

Executive Committee

15 December 2016

Joint Risk Management Strategy

For Decision

Portfolio Holder

Cllr P Barrowcliff, Corporate

Senior Leadership Team Contact:

J Vaughan, Strategic Director

Report Author:

Christian Evans – Financial Performance Manager

Statutory Authority

The Joint Risk Management Strategy is reviewed every two years in line with the risk management action plan.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To set out the proposed updated Joint Risk Management Strategy for the Dorset Councils Partnership.

Officer Recommendations

- 2 That Members approve the updated Joint Risk Management Strategy.

Reason for Recommendation

- 3 To ensure the Dorset Councils Partnership has an up to date strategy. The Joint Advisory Accounts and Audit Committee reviewed the updated strategy in December 2016 and have recommended it for approval to Executive Committee.

Background and Reason Decision Needed

- 4 Following the establishment of a combined officer structure that serves the three sovereign councils, we have developed a Joint Risk Management Strategy.
- 5 The original Joint Risk Management Strategy was agreed by Executive Committee in September 2011 and has been reviewed at least every 2 years.
- 6 The current Joint Risk Management Strategy will serve all three authorities and will continue to be reviewed every two years.

Report

- 7 The Joint Risk Management Strategy has been in place for 5 years and has operated well. The Joint Risk Management Strategy contains no major changes in how risks are managed.
- 8 The Joint Risk Management Strategy is due to be reviewed again in December 2018. Six monthly updates on the Corporate Strategic Risk Register and Risk Management will be submitted to the Joint Advisory Accounts & Audit Committee.
- 9 A Joint Corporate Risk Register has been developed and is now in place. This is reviewed on a 6 monthly basis.
- 10 Service Risk registers have also been developed and are now in place. They are reviewed by Heads of Service on a quarterly basis. The 'very high' and 'high' risks are reported in the Business Review report to Executive Committee, Joint Advisory Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Joint Advisory Accounts and Audit Committee.
- 11 All Risk Register templates were developed in line with SWAP best practice.
- 12 A project management software system is in place for the Partnership. All projects must be processed through the Project In A Box (PIAB) system. Project managers must produce a risk register for each project. The format of each risk register is the same.
- 13 A Corporate Projects Risk Register has been included under Project Risks. This process is being developed in order to formally monitor the risks of large projects.
- 14 'Risk Management Inspections' has been added into the strategy. Inspections should be carried out and recorded on Council assets to identify any defects. This record can then be used in defence of a claim against the Council.
- 15 Currently under development is 'Information Asset Registers' which has been included in the strategy and being reviewed by the newly appointed Information Governance Officer. This is a tool for Asset Owners to catalogue their information assets and manage the risks associated with them.
- 16 Data Protection Training Plan has been incorporated under Information Asset Registers to highlight the importance of training in mitigating Data Protection Risk.
- 17 Appendix 1 shows the Joint Risk Management Strategy.

Implications

Corporate Plan

- 18 The Joint Risk Management Strategy forms part of the 'Developing Successful Partnerships' strategic priority.

Risk Management (including Health & Safety)

- 19 As detailed in this report.

Consultation and Engagement

- 20 The Joint Advisory Accounts & Audit Committee, Zurich, Portfolio Holder, Senior Leadership Team, Heads of Service and Corporate Managers and Internal Audit (SWAP).

Appendices

- 21 Appendix 1 – Joint Risk Management Strategy

Footnote

Issues relating to financial, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.

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