## Appendix A – Corporate Risks and Opportunities with changed assessments



| Risk Code           | TR60   | Risk Title            | Increased Homelessness and Use of B&B |  |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Risk Owner          | Andy Godman  | Updated By            | Martin Lawrence                       |  |
| Year Identified     | 2011   | Corporate<br>Priority | Prosper and Protect                   |  |
| Risk<br>Description | As a result of:  - Welfare reform  - Major difficulties accessing the private sector  - In the mid term, a rise in the base rate of interest  - Lack of suitable temporary accommodation  - Impact of new legislation, e.g. the Homelessness Reduction Bill There is a risk of:  - An increase in homelessness  - A lack of alternative housing options  - An increased use of B&B accommodation for homeless households   |                       |                                       |  |
| Opportunities       | Homelessness is minimised through prevention activity and there are options for those in housing difficulties t  |                       |                                       |  |
| Consequences        | An increase in homelessness levels could lead to the full occupation of temporary accommodation units. This is turn would lead to increased usage of B&B accommodation, which would have the following consequences:  - A significant budget gap for the Council as, on average, only around 35% of housing benefit costs can be reclaimed by way of government subsidy  - Adverse impact on households, as B&B accommodation in itself is not ideal and it could be located anywhere in Hertfordshire or beyond  - Negative publicity for the Council   |                       |                                       |  |
| Work<br>Completed   | - A review of all homeless households accommodated by the Council in order to establish whether an ongoing accommodation duty exists and if so, the best way to manage this - Entered into an agreement with Welwyn Hatfield Council to use any vacancies they have in temporary accommodation - Launched an updated Common Housing Allocation Scheme - Reviewed the structure of the Housing Options Team to improve resilience; new structure implemented 1 April 2016 - Reviewed the standard of service that the public can expect from the Housing Options Team - Financial risk identified for 2017/18: Ongoing usage of bed and breakfast accommodation for homeless households (£180k/Medium) - Linked to a new risk entry relating to the "Homelessness Reduction Bill"   |                       |                                       |  |
| Ongoing Work        | <ul> <li>Prioritising activities that establish whether a legal accommodation duty exists at the earliest possible stage</li> <li>Liaising with registered providers and other local authorities in order to see whether alternative accommodation options exist</li> <li>Liaise with Herts County Council on possibility of future specialist provision for single people</li> <li>Review opportunities to improve access to the private rented sector</li> <li>Work with temporary accommodation providers to closer manage occupants and determine whether possession action needs to be undertaken at an earlier stage (this would release more places in temporary accommodation)</li> <li>Work more closely with hostel residents in order to remove barriers to move-on, e.g. rent arrears</li> <li>Consider allowing homelessness acceptances to retain their status at their 'approach' address,</li> </ul> |                       |                                       |  |

|                         | thereby reducing the call on temporary accommodation - Working with the third sector and exploring partnership arrangements |                                |             |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Current Impact<br>Score | 2   | Current<br>Likelihood<br>Score | 2           |
| Current Risk<br>Matrix  | Tikelihood 2  |                                |             |
| Date Reviewed           | 02-Mar-2017   | Next Review<br>Date            | 02-Jun-2017 |

| Risk Code           | TR51   | Risk Title            | Office Accommodation     |  |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Risk Owner          | Howard Crompton  | Updated By            | Howard Crompton          |  |
| Year Identified     | 2013   | Corporate<br>Priority | Responsive and Efficient |  |
| Risk<br>Description | As a result of failure to:  - Create more open plan space - Minimise disturbance caused by refurbishment works - Have suitable and safe temporary accommodation - Fully anticipate all the costs of the project - Fully engage all staff and Members - Reduce physical storage requirements - Provide sufficient IT and telephony requirements and a suitable public reception in Town Lodge - Have sufficient capacity to deliver the project - Ensure the financial health and competence of the manufacturer/contractor  There is a risk that there is: - Failure to complete the project on time, to cost and within the specification - Failure to refurbish the offices as outlined in the original Business Case - Failure to make additional revenue savings/gains from letting - Inability to repair the exterior of the DCO in the long term - Deterioration in services provided to the public - Failure to moderate internal temperatures - Difficult working conditions leading to a deterioration in officers performance - Failure to manage expectations |                       |                          |  |
| Opportunities       | Purchasing and refurbishment of the DCO provides the following opportunities:  - Reduction in revenue expenditure for annual rent  - Significant investment with the opportunity of providing employment during the construction phase of the project  - More open plan arrangements encourages closer working between directorates and the removal of internal walls facilitates increased desk densities and greater workspace flexibility  - Improvements to temperature issues will assist in achieving improved productivity  - Long-term commitment to remain in Letchworth town centre  - Environmental benefits through reduced CO2 emissions, both from the refurbished building and compared to those generated by a new build scheme  - To provide a civic centre for a range of services  - Other public sector users would provide a rental income; third sector users could facilitate grant reductions due to provision of subsidised space  - Commercial rentals   |                       |                          |  |
| Consequences        | The consequences of these risks include the following:  - Continued energy inefficiencies resulting in lack of reduction in emissions and increased utility bills  - Current office conditions do not improve  - Negative impact on service delivery and morale leading to increase in complaints from the public  - Increase in staff complaints, particularly during the temporary decant  - Project costs exceed the approved budget  - Business Case benefits are not realised   |                       |                          |  |
| Work<br>Completed   | <ul> <li>Home working now embedded reducing the need for office space</li> <li>Full Council approved purchase and early refurbishment plan for DCO on 18 July 2013</li> <li>Start-up documents for next project phase (refurbishment works) approved by Project Board and SMT</li> <li>Established officer project group following Council approval to proceed</li> <li>Additional questions regarding office accommodation incorporated into 2014 staff survey</li> <li>Architectural services commissioned from Stevenage BC</li> </ul>  |                       |                          |  |

