



AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

Report Title	Risk Register Reviews
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AGENDA STATUS: PUBLIC

Meeting Date:	17 th May 2010
Directorate:	Finance and Support
Accountable Cabinet Member:	Cllr David Perkins
Ward(s)	Not Applicable

1. Purpose

1.1 To provide an opportunity for the Audit Committee to undertake a review of a service-level risk register at each committee meeting.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To undertake a review of the Revenues and Benefits risk register.
- 2.2 To highlight any suggestions for improvement.
- 2.3 To select the next service-level risk register to be reviewed.

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

3.1.1 At the Audit Committee meeting on 22nd March, the Committee requested that each service area risk register be routinely brought before the Committee for review.

3.2 Issues

3.2.1 Points for Audit Committee to consider as part of the review:

- Is the register complete are there gaps in the spreadsheet.
- Are there any key risks missing, highlight additional risks to be considered.
- Are there overdue actions.
- Challenge scores where necessary.
- Discuss in more detail any high risks or risks of specific interest.

3.2.2 The Council essentially has five areas of risk management across the authority, strategic, service, project, partnership and operational.

- 3.2.3 The registers being reviewed through this process are the service-level registers and therefore are focussed on risks to achieving service objectives. They should not include day-to-day operational risks.

3.3 Choices (Options)

- 3.3.1 To suggest any additional areas to cover in future risk updates.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

- 4.1.1 None.

4.2 Resources and Risk

- 4.2.1 A balanced approach needs to be taken when considering the cost of mitigating actions against the level of perceived or actual risk.
- 4.2.2 Targeting resources at areas and issues of greatest risk where the Council's objectives are most under threat.

4.3 Legal

- 4.3.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

4.4 Equality

- 4.4.1 There are no specific equalities implications arising from this report.

4.5 Consultees (Internal and External)

- 4.5.1 The Director of Finance and Support and the Head of Finance & Assets have been asked to comment on this report.

4.6 How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes

- 4.6.1 Providing an early warning system to alert Officers and Members to potential opportunities and threats.
- 4.6.2 Targeting resources at areas and issues of greatest risk where the Council's objectives are most under threat.
- 4.6.3 Reduction in interruptions to service delivery.
- 4.6.4 Continuity of critical Council activities.
- 4.6.5 Enabling the Council to act proactively, avoiding reactive management wherever possible.
- 4.6.6 Protecting and enhancing the reputation of Northampton Borough Council.

4.7 Other Implications

- 4.7.1 Not applicable.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 Appendix A – Revenues and Benefits Risk Register (please print on A3 paper)

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