Buckinghamshire County Council

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Regulatory and Audit Committee

Title:	Risk Management Group Update
Date:	Wednesday 3 February 2016
Author:	Ian Dyson – Chief Auditor
Contact officer:	Maggie Gibb, Business Assurance Manager (01296) 387327
Local members affected:	None

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Summary

This report summarises the discussions at the Risk Management Group held on 14th January 2016 to review the effectiveness of the Council's Risk Management framework and consider some of the key risks facing the Council and how the risks are being managed.

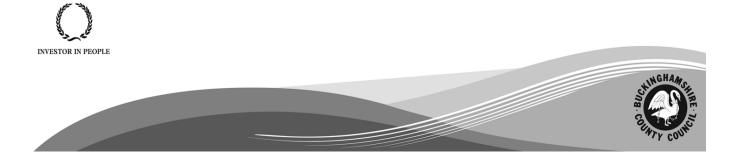
Recommendation

Members are asked to note report

Summary

- 1. The Risk Management Group meeting was attended by:
 - Richard Scott (Chairman)
 - Peter Hardy (Member of Regulatory and Audit Committee)
 - David Martin (Member of Regulatory and Audit Committee)
 - Ian Dyson (Chief Internal Auditor)
 - Maggie Gibb (Business Assurance Manager)
 - Richard Schmidt (Head of Strategic Finance)
 - Sarah Ashmead (Director of Strategy and Policy)

2. The Strategic (OCB) Risk Register was presented to the group by the Business Assurance Manager. The Strategic Risk register is reviewed and updated by OCB on a quarterly basis, the last time being November 2015. This involves each member of OCB individually reviewing the key risks, followed by a discussion at the Board meeting to agree amendments and additions. The Business Assurance Manager provided the group with an update on the new



and amended risks, and answered member's questions relating to the management of the risks.

3. The High level risks (those scoring more than 15) from across all Business Units and HQ were presented to the Risk Management Group, and a discussion was held around the importance of ensuring that Business Units use their risk registers as an effective management tool. It was agreed that in the future, the group would need to ensure that the registers were being robustly challenged and that each Business Unit was considering their risks on a routine basis, providing updates on the direction of travel.

4. Martin Dickman (Director of Environment) and Roger Seed (Contract Manager) attended the meeting to update members on the progress of the Energy from Waste (EfW) project, and to present the latest risk register.

The EfW risks continue to be monitored effectively on a regular basis, and Martin presented members with a detailed explanation relating to the high level risks. A number of questions and challenges were presented by the members, and whilst there are some significant risks being faced, the group were assured that the governance and management of the contract was robust, and that the risks are being well managed at present. It was commented by members that the contract management of the EfW appeared to very complex and a suggestion was made that the current risk register be expanded to include more detail on the progress of each risk, to provide a detailed explanation of the overall picture.

5. David Johnston (Managing Director Children's Social Care and Learning) attended the meeting to update the Risk Management Group on the Improvement Programme and the management of risks within the programme and across the rest of the Business Unit. The group received a report of the current risks recorded in the Risk Management System, and the Managing Director gave a detailed update on the controls in place to mitigate the risks and reassured the group that the register itself was discussed regularly by the senior management team as well as the Business Unit and elected Members.

Background Papers

Risk Management Group Terms of Reference Risk Management Group Minutes