



## AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Subject Heading:**

Corporate Risk Register

**SLT Lead:**

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Chief Operating Officer

**Report Author and contact details:**

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**Policy context:**

To inform the Committee of the Risks identified and captured in the Corporate Risk Register.

**Financial summary:**

There are none arising directly from this report which is for noting and/or providing an opportunity for questions to be raised.

**The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives**

Communities making Havering	[X]
Places making Havering	[X]
Opportunities making Havering	[X]
Connections making Havering	[X]

**SUMMARY**

This report provides the Audit Committee with a summary of the strategic risks the Council currently faces. The risks are individually scored in terms of the likelihood of them materialising and the impact if they did occur.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. To note the contents of the report and the risk register.
2. To raise any issues of concern and ask specific questions of officers where required.

**REPORT DETAIL**

**1. Risk Management Update**

- 1.1 Risk Management updates have been regularly presented to Audit Committee during 2019/20, summarising the work that has been ongoing to identify, document and manage the risks to the achievement of the Council's objectives, at an operational and a strategic level. The risk identification work has been overseen by the Governance and Assurance Board (GAB), chaired by the Chief Operating Officer.
- 1.2 Risk identification workshops and training has been provided at Directorate level to raise risk awareness and facilitate the development of operational risk registers that are up to date and relevant, driving the activities of the business areas. The Governance and Assurance Board has then collated and analysed the Directorate risk registers to ensure any strategic risks are identified through the Corporate risk register to the Senior Leadership team.
- 1.3 As at the end of February 2020, GAB had identified and agreed fourteen risks for inclusion on a draft Corporate Risk Register. However, since then the Council has had to expand the register to adapt to the emerging risks as a result of the COVID-19 emergency response.
- 1.4 The Council's Business Continuity and Emergency plans were put into action at the early stages of the pandemic. As such, the strategic risks to the Council have been managed through the Silver and Bronze Command Groups during this period, to ensure mitigating actions were developed and progress monitored in a fast moving environment.
- 1.5 Appendix 1 presents a summary of the current Corporate Risk Register. This includes scoring of the risks based on assessments at three stages (using the risk matrix from the Council's Risk Management Strategy and Toolkit – Appendix 2):

- Initial assessment – this score was rated and agreed by attendees of the Silver Command Group as and when the risk was initially identified.
- Current Risk Score – this score is an assessment of the current position of the risk based on how much progress has been made on the actions identified. It is scored based on an average of all the risks identified and linked to each corporate risk by the corresponding Bronze Command Group
- Projected Risk Score - this is the anticipated score based on all mitigating actions identified being successfully completed and is again based on an average as described above.

1.6 Risks are monitored and updated as necessary on a regular basis through Bronze and Silver Command.

1.7 As the Council moves back towards business as usual, the strategic risk register will continue to be managed and updated by the Governance and Assurance Board. It is anticipated that a number of Covid 19 based risks will continue through the post-response period.

**Appendices:** Provide supporting detail for Members' information

**Appendix 1:** Summary of the Corporate Risk Register July 2020

**Appendix 2:** Risk Management Strategy and Toolkit (updated January 2020)

## IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

### **Financial implications and risks:**

Although each of the risks contained within Appendix 1 will have associated financial implications, there are no financial implications arising directly from this report which is for noting and/or providing an opportunity for questions to be raised. There are financial implications where risks are not managed in an efficient and effective manner.

### **Legal implications and risks:**

There are no apparent risks in noting the content of this Report. Failure to effectively manage corporate risks are likely to have legal consequences.

### **Human Resources implications and risks:**

None arising directly from this report.

### **Equalities implications and risks:**

**Audit Committee, 28 July 2020**

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have due regard to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;
- (iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnerships, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex/gender, sexual orientation.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.