

Audit and Governance Committee

27 September 2021

Risk Management Update

For Review and Consultation

Portfolio Holder: Cllr S Flower, Leader of the Council

Executive Director: J Mair, Corporate Director, Legal & Democratic

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation: That Audit and Governance Committee note and review the key risks identified in the corporate and service risk registers.

Reason for Recommendation: To ensure that the Council's risk management methodologies remain current, proportionate, and effective in enabling risk informed decisions to be made.

1. Executive Summary

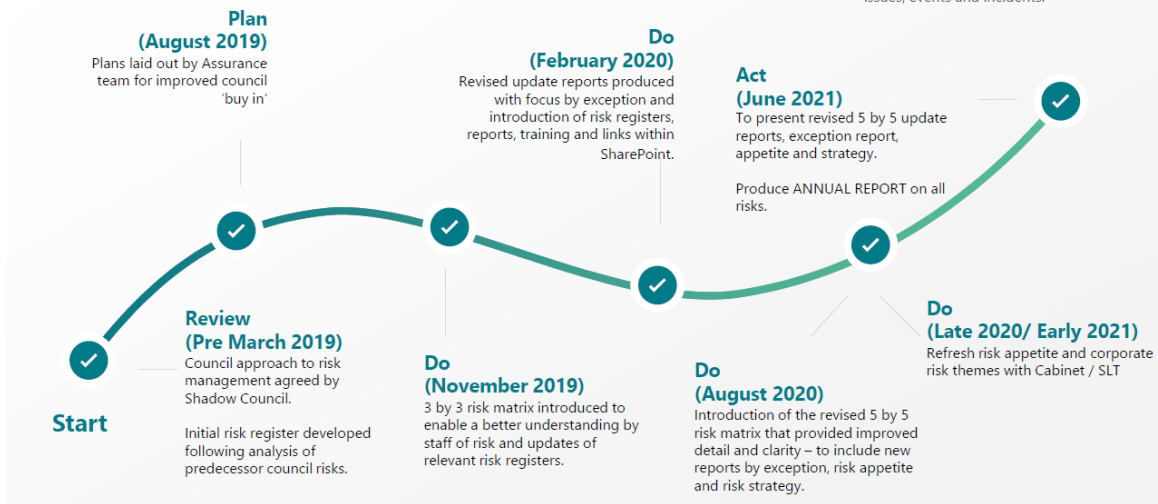
The continual development and promotion of risk management will ensure that Dorset Council remains well placed to demonstrate that objective and informed decisions are taken. The following road map has been established to assist further development of the risk management framework and improve maturity:



Risk Management Road Map

Success and Review

- Introduce remedial risk and mitigation.
- Link to KPIs.
- New risk register for potential EP / BCM issues, events and incidents.



Strategic risk management is owned by the Senior Leadership Team, with an agreed risk management policy statement setting out the Council's commitment. There are currently 21 strategic risk themes informed by operational service level risks owned by Heads of Service and Service Managers. The principles of the Council's strategy is to be "risk aware" and not "risk averse", with our risk management arrangements informing our decision making processes.

Current Risk Themes		
CRR01) Budget	CRR08) Education	CRR15) Commissioning
CRR02) Cyber Attack	CRR09) Transformation	CRR16) Officer / Member Interface
CRR03) Workforce	CRR10) Corporate Knowledge	CRR17) School Transport
CRR04) GDPR	CRR11) Climate Change	CRR18) Evidence Base
CRR05) Emergency Response	CRR12) Breach of Statutory Duty	CRR19) Partnerships
CRR06) EU Exit	CRR13) Health, Safety & Wellbeing	CRR20) Elections
CRR07) Infrastructure	CRR14)	CRR21) Covid 19

Councillors can view the risks by theme from [this link](#).

The Committee were advised at the July meeting that a risk workshop had been scheduled with the Place Management Team for 21st July, and the Executive Director for Place was requested to attend the September Committee meeting to provide an update. A summary of the output of this session will be presented by the Executive Director for Place at the meeting.

A session was also held with the Senior Leadership Team during July during which it was agreed to embed mitigation actions relating to High and Extreme risks into the performance management framework moving forward. To ensure the correct risks are being escalated, similar sessions to the Place workshop are being held with the other Directorates. Once this work has been completed, it is intended to consolidate the risk themes to make them more succinct and Dorset Council specific.

2. Financial Implications

No budget implications specifically, although unmanaged risks may pose a threat to the Council's financial stability. Identified risk improvement measures may also have direct budget implications, each of which need to be subject to a cost/benefit analysis prior to implementation.

3. Well-being and Health Implications

Health, safety and wellbeing is identified as one of our 21 corporate risk themes.

4. Climate implications

Climate change is identified as one of our 21 corporate risk themes.

5. Other Implications

None

6. Risk Assessment

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: HIGH

Residual Risk: HIGH

The risk level is identified as High as Appendix B provides an update on those High-level risks which are currently identified within the Corporate Risk Register

7. Equalities Impact Assessment

Considering equalities issues is a key aspect of good governance, but there are no equalities issues arising directly from this report.

8. Appendices

Appendix A – Snapshot of Risks

Appendix B – Summary of Extreme and High Risks

9. Background Papers

Footnote:

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