Space planning consultancy advice commissioned Agreement to use Town Lodge and the Letchworth Museum building as temporary accommodation for the duration of the works - Two staff briefings held to date - External designs have Planning and LGCHF approval - Specification for internal works agreed - Finalised agreement for Letchworth storage facility (Unit 3) - Council approved revised budget and final scheme requirements on 14 July 2016 - No responses received to the original tender - Subsequently entered into a Scape framework agreement, the principal contractor being Willmott Dixon - Property Services and IT met with teams to determine storage requirements and to review the possibility of electronic storage Decant to Town Lodge/Letchworth Museum completed in early December 2016 Completed negotiations/value engineering with Willmott Dixon regarding the level of works achievable within the approved budget available - Modifications to design/specification required - Contract signed in February 2017 (total contract value including removal of all identified asbestos is £5,633,382.80) - Willmott Dixon completed a site survey of the DCO regarding asbestos removal - Site survey identified substantially more asbestos in the building than initially expected (£250k of additional work) - Confirmed contingency/security arrangements during the works relating to the servers - DCO cleared ready for the commencement of works - Willmott Dixon commenced work on site on 6 March 2017 - Continue to explore opportunities for potential partners to use some of the office space in the DCO Clear top level buy-in regarding refurbishment proposals, including more open plan and hotdesking provision, along with temperature moderation measures - Staff consultation and engagement ongoing, e.g. regular email updates to staff and councillors, with representatives from service areas being involved in the project - Where necessary, external skills and advice will be obtained - Willmott Dixon responsible for tendering arrangements for sub-contractor works **Ongoing Work** - The removal of asbestos requires specialist contractors Ongoing asbestos removal due to be completed shortly - Demolition works have commenced, e.g. removal of cellular offices from higher floors Any unforeseen issues identified from surveys or during the works are assessed, with appropriate solutions approved and financed from existing budgets - Once the asbestos removal and demolition works are complete, the construction phase will commence - Works due to be completed by 30 January 2018 (contract end date) - Return to the DCO due to be completed by 31 March 2018 Current **Current Impact** 2 Likelihood 2 Score Score **Current Risk** Matrix

> Impact Next Review

> > Date

26-Oct-2017

**Date Reviewed** 

26-Apr-2017

| Risk Code               | TR59.007   | Risk Title   | Sale of Materials        |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--|
| Risk Owner              | Vaughan Watson   | Updated By   | Chloe Hipwood            |  |
| Year Identified         | 2015   | Corporate<br>Priority  | Responsive and Efficient |  |
| Risk<br>Description     | As a result of: Increasing supply and lack of demand for materials Lack of competition The down turn in the market for materials Reduction in price for commingled material and/or waste paper Lack of direct management of contractor Loss of contractor Contamination There is a risk that: There is an increase in the cost for processing the materials There is a significant financial loss to NHDC There is lack of control over contract There is a need to find an alternative contractor at short/no notice The contractor will reject loads that are considered contaminated                      |  |                          |  |
| Opportunities           | - NHDC obtains maximum income for the materials it has collected that can be recycled  |  |                          |  |
| Consequences            | As a consequence of the risk occurring:  - There is a negative impact on the Council's General Fund  - Services may have to be cut to meet the shortfall  - Material that could be recycled goes to landfill, e.g. the facility at Radwell cannot store materials for any length of time   |  |                          |  |
| Work<br>Completed       | <ul> <li>NHDC is part of a consortium for recycling materials with other Hertfordshire authorities</li> <li>Site visits to monitor contamination</li> <li>Requests for data on material composition</li> <li>New plastics recycling leaflets</li> <li>New plastic stickers delivered September/October 2015</li> <li>Promotional campaigns to reduce contamination and increase the quality of materials</li> <li>New paper contract procured as HWP started in January 2017</li> <li>New contract procured jointly with EHC started in February 2017 (saving against budget currently predicted)</li> </ul> |  |                          |  |
| Ongoing Work            | - To consider options to reduce the likelihood in moisture contamination - To consider contingency arrangements to be put in place to cover the loss of a contractor - Budgets adjusted to reflect impact - Monthly review of market price fluctuations  |  |                          |  |
| Current Impact<br>Score | 3  | Current<br>Likelihood<br>Score   | 2                        |  |
| Current Risk<br>Matrix  |  | 8 poor iiii ya maa ka m |                          |  |
| Date Reviewed           | 26-Apr-2017  | Next Review<br>Date  | 26-Oct-2017              |  |