

**Subject:** Risk Management Strategy Update **Status:** For Publication

**Report to:** Cabinet **Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009

**Report of:** Head of Financial Services

**Portfolio** Finance & Resources  
**Holder:**

**Key Decision:** Yes / No

Forward Plan  General Exception  Special Urgency

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek Member approval for the updated Risk Management Strategy.

## 2. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 2.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:-

- Delivering quality Services to our customers
- Delivering regeneration across the Borough
- Encouraging healthy and respectful communities
- Keeping our Borough clean, green and safe
- Promoting the Borough
- Providing value for money services

## 3. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 All the issues raised and the recommendation(s) in this report involve risk considerations as set out below:
- The Council and its officers need to continue to progress the embedding of risk management practices. The initial adoption of a Risk Management strategy was one of a number of key strategic documents, aligned to corporate priorities, which evidence that the Council is doing just this.

#### **4. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS**

- 4.1 The updated Risk Management Strategy is attached at Appendix A being the final revised document.
- 4.2 This is the second update to the original 2007 strategy and follows suggestions from amongst others: Zurich Municipal, the Audit and Accounts Committee and Lancashire County Council Internal Audit Services.
- 4.3 The significant changes to the strategy being:
- A definition of the Council's risk appetite in order to have a consistent approach to the evaluation of risk.
  - Replacing the previous Operational Risk Management Group with The Executive Management Team to ensure that the ownership of the Councils approach to risk management resides with the most senior officers.
  - Confirm monitoring arrangements via Covalent and the Integrated Performance Management report.
  - Revised action plan for the medium term.

#### **COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:**

#### **5. SECTION 151 OFFICER**

- 5.1 Risk Management is one of a number of key management disciplines, other being: Financial management, Performance management, etc.
- 5.2 An annual briefing on Risk Management has been included in the agenda of the Audit and Accounts Committee at the start of the last two cycles.

#### **6. MONITORING OFFICER**

- 6.1 No further additions to the report

#### **7. HEAD OF PEOPLE AND POLICY (ON BEHALF OF THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE)**

- 7.1 Risk management competency and capability requirements are included in all senior management job descriptions.
- 7.2 The Strategy is subject to review by the Corporate Policy Steering Group and a full Community Impact Assessment, which could lead to the Strategy being changed.

## 8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 Members should consider the robustness of the Risk Management Strategy and whether it is fit for purpose in meeting both the needs of the Council and the achievement of its corporate priorities.

## 9. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 9.1 That Members consider and approve the updated Risk Management Strategy.
- 9.2 That any further changes recommended by the Corporate Policy Steering Group be delegated to Portfolio Holder for Finance and Resources.

## 10. CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 10.1 Executive Management Team.
- 10.2 Accounts and Audit Committee.
- 10.3 Zurich Municipal.
- 10.4 Lancashire County Council Internal Audit Services.

## 11. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Community Impact Assessment required Yes / No

Is a Community Impact Assessment attached Yes / No

*Previously submitted*

## 12. BIODIVERSITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment required Yes / No

Is a Biodiversity Impact Assessment attached Yes / No

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|------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| Background Papers                                       |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Document  | Place of Inspection |
| 2007 Strategy with detailed tracked changes identified. | Finance             |