

AGENDA ITEM NO: 2

Report To: Audit Committee Date: 19.10.10

Report By: Corporate Director Report No: AC/15/10/AF/APr

Regeneration and Environment

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Subject: RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORT

## 1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on progress made with regard to risk management since the Audit Committee on 24 August 2010. 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:
  - Service business continuity plans have now been drafted for relevant services.
    Further meetings continue to take place to finalise these plans with the Joint Civil Contingencies Service to take account of the new Corporate Structure. This will include the scheduling of rehearsal testing.
  - Service Risk Registers continue to be reviewed and updated in light of the new Corporate Structure. It is anticipated that an overview report on key corporate risks will be now be presented to the Audit Committee in January 2011.
  - An awareness campaign is underway to promote our Anti-Fraud and Irregularity Policy.

## 2.2 Work is ongoing to:

- Embed a regular review and update process for Corporate and Service Risk Registers and, in particular, how planned mitigating actions are being implemented and when they are due to be implemented.
- Review 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.
- Fully embed the process in the wider strategic planning and performance management framework.

# 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that Members agree to note the progress on risk management in the period since the Audit Committee meeting in August 2010.

Aubrey Fawcett Corporate Director Regeneration and Environment

#### 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

Human Resources: 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 2009/2010. 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 March 2010.