

# Audit and Governance Committee



PLYMOUTH  
CITY COUNCIL

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|--------------------------|--|
| Date of meeting:         | 20 January 2026                                      |
| Title of Report:         | <b>Risk Management Update</b>                        |
| Lead Member:             | Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)   |
| Lead Strategic Director: | David Northey (Interim Service Director for Finance) |
| Author:                  | Brad Hutton  |
| Contact Email:           | bradley.hutton@devon.gov.uk                          |
| Your Reference:          | Risk Management Update – January 2026                |
| Key Decision:            | No   |
| Confidentiality:         | Part I - Official                                    |

## Purpose of Report

This report provides members of the Audit & Governance Committee with an update on the work both completed and proposed, which will support the development and embedding of Plymouth City Council's (PCC) Risk Management framework.

The expectation from central government on public bodies regarding Risk Management is outlined in the 'Orange Book Management of Risk'. Additionally, 'The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015' states that risk is appropriately managed within public bodies.

Devon Assurance Partnership (DAP) is providing support, insight and facilitation to ensure that Risk Management is well embedded within PCC.

## Recommendations and Reasons

- That members of the Audit & Governance Committee note the information in the report

*Reason: to update the Committee on the focus of work with DAP on further developing the Risk Management framework*

## Alternative options considered and rejected

- N/A

## Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

Risks are specifically linked to the achievement of objectives or goals, therefore Risk Management is relevant to the corporate plan and the priorities detailed within the plan.

## Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

The work to be delivered utilising available resources and has no material impact on the MTFP

## Financial Risks

There are no financial risks related to the delivery of the planned work

## Legal Implications

The continued development of the Council's risk management framework is essential to meeting statutory duties under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which require the Council to maintain effective arrangements for risk management and internal control. Weaknesses in strategic or operational risk identification, ownership and escalation could undermine the robustness of corporate decision-making and expose the Council to increased legal, regulatory and financial challenge.

Strengthening the framework, embedding consistent practice across services, and addressing the findings of the recent internal audit will support the Council's overall governance obligations and reduce exposure to avoidable legal risk.

## Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

N/A

## 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.

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## Appendices

\*Add rows as required to box below

| Ref. Title of Appendix |                        | Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)<br><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                      | Risk Management Update |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |

## 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)<br><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> |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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## Sign off:

## OFFICIAL

## PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

|     |                      |     |  |            |     |    |     |            |     |               |     |
|-----|----------------------|-----|--|------------|-----|----|-----|------------|-----|---------------|-----|
| Fin | OW.<br>25.26.<br>110 | Leg | LS/00<br>0036<br>09/53<br>/LB/I<br>2/01/<br>26 | Mon<br>Off | N/A | HR | N/A | Asset<br>s | N/A | Strat<br>Proc | N/A |
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