

Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	23 July 2024
Title of Report:	Risk Management Monitoring Report – July 2024
Lead Strategic Director:	David Northey, Section 151 Officer (Service director for Finance)
Author:	Ross Jago, Head of Governance Performance and Risk
Contact Email:	Ross.jago@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	RS/RMJul24
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

The attached report provides an update on the Strategic risk register for the organisation. [The interactive Risk dashboard is available at this link](#) (n.b. Changes are made in real time and therefore may differ to this Q4 report).

A new risk management process for organisational risk was implemented in January. The new process was subject to a “lunch and learn” in January and is supported through our Risk Management Pages on the staff intranet.

Since the launch of the risk management pages they have been reviewed by 252 unique users accessing the pages 653 times over the period (27/01/2024- 24/04/2024). This could be seen to represent a significant increase in engagement in the risk management process.

The implementation of the Risk App has had an impact on the flow of updates and new risks being recorded on the register.

The new process is beginning to yield results and discussions concerning the possible utilisation of similar tools for service level risks are underway.

Strategic Risks

There are currently 57 risks in total on the Organisational Risk Register. Of the 57 risks 26 are strategic and 31 are operational. All risks have been updated during the quarter.

Since the last reporting period one strategic risk has been removed from the register. The risk removed concerned the accounting treatment of the 2019/20 pension transaction following the “minded to” confirmation of a capitalisation direction from Government.

There have been ten strategic risks added to the register during the quarter these are –

- Impact on the Civil Protection Service delivering statutory 'must do' activities and functions and responding to emergencies.
- Adult Social Care - funding for National Living Wage increase
- Commissioned providers - workforce recruitment and retention

- Manual Handling Organisation Wide
- Implementation of Evotix Assure Health and Safety System
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Fire Safety Management
- Violence and Aggression
- Major projects - capacity and cost inflation
- Protect Duty across PCC

Risk description, ranking and scores are detailed at appendix I

- **Cyber-attack (Strategic)** – Despite the ongoing and significant mitigation, Government advice is to maintain oversight of risk at the corporate level and maintain a higher level of risk score to reflect that the probability of the risk cannot be fully mitigated against.
- **Failure to reduce health inequalities (Strategic)** – The risk score has been maintained at high. Despite the ongoing Council actions to address this risk the strength of external factors beyond the Councils control means that the risk is unlikely to be further mitigated at this time.
- **Councils expenditure exceeds the resources available (Strategic)**- This risk has had its overall probability reduced due following review and publication of a new medium financial strategy, but remains at a high level. Ongoing review of the situation through the established system of financial reporting is the main mitigation currently underway.
- **Increased and sustained pressure on Adult Social Care budget (Strategic)**- The risk score has been maintained at high. Mitigation includes re-procurement of services to increase efficiency and number of management actions being undertaken with partners at Livewell Southwest.

Recommendations and Reasons

The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to note the current position with regard to the Strategic Risk Register.

Reason: As part of the Committee's responsibility for monitoring the implementation and ongoing processes for identifying and managing key risks of the authority.

Alternative options considered and rejected

Effective risk management processes are an essential element of internal control and as such are an important element of good corporate governance. For this reason alternative options are not applicable.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The Strategic Risk and Opportunity Register includes links to the Corporate Plan priorities – monitoring of control action for strategic risks therefore contributes to the delivery of the council's core objectives.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

None arising specifically from this report but control measures identified in Directorate Operational Risk and Opportunity Registers could have financial or resource implications.

Financial Risks

None arising specifically from this report, but control measures identified in Directorate Operational Risk and Opportunity Registers could have financial or resource implications.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

Failure to deliver against actions in the Climate Emergency Action Plan and Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan are included on risk registers.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

The risk registers specifically supports the council's overall governance arrangements.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Strategic Risk Register							

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Northey

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 04/06/2024

