

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Audit, Risk and Scrutiny
DATE	11 th May 2015
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Communities, Housing and Infrastructure Risk Register
REPORT NUMBER:	CHI/15/139
CHECKLIST RECEIVED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The Audit and Risk Committee of 23 September 2014 approved a report by the Council's Performance and Risk Manager with regard to a "System of Risk Management".

Members of the Committee agreed a schedule of future reports, which required the Service Risk Register for Communities, Housing and Infrastructure to be presented to the Committee in this cycle. The Service Risk register is attached at Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Committee are asked to:

- (i) approve the Service Risk Register for Communities, Housing and Infrastructure;
- (ii) note the risks contained within it and the mitigating actions that the service is taking to address these risks;
- (iii) note that the Service Risk Register will form an integral part of the Service Business Plan for Communities, Housing and Infrastructure.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

However the Service Risk Register identifies the increasing demand pressures upon the service and the potential risks arising should action not be taken to act upon this demand; either in terms of the need for an increase in resources or actions to respond to and reduce demand through transformational change.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications specifically arising from this report. Implications arising from the risks identified are addressed within the risk register itself.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 The Risk Register focuses on seven distinct areas of risk, business continuity planning, financial management, health and safety, workforce planning, customer engagement, staff engagement and on service priorities/major projects.

5.2 The wide range and consequent diversity of services provided by Communities, Housing and Infrastructure have necessitated that a high level generic approach be adopted in the compilation of the Risk Register.

It should be noted therefore that this document is supported and augmented by a series of more specific and detailed Risk Registers at an operational (and major project) level.

5.3 It is anticipated that appointments to senior posts within Communities, Housing and Infrastructure will commence in the coming weeks, allowing work on the new Business Plan for the Service and accompanying Improvement Action Plan to be undertaken over the course of the next few months.

Steps have also been taken to identify risks to the Council posed by Arms-Length External Organisations which will, in due course, be reflected in our Service Risk Register. For Communities, Housing and Infrastructure the impacting ALEOs are Aberdeen Power and Heat and Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre.

5.4 These exercise will possibly result in refinement to operational risk registers. Should these operational risk registers require material adjustments to the Service Risk Register these will be intimated to Committee as appropriate.

5.5 Within the Register ownership of each Risk has nominally been assigned collectively to the Senior Management Team. However responsibility for ownership and accountability for each Risk will ultimately rest with each individual Head of Service for his or her area of Service.

6. IMPACT

Corporate – The system of risk management impacts on all aspects of decision making across the Council. The Local Code of Corporate Governance tasks Councils with six principles. Principle 4 requires that

Councils maintain transparent, informed decision-making which is subject to effective scrutiny and the management of risk.

Public – The report is designed for information purposes and no Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment has been prepared.

Services are required to carry out regular reporting of risk to Committees. The Service identifies and manages risk in accordance with National, Corporate and Local priorities, strategies, policies and procedures.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The report details the strategic risks identified within Communities, Housing and Infrastructure and the mitigating actions and controls which are in place to respond to these. The Service also manages risks to individuals on a daily basis in line with agreed national and local best practice for risk management

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Mike Hearn
Business Support Manager
01224 522476
mhearns@aberdeencity.gov.uk