

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
AUDIT COMMITTEE – 28 SEPTEMBER 2020  
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 August 2020 and reflect the assessments in place for the quarter July to September 2020.

**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. 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  $\text{impact}^2 \times \text{likelihood}$  methodology:

The diagram shows a 5x5 grid of risk scores. A vertical blue arrow on the left points upwards and is labeled 'Impact'. A horizontal blue arrow at the bottom points to the right and is labeled 'Likelihood'. The grid cells contain the following values:

25	50	75	100	125
16	32	48	64	80
9	18	27	36	45
4	8	12	16	20
1	2	3	4	5

#### **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