

Appendices

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**NORTHAMPTON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Item No.

10

## CABINET REPORT

Report Title

Risk Management Policy and Strategy

**AGENDA STATUS:**

**PUBLIC**

<b>Cabinet Meeting Date:</b>	5 November 2007
<b>Key Decision:</b>	NO
<b>Listed on Forward Plan:</b>	YES
<b>Within Policy:</b>	YES
<b>Policy Document:</b>	YES
<b>Directorate:</b>	Finance
<b>Accountable Cabinet Member:</b>	Cllr M Mildren
<b>Ward(s)</b>	N/A

### 1. Purpose

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- 1.1 To advise Cabinet of improvements in the Council's risk management processes.
- 1.2 To present the risk management policy and revised strategy for acceptance and approval.

### 2. Recommendations

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- 2.1 That Cabinet note the report and approve the council's Risk Management Policy and revised Strategy.

### **3. Issues and Choices**

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#### **Report Background**

- 3.1 A risk management review is carried out annually. This year's review, carried out in conjunction with the Chief Executive, Directors and Corporate Managers, identified a number of enhancements. These have been incorporated into the risk management strategy and are being implemented.
- 3.2 The Risk Management Strategy (Appendix 1) has been revised to reflect the enhancements along with other changes made since the Strategy was last approved in October 2005.
- 3.3 The Risk Management Policy (Appendix 2) is still considered fit for purpose.
- 3.4 Cabinet is asked to reaffirm its commitment to risk management by approving both the policy and strategy.

#### **Issues**

- 3.5 The main changes to the Strategy are:
- Management Board is given responsibility for reviewing and updating the Strategic Risk Register
  - The introduction of Risk Registers at Chief Officer level
  - Chief Officers are given specific responsibility for reviewing their own and their subordinate's registers. This will help forge links between the three tiers of risk register – Strategic, Chief Officer and Corporate Manager.
  - The nomination of specific Managers/Team Leaders to act as Risk Management Coordinators for their respective departments. (Risk Management Coordinators have been in place for several months.)

#### **Choices (Options)**

3.6 N/A

### **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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#### **Policy**

- 4.1 The changes outlined in this report, when implemented, will improve the Council's effectiveness.

#### **Resources and Risk**

- 4.2 The revised strategy does not require any additional financing. It will involve additional input at a senior level but this should be rewarded with increase in efficiency. Failure to implement and enforce an efficient risk management system would leave the Council exposed to financial pressure from potential liability claims, and staff and the community exposed to unnecessary risk.

## **Legal**

4.3 The Council has a responsibility to manage risk effectively. Apart from the issues identified in 4.2 above failure to do so could, in the extreme, expose individual Members, managers and staff to personal prosecution.

## **Equality**

4.4 Where equality and diversity issues represent a risk to objectives these will be identified and appropriate action taken.

## **Consultees (Internal and External)**

4.5 The Policy and Strategy have been considered and approved by Management Board.

## **How the Proposals deliver Priority Outcomes**

4.6 The management of risk is an essential element towards the achievement of the Council's objectives in an effective and efficient manner.

## **Other Implications**

4.7 Any external assessment includes the effectiveness of our Risk management procedures.

## **5. Background Papers**

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5.1 Appendix 1 – Risk Management Strategy

Appendix 2 – Risk management policy

**Martin Cumbleton, Programme Coordinator, Regeneration**

# CABINET REPORT

## SIGNATORIES

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Risk Management Policy and Strategy</b>
<b>Date Of Call-Over</b>	16/10/2007

**Following Call-Over and subsequent approval by Management Board, signatures are required for all Key Decisions before submitting final versions to Meetings Services.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Ext.</b>
<b>Monitoring Officer or Deputy</b>			
<b>Section 151 Officer or Deputy</b>			