

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
AUDIT COMMITTEE – 21ST MARCH 2019
REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR (PUBLIC PROTECTION, PLANNING AND
GOVERNANCE)**

RISK MANAGEMENT

1 Executive Summary

1.1 This report brings to Members' attention the current strategic and top operational risks facing the Council, as determined by Corporate Management Team and Heads of Service. These risks have been reviewed at the performance clinic in February 2019 and reflect the assessments in place for the quarter January 2019 to April 2019.

2 Recommendation

2.1 Members are asked to:

- Note the attached current Strategic Risk Register and top operational risks, and particularly:
- Note comments in respect of each risk where shown.

3 Explanation

3.1 Appendix A shows the strategic risk register. This has been the subject of a recent full review at a workshop facilitated by our insurers, Zurich, and Members will see some significant changes to this. Each strategic risk has ownership by a Corporate Director and an Executive Member. Appendix B shows the top operational risks scoring greater than 50. The risk scoring table is as follows and shows the new impact² x likelihood methodology:

25	50	60	100	125
16	32	48	64	80
9	18	27	36	45
4	8	12	16	20
1	2	3	4	5

3.2 A risk management training session was run for Members in February 2019, and this was attended by nine Members.

4 Legal Implications

- 4.1 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require that “[a] relevant authority must ensure that it has a sound system of internal control which [among other matters] includes effective arrangements for the management of risk.”

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are none directly arising from this report, though of course any risk event may have its own financial consequences.

6 Risk Management Implications

- 6.1 Failing to maintain adequate and effective arrangements for the management of risk may lead to risk events not being foreseen, an inadequate response to a risk event occurring and a failure to exploit opportunities.

7 Security and Terrorism Implications

- 7.1 None.

8 Procurement Implications

- 8.1 None.

9 Climate Change Implications

- 9.1 None.

10 Human Resources Implication(s)

- 10.1 None.

11 Health and Wellbeing Implications

- 10.1 None.

12 Communication and Engagement Implications

- 12.1 None.

13 Link to Corporate Priorities

- 13.1 The subject of this report supports all council priorities in that the effective management of risk is essential to the achievement of objectives.

14 Equality and Diversity

- 14.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) has not been carried out in connection with the proposals that are set out in this report as it relates purely to monitoring information.

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Appendices:

Appendix A – Strategic Risk Register, Appendix B – Top Operational Risks