includes provision for a six monthly review and update of the Corporate Risk Register by TMT. These are usually scheduled for May and November each year.
- 3.2 Each time the Corporate Risk Register is updated, it is reported for information to TMT/Cabinet and to the next scheduled Audit Committee.
- 3.3 At the Audit Committee on 15 December 2009, the updated CRR was reported, including risks removed by TMT as no longer appropriate. The Committee debated the removed risks. The minutes of the meeting record the Chair's request "for confirmation to be given to the Audit Committee that a risk had agreed for removal by the relevant Cabinet Member when the updated risk register becomes available for information to the Audit Committee".

- 3.4 Appendix 1 outlines an improved procedure which has been agreed by TMT on 3 March 2010 and TMT/Cabinet on 10 March 2010. This is in operation now. The relevant dates will be updated each time the CRR is refreshed and the timetable managed by the Risk Manager.

4. CONSULTATION:

- 4.1 The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Audit Committee and Councillors Oxley and Smith were consulted (the latter two because they agreed at the Committee meeting to progress this issue with Cabinet Members). No changes were suggested by Members to the improved procedure (Appendix 1).

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Financial Implications:

The procedure outlined will ensure that changes to the Corporate Risk Register are fully considered including the potential financial consequences of the risks added or removed.

A number of corporate risks may have potentially significant financial implications for the authority either directly or indirectly. Effective identification and management of these risks ensures that all potential financial impacts are properly considered and that likely financial outcomes are reflected in medium term financial plans and budget strategies.

The council's Section 151 Officer also has regard to risk assessments in developing the medium term financial strategy and budget strategy. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Chief Finance Officer of a local authority to report on the robustness of the estimates included in the budget and the adequacy of the reserves and contingencies for which the budget provides.

Finance Officer Consulted: Anne Silley

Date: 9 February 2010

5.2 Legal Implications:

The Audit Committee has no direct involvement in agreeing the Corporate Risk Register but it does have a role in monitoring the effectiveness of control measures to address the Corporate Risks & Opportunities.

Lawyer Consulted: Oliver Dixon

Date: 10 February 2010

5.3 Equalities Implications:

There are no direct implications. The ROM package will address and promote the risk management aspects of equalities.

5.4 Sustainability Implications:

There are no direct implications. The ROM package will address and promote the risk management aspects of sustainability and will be measured by the Audit Commission's Use of Resources assessment.

5.5 Crime & Disorder Implications:

There are no direct implications.

5.6 Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

The ROM Strategy is focussed on improving the quality and consistency of risk & opportunity management of the council's activities.

5.7 Corporate/Citywide Implications:

There are no direct implications.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Improved procedure & timetable for review of Corporate Risk Register (CRR) May 10.

Documents in Members' Rooms:

None.

Background Documents:

1. ROM Strategy 2008-2011.
2. ROM Toolkit (I DO RM).