

Subject:	Corporate Risk Register Review 2014-15	Status:	For Publication
Report to:	Corporate Scrutiny Committee	Date:	22 September 2014
Report of:	Corporate Officer	Portfolio Holder:	Finance and Resources
Key Decision:	<input type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	General Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
Equality Impact Assessment:	Required:	No	Attached: No
Biodiversity Impact Assessment	Required:	No	Attached: No
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1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1.1 That the Corporate Scrutiny Committee reviews the 2014-15 Corporate Risk Register (Appendix 1) and consider any gaps in current risk management.
- 1.2 That the Corporate Scrutiny Committee continues to monitor the Corporate Risk Register via the quarterly Integrated Performance Report, and annually reviews the register as a whole in relation to agreed business plan actions, key drivers and priorities for the Council.

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to present the 2014-15 Corporate Risk Register (Appendix 1) to Corporate Scrutiny Committee for review and consideration of any additional recommendations.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:
 - **Regenerating Rossendale:** This priority focuses on regeneration in its broadest sense, so it means supporting communities that get on well together, attracting sustainable investment, promoting Rossendale, as well as working as an enabler to promote the physical regeneration of Rossendale.
 - **Responsible and Value for Money Services:** This priority is about the Council working collaboratively, being a provider, procurer and a commissioner of services that are efficient and that meet the needs of local people.
 - **Clean and Green Rossendale:** This priority focuses on clean streets and

town centres and well managed open spaces, whilst recognising that the Council has to work with communities and as a partner to deliver this ambition.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Risk management is an essential element of council business. Without a clear and robust risk register of those things that might stop us achieving our priorities, or impact on council business, it is not possible to ensure sufficient mitigation and intervention measures are put in place in a timely manner to manage those risks as far as reasonably possible.
- 4.2 Potential risks to the Council if it does not have a robust risk register would cover all risk categories: legal, financial, operational and reputational.

5 BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

- 5.1 Risks are the things which might stop us delivering our priorities and specifically those things which are contained in our business plan.
- 5.2 Each risk is classified according to two factors:
- How likely is it that the risk may occur (likelihood)?
 - If the risk did occur, how serious might be the consequences (impact)?
- 5.3 To ensure that risks do not stop us achieving our objectives we identify actions or measures which will reduce the risk score to what is considered as an acceptable level (the target score).
- 5.4 The Council's Corporate Risk Register consists of the strategic and high level operational risks identified in its Business Plan. The Corporate Risk Register shows the risks that we can directly influence and control as well as the risks that we cannot directly control but still need to be aware of and seek to influence as far as reasonably possible.
- 5.5 The strength and effectiveness of the business planning process is an important tool in supporting Councillors maintain focus on the most important issues and the Council's Corporate Risk Register is central to this process.
- 5.6 Business planning is undertaken by Heads of Service and Directors in consultation with service area staff, and the relevant Cabinet Portfolio Holders, which includes consideration of risks in relation to the actions and key drivers of change for the council over that business plan period.
- 5.7 In order to ensure another level of scrutiny O&S are asked to review annually the draft risk register as part of the business planning cycle. Please note that in future, the register will be brought to O&S for review in Quarter 4 annually.

COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:

6. SECTION 151 OFFICER

- 6.1 Though this report does not have any direct financial impacts on the Council's budgets, many risks do carry financial implications and in line with best practice this annual review of the draft Corporate Risk Register will give members an opportunity to critically consider the Council's risk appetite and its plans to deal with those risks identified. In line with internal audit recommendations, it is the intention that this Committee has an opportunity each year to review and comment upon the Corporate Risk Register as part of the business planning process in Quarter 4 annually in future years.

7. MONITORING OFFICER

- 7.1 No additional comments.

8. POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 8.1 Effective performance management is vital to ensure the Council can efficiently and effectively achieve its priorities. A vital element of this is robust risk management.
- 8.2 This report is not proposing new service, policies (or significant changes to, or reviews, of them). It does not propose decisions about budget cuts or service changes/reductions. It is determined therefore, that this report is unlikely to have any adverse impacts under the Council's Equality Policy or associated equality duties, and has not been assessed for equalities impacts.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Corporate Scrutiny Committee plays an important role in scrutinising and informing the Council's Corporate Risk Register as part of the Quarterly Integrated Performance Report; therefore the committee plays a key role in informing and identifying any possible risk gaps as part of the business planning stages.

Background Papers	
Document	Place of Inspection
Quarter 1 Integrated Performance Report	22.09.14 Corporate Scrutiny Committee Agenda Item D2
Covalent Performance Management System	Covalent System or contact Katie Gee, Corporate Officer