

Classification: Public

Key Decision: No

Gravesham Borough Council

Report to: Finance & Audit Committee

Date: 14 November 2018

Reporting officer: Assistant Director (Corporate Services)

Subject: Mid-Year Review of the 2018-2019 Corporate Risk Register

Purpose and summary of report:

To present Members of the Finance and Audit Committee with mid-year progress information in respect of all risks recorded in the 2018-19 Corporate Risk Register which can be found at appendix two of this report.

Recommendations:

Members are requested to:

1. Refer to appendix three of this report and note the progress that has been made so far in managing or mitigating each risk that is recorded within the 2018-2019 Corporate Risk Register.
2. Voice any concerns regarding the extent of progress that has been made so that if required, these concerns can be raised at the next Cabinet meeting.
3. Start preparing for the development of the 2019-2020 Corporate Risk Register, putting forward suggestions for any current risks that should be removed and/or proposing any new and emerging risks that should be considered for assessment.

1. Introduction and Background

1.1 The 2018-2019 Corporate Risk Register was approved by Council on 17 April 2018 and is attached at appendix two to this report for Member information. Seven strategic risks were identified as being above the Council's risk tolerance threshold and were therefore included in the register:

1. Ongoing financial viability of the council
2. Changes in national priorities and legislative change
3. Organisational capacity/resilience
4. Business Rate Retention Scheme
5. Implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act
6. Universal Credit
7. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

- 1.2 The council's Risk Management Strategy states that the Finance and Audit Committee has a responsibility to monitor the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance in the council. This report is therefore presented to the committee to enable Members to monitor the impact of management actions specified in the Corporate Risk Register at the mid-year point and inform the process to develop the Corporate Risk Register for 2019-20.

2. Monitoring of actions - Corporate Risk Register 2018-2019

- 2.1 The Corporate Risk Register for 2018-19 included a number of actions intended to enable the council to effectively manage or mitigate each risk. Appendix three of this report provides the Finance & Audit Committee with an update on the activity appendix provides:
- The risk background, consequences, controls and management actions that were documented and agreed in the 2018-19 Corporate Risk Register;
 - A management action update as at the mid-year review point, providing further details of the actions that have been carried out to date to manage or mitigate the risk
 - A colour coded quarterly risk assessment to illustrate how effective risk management actions have been to date in controlling documented risks, where Red (inadequate); Amber (Satisfactory); Green (Good).
- 2.2 Members of the Finance and Audit Committee are requested to review the management action as reported in appendix three and discuss whether any further action is necessary to manage or mitigate each risk. Where it is considered that sufficient control action is not being taken concerns should be raised so that they can be referred to Cabinet for further consideration.

3. Development of the 2019-2020 Corporate Risk Register

- 3.1 The development of the council's Corporate Risk Register for 2019-2020 will commence in December 2018. Members are therefore requested to put forward suggestions for any new or emerging risks for consideration and/or recommend which of the existing risks should be carried forward. By way of assistance, the following risks were considered in developing the 2018-19 Corporate Risk Register but all fell below the risk threshold and were therefore not included in the Register:

1. Housing Revenue Account Services
2. Cyber Risk
3. UK Leaving the European Union
4. Employee Relations

4. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 4.1 There are no background papers pertaining to this report.

IMPLICATIONS

APPENDIX 1

<p>Legal</p>	<p>There is a specific risk within the Register which highlights the potential issues associated with proposed legislative changes that may affect the council moving forward. Senior Management are being kept up to date with legislative change to ensure that they are able to be fully aware of potential changes proposed to assess how these may affect the council..</p>
<p>Finance and Value for Money</p>	<p>There are no financial or value for money implications arising from the Corporate Risk Register itself. ‘Ongoing financial viability of the Council’ is one of the key corporate risks identified within the Corporate Risk register and a specific update against this risk is included within appendix three.</p>
<p>Risk Assessment</p>	<p>The regular review of strategic risks facing the council aids the council in managing risk effectively as a contribution to effective strategic decision-making. It is important that the council’s approach to risk is reviewed on a regular basis by both officers and Members to ensure new risks are identified and action being taken to mitigate existing risks is effective</p>
<p>Equality Impact Assessment</p>	<p>Screening for Equality Impacts</p>
	<p>Question</p>
	<p>a. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper have potential to cause adverse impact or discriminate against different groups in the community? If yes, please explain answer. No</p>
	<p>b. Does the decision being made or recommended through this paper make a positive contribution to promoting equality? If yes, please explain answer. No</p>
<p><i>In submitting this report, the Chief Officer doing so is confirming that they have given due regard to the equality impacts of the decision being considered, as noted in the table above</i></p>	
<p>Corporate Plan</p>	<p>Good risk management is a key aspect of the council’s overall governance arrangements, which support the delivery of all objectives within the Corporate Business Plan 2015-19 but particularly Strategic Objective Four – Sound and Self Sufficient Council</p>
<p>Crime and Disorder</p>	<p>The risk of Crime and Disorder is considered in the annual review and development of the Corporate Risk Register</p>
<p>Digital and website implications</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults	N/A
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