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| Report To: | Audit Committee | Date: | 28.04.09 |
| Report By: | Corporate Director Improvement and Performance | Report No: | AC/11/09/PW/APr |
| Contact Officer: | Andi Priestman | Contact No: | 01475 712251 |
| Subject: | RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT | | |

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on progress made on risk management since the Audit Committee meeting on 3 March 2009. The report aims to support members in discharging their responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of risk management across the organisation.
- 1.2 Progress on risk management requires to be monitored because of its importance to the Council's Corporate Governance Framework.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Since the last Audit Committee report, the following key tasks have been undertaken:
 - The Corporate Risk Management Group met on 3 March 2009 to discuss pertinent risk matters including service risk registers and business continuity planning and to review progress made against the action plan for embedding risk management across the Council. The CMT has approved a Risk Assessment and Prioritisation framework for the Council. This will be made available at the Committee meeting.
 - The Crisis and Resilience Management Team (CRMT) met on 4 March 2009. Representatives from all Directorates attended. The Terms of Reference for the CRMT was approved by the team and agreement reached regarding a call out system for CRMT Heads of Service, with a view to implementing the system from 1 June 2009. A short presentation was provided by Strathclyde Police Emergency Planning Section covering the police role in major incidents, good scene management and areas of good practice arising from a case study of the Stockline Plastics explosion in 2004, including the role of the Local Authority.
 - At its meeting on 4 March 2009, the CRMT decided to form a Business Continuity Management (BCM) Sub-Group to progress the action plan arising from the Internal Audit review of BCM.
 - The sub-group met on 20 March 2009 to discuss the proposed format for business continuity plans to be adopted by all services. A strategic business plan has been prepared for the Council based on the output of the BCM Workshops held in October and November 2008 which will be refined when individual business continuity plans for services are finalised. It is anticipated that a full set of business continuity plans for the Council will be finalised by June 2009.

2.2 Future actions will include:

- Embedding a regular review and update process within Services on their Risk Registers and, in particular, how planned mitigations are being implemented and when they are due to be implemented.
- Reviewing corporate, directorate and service risk registers to determine the overall approach to risk management ensuring strategic and operational risks are correctly aligned and appropriate reporting mechanisms are in place to fully embed the process in the wider strategic planning and performance management framework.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that Members review and note the progress on risk management in the period since the March 2009 Audit Committee meeting.

Paul Wallace
Corporate Director
Improvement and Performance

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 There have been increasing pressures for public sector bodies to adopt formalised approaches to risk management.
- 4.2 In its Code of Practice, Audit Scotland makes it clear that the audited bodies are responsible for developing systems of internal control, including risk management, and for conducting annual reviews of the effectiveness of the system of internal control.
- 4.3 The Council has developed a Risk Management Strategy which will deliver a consistent, effective framework and approach for managing risks across the organisation at all levels and support the achievement of the corporate outcomes.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Legal: None
Finance: None
Personnel: None
Equalities: None

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 Discussions have taken place with relevant Officers in the review and update of risk registers.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Annual Risk Management Report 2007/2008. By Andi Priestman. Chief Internal Auditor.
- 7.2 Corporate, Directorate and Service risk registers. Available from Andi Priestman. Chief Internal Auditor.
- 7.3 Risk Management Strategy. Approved by Members June 2007.