

DECISION-MAKER:	GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
SUBJECT:	STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER
DATE OF DECISION:	25 SEPTEMBER 2012
REPORT OF:	HEAD OF FINANCE AND IT
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY	
Not applicable	

BRIEF SUMMARY

The Council is committed to ensuring that there is a structured and consistent approach to managing risk, recognising the need to optimise the balance between risk and reward and that actions to mitigate or manage risk to an acceptable level need to be proportionate to the level of risk.

The risk registers are designed to capture, in one place, those key risks that need to be managed in order to support the successful delivery of the Council's priorities and challenges and to enable opportunities to be exploited.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) Note the 'Strategic Risks' for 2012-13 (Appendix 1); and
- (ii) Note the 'Summary of Directorate Risk Registers' (Appendix 2).

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The report is presented to the Governance Committee as the member body responsible for providing independent assurance on the adequacy of the risk management framework and the internal control and reporting environment.
2. In addition, the Committee needs to satisfy itself that appropriate action is being taken on risk and internal control related issues identified by the internal and external auditors and other review and inspection bodies.

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

3. Risk Management is a key component of the Council's governance framework and is recognised as such in:-
 - The CIPFA/SOLACE Corporate Governance Framework; and
 - CIPFA's guidance on the Annual Governance Statement.
4. The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 also state that the council is responsible for ensuring that "the relevant body is responsible for ensuring that the financial management of the body is adequate and effective and that the body has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of that body's functions and which includes arrangements for the management of risk".
5. The Strategic Risks for 2012-13 have been developed by the Management Board of Directors ("MBoD") and has been informed by the following:
 - A review of the 2011-12 Strategic Risks;
 - The "Main Risks" and "Challenges" in the 2012-13 Directorate Business Plans;
 - A review of 'Core Cities' Strategic Risk Registers (where available and

recently updated – 6 out of the 8 core cities);

- A review of Strategic Risk Registers for neighbouring authorities (where available and recently updated).

6. The risk registers provide evidence of a formal commitment by the council to develop and implement actions to manage risks to an acceptable level and within an agreed timescale.
7. Each of the identified risks has an associated 'Risk Management Action Plan' ("RMAP"). The RMAPs associated with the Strategic Risks are reviewed by MBoD whilst it is the responsibility of the respective 'Directorate Management Teams' to review those associated with the directorate risks.
8. MBoD has previously expressed a wish that the risk registers are developed and managed in such way that are 'truly useful as a management tool'. MBoD has agreed to hold three 'risk workshop review' sessions per annum to both formally review the Strategic Risks and to provide an opportunity to develop an increased understanding and awareness of key risks across the organisation. The first of these sessions is to be held on 23rd October.
9. All information in respect of Strategic and Directorate risks is held within CorVu (the Council's performance management software system) and a suite of standard risk reports is available.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

10. No alternative options have been considered.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Capital/Revenue

11. NONE

Property/Other

12. NONE

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Power to undertake the proposals in the report:

13. The Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 require the Council to adopt Good Governance arrangements in respect of the discharge of its functions. The above arrangements are intended to meet those responsibilities.

Other Legal Implications:

14. NONE

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

15. NONE

AUTHOR:	Name:	Peter Rogers	Tel:	023 8083 2835
	E-mail:	peter.rogers@southampton.gov.uk		

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Non-confidential appendices are in the Members' Rooms and can be accessed on-line

Appendices

1.	Strategic Risks 2012-13
2.	Summary of Directorate Risk Registers

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	N/A
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Integrated Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject/recommendations in the report require an Integrated Impact Assessment to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	
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Integrated Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	N/A
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