

**WELWYN HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
AUDIT COMMITTEE – 24<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017  
REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (PUBLIC PROTECTION, PLANNING AND  
GOVERNANCE)**

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

**1 Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report brings to Members' attention the current strategic risks facing the Council, as determined by Executive Board. These risks have been reviewed at the performance clinic in May 2017 and reflect the assessments in place for the half year April to October 2017.

**2 Recommendation(s)**

- 2.1 Members are asked to:
- Note the attached current Strategic Risk Register, and particularly:
  - Note comments in respect of each risk where shown.

**3 Explanation**

- 3.1 Appendix A shows the strategic risk register, which was developed following an Executive Board workshop in January 2017. Each strategic risk has ownership by an Executive Director and an Executive Member. The strategic risk register has been fully reviewed by Executive Board and is a new register which reflects the integration of the Housing Trust and other organisational changes. As many of the risks have changed since previous iterations, there are no previous half year assessments, just the current half year score.
- 3.2 Unfortunately there are no top operational risks appended to this report. Members will be aware that the TEN software is currently being replaced, due to age and reliability issues. One such issue prevented the system being accessed during the period when managers were being asked to re-assess their risk registers. While this issue is now resolved, it prevented top operational risk reports being generated in time for the May performance clinic. Normal reporting will be resumed from the next cycle.
- 3.3 A new Performance and Risks system, Clearview, is currently being implemented corporately.

**Implications**

**4 Legal Implication(s)**

- 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 Implication(s)**

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 & Terrorism Implication(s)**

- 7.1 None.

## **8 Procurement Implication(s)**

- 8.1 None.

## **9 Climate Change Implication(s)**

- 9.1 None.

## **10 Link to Corporate Priorities**

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

## **11 Equality and Diversity**

- 11.1 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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Appendix A – Strategic Risk Register May 2017