

 Brent	<p style="text-align: center;">Audit Committee 23 March 2016</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Report from the Chief Finance Officer</p>
For Information	Wards affected: All
<p>Report Title: Strategic Risk Register</p>	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. In accordance with the terms of reference for the Audit Committee to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management framework within the Council. This is a periodic report to update the committee on the strategic risks facing the council, no decision is required.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. It is recommended that the Committee considers the current Strategic Risk Register (Appendix A) to assure itself that includes all appropriate strategic risks facing the Council and that all necessary and appropriate actions are being taken to safeguard the Council's business and reputation.

3. Detail

3.1. Roles & Responsibilities

- 3.1.1. The Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2011 and Public Sector Internal Audit Standards 2013, require the Council to maintain a robust, adequate and effective system of risk management in its delivery of core services. Operation of an effective and embedded risk management framework is an important element in order that the Council effectively discharges its corporate governance responsibilities.
- 3.1.2. As outlined within the Council's Risk Management Policy, the Corporate Management Team is responsible for reviewing the Strategic Risk Register, ensuring that the management of risk continues to be within the Council's risk appetite. The Audit Committee is responsible for considering the effectiveness of the Council's strategic risk management arrangements.

3.2. Strategic Risk Register (SRR)

3.2.1. The Council's SRR details:

- Corporate risks that could impact on the achievement of the aims / priorities articulated within the Council's Borough Plan and also its longer term objectives.
- They include the significant events that could impact upon the infrastructure and the efficient operation of the Council; and
- Risks that cover the full range of principal objectives which are likely to require ongoing control.

3.2.2. Since the last Risk Management report which was presented to the Committee in January 2016, two risks have been escalated to the SRR. Details of the individual risk added are outlined below:

- Ability to attract and retain high calibre staff (R04) – Residual risk rating score (20)
- Failure by BHP to deliver acceptable housing management services to Brent tenants and leaseholders, or to adequately and safely maintain the council's housing assets (CWB11) – residual risk rating score (25)

3.2.3. The current SRR therefore contains 13 risks, the residual risk assessment of which is summarised as follows:

Rating	B/f from Q3 2015/16	Risks Added	Risks Withdrawn	Totals as at end of Q3 2015/16
High Risks	1	1	0	2
Medium Risks	10	1	0	11
Low Risks	0	0	0	0
Total	11	2	0	13

3.2.4. The Committee should note that a Risk Workshop is to be held at the next available Senior Managers meeting, chaired by the Chief Executive to fundamentally review and update the SRR, the updated version will be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

4. Legal Implications

4.1. The Accounts and Audit Regulations (England) 2011 section 4(1) require the council to “ensure that the financial management of the body is adequate and effective and that the body has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of that body's functions and which includes arrangements for the management of risk.”

- 4.2. Further section 5 (1) (4) (i) requires that the Chief Finance Officer determines accounting control systems which include adequate measures to ensure that risk is appropriately managed.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. None

6. Diversity Implications

- 6.1. None

7. Contact Officer Details

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