
Report To:	Audit Committee	Date:	25 August 2015
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources	Report No:	AC/13/15/AF/APr
Contact Officer:	Andi Priestman	Contact No:	01475 712251
Subject:	Annual Review of Risk Management Activity 2014/2015		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present to the Committee progress made in 2014/2015 in developing and monitoring a strategic approach to managing risks faced by the Council.
- 1.2 This approach forms part of the Council's overall Corporate Governance Framework and will be integral to the approach for BV2.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 During 2014/2015 the Council continued to value the importance of maintaining the momentum on risk management and progress has been made in the following areas:
 - Ongoing review and update of strategic and operational risk registers and Directorate heatmaps;
 - Maintaining a risk register for the Financial Strategy which allows management to consider the risks to the overall financial position arising from matters contained within the Financial Strategy;
 - Maintaining risk management as a key aspect of the Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework;
 - Continuing the advancement of emergency planning, crisis management and business continuity within the Council and fulfil the Council's legislative requirements under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 in conjunction with the Joint Civil Contingencies Service;
 - Maintaining Service Risk Registers for the Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership;
 - Promoting the e-learning module on Risk Management for employees as part of the Brightwave corporate training platform;
 - Annual reporting to Audit Committee on key corporate risks; and
 - Facilitating risk registers for arms-length organisations and providing ongoing support to review and update registers on a regular basis.
- 2.2 It is considered important to actively progress the risk management process to achieve further improvement. We continue to review progress against the Audit Scotland BV toolkit relating to Risk Management and a number of initiatives will be undertaken in 2015/2016 to ensure the Council meets the requirements of the guidance.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members note the progress made in 2014/2015 in developing, implementing and monitoring a coherent corporate approach to managing risks faced by the Council.

Aubrey Fawcett
Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration & Resources

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The role of Internal Audit in Risk Management is defined as contributing to the management of risk by evaluating and providing assurance on risk management processes. The assurance extends principally to two main areas, firstly that major business risks are being managed and secondly that the Risk Management and Internal Control Framework is operating effectively.
- 4.2 The responsibility for managing risk lies not with Internal Audit but with service management, with corporate consistency being supported through the Corporate Risk Management Group.
- 4.3 Internal Audit allocated time within the 2014/2015 Internal Audit Plan to undertake detailed Risk Management work in the undernoted areas:-
- Progression of Council Wide Risk Management Initiatives; and
 - Continuous development work on Risk Registers and Business Continuity Plans.

5.0 CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 During 2014/2015 the Council continued to value the importance of maintaining the momentum on risk management and progress has been made in the following areas:
- Ongoing review and update of strategic and operational risk registers and Directorate heatmaps;
 - Maintaining a risk register for the Financial Strategy which allows management to consider the risks to the overall financial position arising from matters contained within the Financial Strategy;
 - Maintaining risk management as a key aspect of the Strategic Planning and Performance Management Framework;
 - Continuing the advancement of emergency planning, crisis management and business continuity within the Council and fulfil the Council's legislative requirements under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 in conjunction with the Joint Civil Contingencies Service;
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 - Promoting the e-learning module on Risk Management for employees as part of the Brightwave corporate training platform;
 - Annual reporting to Audit Committee on key corporate risks; and
 - Facilitating risk registers for arms-length organisations and providing ongoing support to review and update registers on a regular basis.
- 5.2 It is considered important to actively progress the risk management process to achieve further improvement. We have reviewed the Audit Scotland BV toolkit relating to Risk Management and a number of initiatives will be undertaken in 2015/2016 to ensure the Council meets the requirements of the guidance.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

Legal

6.2 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

Human Resources

6.3 There are no direct HR implications arising from this report.

Equalities

6.4 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

Repopulation

6.5 There are no direct repopulation implications arising from this report.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 Not applicable. This report summarises the work carried out during 2014-2015 which have been included in separate progress reports to Audit Committee.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 Risk Management Progress Reports to Audit Committee in October 2014 and April 2015.