



## Audit and Standards Advisory Committee

26 September 2019

### Report from the Director of Legal, HR, Audit and Investigations

## Corporate Risk Register

<b>Wards Affected:</b>	N/A
<b>Key or Non-Key Decision:</b>	N/A
<b>Open or Part/Fully Exempt:</b> (If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)	Open
<b>No. of Appendices:</b>	1 - Corporate Risk Register (A)
<b>Background Papers:</b>	None
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b> (Name, Title, Contact Details)	Michael Bradley Head of Audit and Investigations 020 8937 6526, <a href="mailto:Michael.Bradley@brent.gov.uk">Michael.Bradley@brent.gov.uk</a>

## 1. Summary

- 1.1. This report provides an updated Corporate Risk Register.

## 2. Purpose of the Report

- 2.1 In accordance with the terms of reference for the Audit and Standards Advisory Committee, the report is prepared to *'enable the Committee to monitor the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance in the Council.'*
- 2.2 This report provides an update on the Council's Risk Management position and includes an updated Corporate Risk Register. Each of the departmental management teams has carried out a review and re-assessment of their risk

registers that were put together last year following a series of workshops with each of the teams.

### **3.0 Detail**

#### **3.1 Risk Management Strategy 2017/19**

3.2 A review of arrangements undertaken as part of last year's refresh exercise established that risk is well understood across all levels of management.

3.3 The Corporate Risk Register was developed following a series of workshops with departmental management teams. Based on recently revised departmental risk registers following the recent restructure, the Corporate Risk Register has been updated.

3.4 It is presented at Appendix A.

3.5 There are inherent risks which the Council faces which are owned and monitored at Departmental level. These have previously been identified as:

- Safeguarding (Children and Adults);
- Business Continuity;
- Information Governance;
- Legislative Compliance;
- Fraud and Corruption;
- Financial Stability, and
- Health and Safety.

These risks will be incorporated into the Corporate Risk Register when net or mitigated risk ratings are deemed to be of a level that exceed the appropriate tolerance. During the course of the workshops for last year's exercise none of these inherent high risks were rated as high risk' although some risks were identified which could potentially have an impact on financial stability.

3.6 The main changes to the risk register following this review are:

- Removal of the Council Tax Transition risk due to the completion of the project, and
- Addition of the Brexit Risk in view of the approaching potential 'no deal' scenario. A recent Internal Audit of Brexit preparations found that the Council's analysis of Brexit risks in the event of no deal was good and no gaps in coverage were identified. Therefore, although the likelihood is increasing, effective action has been taken to ensure the impact is being sufficiently mitigated.

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

- 4.1 There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. Departments assess and manage risks within existing budgets.

#### **5.0 Legal Implications**

- 5.1 All Local Authorities are required to have in place arrangements for managing risks, as stated in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 20015:

“A relevant authority must ensure that it has a sound system of internal control which:

(a) facilitates the effective exercise of its functions and the achievement of its aims and objectives;

(b) ensures that the financial and operational management of the authority is effective, and

(c) includes effective arrangements for the management of risk.”

#### **6.0 Equality Implications**

- 6.1 None

#### **7.0 Proposed Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders**

- 7.1 None

**Report sign off:**

**Debra Norman**

**Director of Legal, HR, Audit and Investigations**