

Report to:	Audit and Standards Committee
Date:	16th November 2020
Title:	Strategic Risk Register Quarterly Review
Report of:	Chief Internal Auditor
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of report:	To report to Committee the outcomes of the quarterly review of the register by the Corporate Management Team.
Officer recommendation(s):	To receive and note the update to the Strategic Risk Register.
Reasons for recommendations:	The Council is committed to proper risk management and to regularly updating the committee with regard to the Strategic Risk Register.
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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Strategic Risk Register is a high level document that records the key risks facing the council: those risks that would prevent the authority from achieving its overall strategies and objectives.
- 1.2 Maintaining the Strategic Risk Register is a vital part of the governance arrangements of the authority and, as such, it is overseen by the Corporate Management Team who review it on a quarterly basis.
- 1.3 The risk register shows the risk, a description of the risk, the risk score if no action is taken (original risk score), the internal controls put in place to mitigate the risk and the risk score after these controls are in place (current risk score).
- 1.4 The risk register is brought to the committee when any changes have been made to it following review by the Corporate Management Team.

2 October 2020 Review

- 2.1 The Strategic Risk Register was taken to Corporate Management Team on 21st October for the quarterly review.

2.2 As many of the risks have already been raised to their highest level to take into account the effects of Covid-19 and Brexit, it was felt that the scores should not be changed.

2.3 However, in response to a comment about Newhaven Port at the last committee meeting, additional descriptions and internal controls, referring specifically to the port, have been added under relevant risks. These are as follows:

SR_022 - Changes to the economic environment makes the Council economically less sustainable

Descriptions added:

3. Newhaven town suffers economic impact from Brexit and the effects on the port.

4. Council will need to provide a new service for inspecting imports at the port.

Internal Controls added:

3. Working with the port to provide support, advice and to help explore funding options.

4. Council seeking funding from DEFRA to set up new service for inspecting imports.

SR_023 - Unforeseen socio-economic and/or demographic shifts creating significant changes of demands and expectations.

Descriptions added:

5. Brexit may lead to increased traffic through Newhaven to the port.

6. Failure to support Newhaven port in the changes could result in an economic downturn in the town.

Internal Controls added:

3. Working with the port to provide support, advice and to help explore funding options.

4. Council seeking funding from DEFRA to set up new service for inspecting imports which could result in new jobs.

2.4 The additions above can be seen on the attached Strategic Risk Register.

3. Financial appraisal

3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4. Legal implications

- 4.1 This report is for noting only and therefore the Legal Services team has not been consulted on the content of it.

5. Risk management implications

- 5.1 If the Council does not have an effective risk management framework that is subject to proper oversight by Councillors it will not be able to demonstrate that it has in place adequate means to safeguard Council assets and services, and it could be subject to criticism from the Council's external auditor or the public.

6. Equality analysis

- 6.1 An equalities impact assessment is not considered necessary because the report is for information only and involves no key decisions.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A - Strategic Risk Register

8. Background papers

- 8.1 None.