



Audit Committee	Wednesday, 15 December 2021	Matter for Information
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Report Title:

Risk Management Report 2021/22

Report Author(s):

Comie Campbell (Head of Finance & Acting s151 Officer)

Purpose of Report:	To present the Operational and Strategic Risk Registers for information.
Report Summary:	In accordance with the requirements of the Council's Opportunity and Risk Management Strategy, this report presents the Operational and Strategic Registers for the Committee's consideration, which are updated on a regular basis through discussions with members of the Corporate Management and Senior Leadership Teams.
Recommendation(s):	That the Operational and Strategic Risk Registers (as set out at Appendices 1 and 2) be considered.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	Comie Campbell (Head of Finance & Acting s151 Officer) (0116) 257 2713 comie.campbell@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Kevin Watkins (Risk Support) 07887 429242 Kevin.watkins@cwaudit.org.uk
Corporate Objectives:	Providing Excellent Services (CO3)
Vision and Values:	"A Stronger Borough Together" (Vision) Accountability (V1)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Decreasing Financial Resources / Increasing Financial Pressures (CR1) Reputation Damage (CR4) Regulatory Governance (CR6)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. EA not applicable
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.

Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	None.
Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Operational Risk Register Q3 2021/22 2. Strategic Risk Register Q3 2021/22

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its July 2021 meeting, the Audit Committee approved the Council’s Opportunity Risk Management Policy and received, for the first time, the Operational and Strategic Risk Registers for consideration. These Registers are updated on a regular basis throughout the year through discussion with members of the Corporate Management Team and the Senior Leadership Team. The most recent update took place following meetings held with responsible Risk Owners throughout October and November 2021. This paper presents a summary of the profile of risks contained within the Registers and highlights key movements in scores from the position reported in July 2021.

2. Operational and Corporate Risk Registers

Operational Risk Register

- 2.1 The format of the Operational Risk Register has been adjusted slightly since it was last presented to the Audit Committee to include a requirement to determine a target score for each risk. This provides an opportunity to more clearly identify actions that need to be taken to reduce mitigated risk scores. In the majority of cases, risks are being managed down to target levels, indicating that controls in place are operating effectively.
- 2.2 The Operational Risk Register details 30 risks in total, which are split across the four service areas as follows:-
- Finance & Resources – 10 risks;
 - Communities & Wellbeing – 5 risks;
 - Built Environment – 8 risks;
 - Law & Democracy – 7 risks.

One new risk has been added to the Built Environment Register since July 2021, to reflect the risk associated with the production of the 2023 Local Plan.

- 2.3 Since the last update of the Operational Risk Register, the mitigated risk score has been reduced for 7 risks, as indicated in red text throughout the Register, as management have implemented action to manage risks or, as in the case of a number of risks in the Finance & Resources Register, vacancies have been filled.
- 2.4 Only one risk in the Operational Risk Register remains a high scoring risk after mitigating actions have been taken – Risk 4 of the Built Environment Register, failure to recruit professional staff, which has a mitigated risk score of 12 with a target score of 4. The Council is continuing to work with staffing agencies to identify suitably qualified staff to fill vacancies.

Strategic Risk Register

- 2.5 The format of the Strategic Risk Register has been amended to include a requirement for target dates for implementation of actions identified in the 'further management actions/controls' column, which have remained static during 2020/21 and 2021/22 and therefore require updating. Dates for implementation are in the process of being identified.
- 2.6 The Strategic Risk Register contains a total of 15 risks. No new risks have been added to the Register since it was last presented to the Audit Committee.
- 2.7 Mitigated risk scores in the Strategic Risk Register have remain largely unchanged from July 2021, although reductions were made to the scores for risks CR1 (financial resources) and CR9 (responding to a significant incident), as noted in the 'Review Commentary' column in the Register. Narrative for risk CR13, the threat of cyber attacks, has also been updated, to reflect both the current nature of the risk and actions being taken to manage it, resulting in an increase of the mitigated risk score from 4 to 6.
- 2.8 Only one risk in the Strategic Risk Register remains a high scoring risk after mitigating actions have been taken – Risk CR11, which focuses on risks associated with the local economy, which has a mitigated risk score of 12 against a target score of 8. This remains unchanged from July 2021 and reflects factors such as the impact of COVID-19 on the Council's debtors.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 The Audit Committee is asked to receive and consider the Operational and Strategic Risk Registers for the period ending Quarter 3 2021/22.