
Corporate Risk Management Strategy

Report by Chief Officer Audit & Risk

Audit and Risk Committee

23 November 2015

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from the Audit and Risk Committee to recommend the revised Corporate Risk Management Strategy for approval.**
- 1.2 Effective Risk Management is one of the foundations of effective Corporate Governance and is recognised as such in the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance. The revised Risk Management Policy v5 2015 was approved by Council on 19 February 2015 on recommendation by the Audit and Risk Committee on 19 January 2015.
- 1.3 Another of the recommended improvements to refine the risk management arrangements at the Council to ensure their ongoing effectiveness was the need to review and revise the current strategy that underpins the Council's management of risk arrangements.
- 1.4 A revised Corporate Risk Management Strategy has been developed (see Appendix 1), to facilitate implementation of the policy and procedures. The objectives of the Council's Risk Management Strategy are to:-
- Integrate risk management into the culture of the Council;
 - Manage risk in accordance with best practice;
 - Anticipate and respond to changing social, environmental and legislative requirements;
 - Prevent injury, damage and losses and reduce the cost of risk;
 - Raise awareness of the need for risk management by all those involved with the delivery of Council services; and
 - Ensure there are adequate arrangements for compiling the Council's Annual Governance Statement with governance and risk management arrangements to support it.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 I recommend that the Audit and Risk Committee agrees to recommend to Council that the revised Corporate Risk Management Strategy (Appendix 1) be approved.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Effective Risk Management is one of the foundations of effective Corporate Governance and is recognised as such in the Council's Local Code of Corporate Governance. Compliance with the principles of sound corporate governance requires the Council to adopt a coherent approach to the management of the risks that it faces every day. Common sense serves to underline the message that better and more assured risk management will bring many benefits to the Council and the people it serves.
- 3.2 The outcomes of the Risk Management Review carried out during 2014 were reported to the Audit and Risk Committee on 19 January 2015. At the same meeting within the same report the Committee considered the revised Risk Management Policy v5 2015, the result of one of the recommended improvements actions arising from the Risk Management Review. The revised Risk Management Policy v5 2015 was approved by Council on 19 February 2015 on recommendation by the Audit and Risk Committee on 19 January 2015.
- 3.3 Another of the recommended improvements to refine the risk management arrangements at the Council to ensure their ongoing effectiveness was the need to review and revise the current strategy that underpins the Council's management of risk arrangements.
- 3.4 A revised Corporate Risk Management Strategy has been developed (see Appendix 1), to facilitate implementation of the policy and procedures. The objectives of the Council's Risk Management Strategy are to:-
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5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

There are no financial implications as a direct result of the report. All the costs involved are contained within the central Risk Management or departmental budgets. Any additional costs arising from enhanced risk mitigation will have to be considered and prioritised against other pressures in the revenue budget. Integration of Risk Management activity within the business planning process as outlined in this Corporate Risk Management Strategy should assist in supporting specific business cases for appropriate budget allocations.

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

The report sets out the need for an updated Corporate Risk Management Strategy to refine the risk management arrangements at the Council to ensure their ongoing effectiveness.

5.3 Equalities

An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping assessment was carried out in November 2014 as part of the development of the revised Risk Management Policy. The outcome of the EIA is that it is anticipated there will be no adverse impact due to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or religious/belief arising from the revised Risk Management Policy.

5.4 Acting Sustainably

There are no direct economic, social or environmental issues in this report.

5.5 Carbon Management

There are no direct carbon emissions impacts as a result of this report.

5.6 Rural Proofing

A Rural Proofing Checklist was completed in November 2014 as part of the development of the revised Risk Management Policy. The outcome was that it is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on the rural area from the proposals arising from the revised Risk Management Policy.

5.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

No changes to the Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation are required as a result of this report.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Corporate Management Team has been consulted on this report and the revised Corporate Risk Management Strategy and any comments received have been taken into account.

6.2 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Service Director Strategy and Policy, the Chief Officer HR and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted on this report and the revised Corporate Risk Management Strategy and any comments received have been taken into account.

Approved by

Jill Stacey, Chief Officer Audit & Risk **Signature**

Author(s)

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Background Papers: Risk Management Policy v5 2015

Previous Minute Reference: Audit and Risk Committee 19 January 2015; Scottish Borders Council 19 February 2015

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Justine Leuty can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

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