

**FINANCE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE
5 DECEMBER 2019**

PUBLIC DOCUMENT

TITLE OF REPORT: RISK AND OPPORTUNITIES MANAGEMENT UPDATE

REPORT OF: THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – RESOURCES

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: FINANCE AND IT

COUNCIL PRIORITY: / PROSPER AND PROTECT / RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 To provide the Committee with an update on the Corporate risks and the proposed changes to these risks.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee notes the review /changes to the Corporate risks for the quarter, namely:

- Impact of Anti Social Behaviour on Council Facilities to retain its current risk score of 7

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The responsibility for ensuring the management of risks is that of Cabinet.

3.2 This Committee has responsibility to monitor the effective development and operation of risk and opportunities management.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 There are no alternative options that are applicable.

5. CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

- 5.1 Consultation has been undertaken with the Senior Management Team (SMT) and the Risk Management Group (this includes the Executive Member for Finance and IT as Risk Management Member 'champion') and these recommendations were supported. Lead Officers discuss these risks with the relevant Executive Member

6. FORWARD PLAN

- 6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

7. BACKGROUND

- 7.1 At the September meeting the Committee noted the review of the Brexit risk and the review of the Managing the Councils Finances, both retaining a risk score of 9. The report was approved and referred on to Cabinet. The report was subsequently approved by Cabinet

8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Corporate Risks

- 8.1.1 The Corporate risks summarised in Table 1 have been reviewed and agreed by SMT. Members are able to view the current risk descriptions on Pentana, the Council's performance and risk management software. Table 1 shows the last date that each Corporate risk was reviewed by the risk owner
- 8.1.2 At the Risk Management Group meeting on 6 November, a review of the Impact of Anti Social Behaviour on Council Facilities was discussed. There seems to be an improving situation in Letchworth, partly due to joint work that has resulted in the police charging 8 youths with 28 offences. However there have been some recent incidents at Howard Park. The situation at the Lairage car park in Hitchin got worse and some more actions have been identified to try and individually address specific types of anti-social behaviour. There are ongoing incidents at the BMX Track on Burns Road in Royston. This is resulting in amenities such as litter bins not being replaced as they keep getting damaged. The Grounds team and Community Safety team are working together to identify ways to address it. Overall it is considered that the risk score should remain at 7.

Table 1: Risk and Opportunities Matrix

The dates specified relate to the date that officers last reviewed the risk.

Risks that officers have reviewed since the last FARC meeting have been given a direction of travel arrow.

Likelihood	3 High	4	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of Anti-Social Behaviour on Council Facilities (29.10.19) ←→ • Income Generation (07.10.19) ←→ • Sustainable Development (24.04.19) 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brexit (07.10.19) ←→ • Local Plan (24.04.19) • Managing the Council's Finances (26.07.19) • Waste Management, Recycling and Street Cleansing (01.08.19)
	2 Medium	2	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Homelessness (11.10.19) ←→ • Workforce Planning (05.04.19) 	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cyber Risks (30.09.19) ←→
	1 Low	1	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Hertfordshire Museum and Hitchin Town Hall Project (29.07.19) 	6
		1 Low	2 Medium	3 High
		Impact		

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The Committee's Terms of Reference include monitoring the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance, agreeing actions (where appropriate) and making recommendations to Cabinet. This report gives the Committee the opportunity to review and comment on the high level risks and how they are proposed to be managed.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The Risk and Opportunities Management Strategy requires the Finance Audit and Risk Committee to consider regular reports on the Council's Corporate risks. Failure to provide the Committee with regular updates would be in conflict with the agreed Strategy and would mean that this Committee could not provide assurances to Cabinet that the Council's identified Corporate Risks are being managed.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2 Reporting on the management of risk provides a means to monitor whether the council are meeting the stated outcomes of the district priorities, its targets or delivering accessible and appropriate services to the community to meet different peoples needs. The risks of NHDC failing in its Public Sector Equality Duty are recorded on the Risk Register. The Council's risk management approach is holistic, taking account of commercial and physical risks. It should also consider the risk of not delivering a service in an equitable, accessible manner, and especially to its most vulnerable residents, such as those who are homeless.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to this report.

14. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 There are no direct human resource implications relating to this report, but it should be noted that there is a separate Corporate risk relating to Workforce Planning.

15. APPENDICES

- 15.1 Appendix A – Reviewed Risk – Impact of Anti Social Behaviour on Council Facilities

16. CONTACT OFFICERS

- 16.1 Rachel Cooper, Controls, Risk & Performance Manager
rachel.cooper@north-herts.gov.uk; ext. 4606

Ian Couper, Service Director – Resources
ian.couper@north-herts.gov.uk, ext. 4243

17. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 17.1 The risks held on Pentana, the Councils Performance and Risk Management IT system.