

Signed off by	Head of Corporate Policy, Projects and Performance
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To	Audit Committee, Executive Committee
Date	Audit Committee: Wednesday, 15 March 2023, Executive: Thursday, 23 March 2023
Executive Member	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Policy and Resources

Key Decision Required	N
Wards Affected	(All Wards);

Subject	Risk management - Q3 2022/23
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Recommendations
<p>That the Audit Committee:</p> <p>(i) Notes the Q3 2022/23 update on risk management provided in the report and associated annexes and make any observations to the Executive.</p> <p>That the Executive:</p> <p>(ii) Notes the Q3 2022/23 update on risk management provided by the report and associated annexes.</p> <p>(iii) Approves the closure of SR1 – ‘Coronavirus pandemic’.</p>
Reasons for Recommendations

The Audit Committee and Executive's constitutional responsibilities require the regular receipt of updates on risk management.

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on risk management in Q3 2022/23. Additional detail is provided in the report as well as in the supporting annexes.

The Audit and Executive have the authority to approve their respective recommendations.

Statutory Powers

1. The Council holds various statutory responsibilities for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and that public money is safeguarded, accounted for, and is used economically and effectively.
2. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act (1999) to put in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs.
3. The discharge of this responsibility includes arrangements for managing risk.
4. The Council's Code of Corporate Governance outlines these core governance principles; compliance with the code is reported each year via the Annual Governance Statement.

Background

5. Reigate & Banstead Borough Council has a proactive approach to risk management. It is an integral part of the Council's corporate governance arrangements and is built into management processes.
6. The Council operates a two-tiered risk management process to address the dynamic and interdependent nature of risk categorisation. The risk categories are strategic and operational risks.
7. Strategic risks are defined as those risks that have an impact on the medium to long term ambitions and priorities of the Council as set out in the Corporate Plan and Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP).
8. Members of the Management Team and Executive Members have shared responsibility for strategic risks. It is the responsibility of the Executive to formally endorse the strategic risks for each financial year.
9. Operational risks are short term risks that are encountered in the course of the day-to-day delivery by services. However, if the operational risk cannot be fully managed within the service or it has a wider organisational impact, then it will be considered for inclusion in the operational risk register. Heads of Service have responsibility for operational risks. The Audit Committee and Executive receive updates on any red rated operational risks as part of quarterly risk management reporting.
10. The Audit Committee has a constitutional responsibility to provide independent assurance to the Council of the adequacy of the risk management framework and

internal control environment. It provides independent review of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's governance, risk management and control frameworks. A key component of fulfilling this responsibility is to regularly receive and review the Council's risks.

Key Information

Q3 2022/23 risk management update

11. The full strategic risk register is available at annex 1 of this report.
12. In Q3 there were no new strategic risks identified.
13. In Q3 one strategic risk is recommended for closure, SR1 'Coronavirus Pandemic'.
 - Operating within the confines of, and responding to, Covid-19 has now become part of 'business as usual' for the Council, with disruption being proactively planned for and controls now in place. The impact of Covid-19 on the Council and wider society in general also continues to decline, therefore meriting the recommended closure of this risk in Q3 2022/23 reporting.
14. The full risk registers, as well as the Council's current risk management framework, are made available to all members via the ModernGov document library.

Red rated operational risk

15. In Q3 there was one RED rated operational risk, the detail of which is set out in the part 2 exempt annex.

Options

16. The Audit Committee has two options:
 - Option 1: note this report and make any observations to the Executive.
 - Option 2: note this report and make no observations to the Executive.
17. The Executive has two options:
 - Option 1: note this report and approve the closure of SR1 – 'Coronavirus pandemic'. This is the recommended option.
 - Option 2: note this report and do not approve the closure of SR1 – 'Coronavirus pandemic'.

Legal Implications

18. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

19. Financial risks are considered when preparing the Medium-Term Financial Plan, Capital Investment Strategy, Revenue Budget, and Capital Programme each year.
20. There are no additional financial implications arising from this report.

Equalities Implications

21. There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

Communication Implications

22. The Council's risk registers inform the development of the annual risk based internal audit plan.

23. The Council's approach to managing risk is a core component of the Code of Corporate Governance.

Environmental Sustainability Implications

24. There are no Environmental Sustainability implications arising from this report.

Risk Management Considerations

25. The Council's risk registers inform the development of the annual risk based internal audit plan, progress against which is reported separately to the Audit Committee.

26. The Council's approach to managing risk is a core component of the Code of Corporate Governance.

Other Implications

27. There are no other implications arising from this report.

Consultation

28. The contents of this report have been considered by the Council's Corporate Governance Group.

Policy Framework

29. The Council's risk management strategy and methodology provides additional information on how the council manages risk

Background Powers

1. Risk Management Strategy: https://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/info/20090/council_policy/929/risk_management