

Report For:	Audit Committee
Meeting Date:	Audit 10 October 2019
Part:	Part 1 - Open
If Part 2, reason:	Choose a reason

Title of Report:	Strategic Risk Register - Monitoring Report
Officer Contact: Direct Dial: Email:	Michael Howard – Business Assurance Manager 01494 421357 Mike.howard@wycombe.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	All
Reason for the Decision:	Risk Management is the process of identifying and addressing the risks that either impact on the long term direction and sustainability of the Councils (strategic risks), or arise from the delivery of objectives as set out in the Councils Corporate plan (corporate /operational risks).
	Risk Management forms part of Wycombe District Council's approach to effective governance and is an essential element of good management.
	The Strategic Risk Register contains the most significant risks that could have an effect or impact on the delivery of the Councils' Corporate Plan and in doing so damage the Councils financial standing and its reputation.
	No new risks were identified during the reporting period.
	A previous risk relating to Unitary District Council Status (Pre-structural Change Orders) has been superseded in that the governance arrangements for the new Unitary Council are responsibility of the Shadow Authority and relevant Workstreams.
	Further information has been provided as regards Brexit as part of the External and Internal Regulatory framework (SR02)
	Strategic Board via the respective designated Risk Owners have provided their commentary as regards the content of individually assigned risks.

Proposed Decision/Recommendation:	That: The Committee is asked to NOTE the Monitoring Report for the Councils Strategic Risk Register.
Sustainable Community Strategy/Council Priorities – Implications.	Risk: Not applicable Equalities: Not applicable Health & Safety: Not applicable
Monitoring Officer/ S.151 Officer Comments	 Monitoring Officer: The Strategic Register contributes to the Council's suite of processes to support good governance. S.151 Officer: There are no direct financial implications of this report.
Consultees:	None
Options:	None
Next Steps:	None
Background Papers:	None
Abbreviations:	

Strategi	c Risk Regis	ter - Monitor	ing Repo	ort - Sept	tember 20 [°]	19		
Risk	Current Risk	Consequences	Internal Controls	Assurance Level	Evidence of Assurance	Actions	Latest Note	Assigned To
SR01 Workforce skills and knowledge	Likelihood	 Work is not completed to expected quality standards Loss of key staff Increase in complaints Poor or inconsistent services Projects not delivered on time / budget /quality Unrealistic workloads leading to absence/ increased sickness levels. Failure to attract, recruit and retain suitable staff Loss of knowledge and expertise 	Key specialist roles identified and service resilience plan in place plan in place Up to date policies accessible to officers Service based performance management information	-	At a Unitary Level, reports are produced for Chief Executive Implementation Group and the Resource Board that outlines: Turnover, Hard to fill vacancies and any HR related issues.	Unitary Council level Unitary Work Streams have completed individual Resource Plans that detail resource requirements to deliver individual work streams, to the Chief Executive Implementation Group - May 2019. On a quarterly basis a monitoring report is produced that high lights: • staff turnover, • hard to fill vacancies, • back filling decisions and associated issues. The 5 Councils have introduced the Vacancy Management Protocol. Following submission of individual Work Stream resource plans to the Chief Executive Implementation Group - May 2019, retention payments, where applicable, are to be the responsibility of each sovereign Council and will be managed in line with existing HR processes, .	Amended on behalf of the Head of HR, ICT and Facilities Management to reflect decisions taken by the Resource Board, Chief Executive Implementation Group and the sovereign authorities.	ICT and Facilities Management Head of HR

Risk	Current Risk	Consequences	Internal Controls	Assurance Level	Evidence of Assurance	Actions	Latest Note	Assigned To
						• Decisions as regards the back filling of posts, are the responsibility of the sovereign Councils.		
SR02 External and internal regulatory framework (Brexit)	Likelihood	 Wrong or illegal decisions taken (Ultra Vires) Complaints (justifiable) Reputational damage breach of legislation 	Published contract register used for contract renewal Legal Service support	Level 2 - Internal Governance (Risk / Performance Management)	Complaint monitoring and reporting to SMB quarterly		 Brexit Council is a member of the Thames Valley Local Resilience, as a defined Category 1 Responder under the Civil Contingency Act 2004 (CCA). TVLRF memberships consists of Category 1 Responders: Principal Local Authorities Emergency Services, Health Bodies, Public Health England and the Environment Agency. Category 2 Responders: Local Utility Companies, Transport operators, Voluntary Sector, Food Standards Agency and Health and Safety Executive. CAT 1 Responders are required to assess risk and undertake joint exercises with CAT 2 Responders. TVLRF are currently holding weekly teleconferences with 	Head of Environment

Risk	Current Risk	Consequences	Internal Controls	Assurance Level	Evidence of Assurance	Actions		Assigned To
							 MHCLG. This will be the reporting mechanism into MCHLG on a national template which is to be released shortly. Interim Chief Executive is the Councils Lead Brexit Officer with MHCLG. A legal duty under the CCA requires that Responders carry out risk assessments and maintain them in a Community Risk Register. TVLRF have a number of strategic plans for the identified risks (including Brexit). Tactical plans are then developed at a County level to co-ordinate response with Operational Plans to deliver specific responses developed and implemented at district level (none currently exists for Brexit). These are managed by the Emergency Planning Officer in the Environmental Health Service. 	

Strategio	c Risk Regist	er - Monitor	ing Repo	ort - Sept	tember 201	19		
Risk	Current Risk	Consequences	Internal Controls	Assurance Level	Evidence of Assurance	Actions	Latest Note	Assigned To
SR03 Reduction in Government funding	Likelihood	 Reduction in budgets Loss / reduction of discretionary services Reduction in service level for statutory services Reputational damage Inability to realise corporate plan/ priorities / transformation programme. 	Monthly budgetary control reports Service based performance management information Medium Term Financial Plan Income Maximisation Assessed budget volatility	Level 3 - Independent Assurance (Internal Audits, HSE)	External Audit through statutory assessment of value for money (VFM). Quarterly budget reports to Cabinet. Monthly budget reports to Strategic Management Board Budget report presented to Full Council Audit Committee report on Statement of Accounts and Value for Money Opinion.		The Head of Finance and Commercial has provided the following update:The risk profile is still valid and reflects the on-going challenges of ensuring a balanced budget is delivered for 2019/20.Work is ongoing with other Councils as part of the creation of the new Buckinghamshire Council in setting out the MTFS process to ensure a balanced budget for 2020/21.The 2018/19 Outturn position and Statement of Accounts will be presented to Cabinet and Audit Committee in line with agreed timescales.	Head of Finance and Commercial
SR05 Partnership working	2) and the second secon	 Missed opportunities for funding streams (LEP) Restricted range of services offered 	Regular contract meetings/ dialogue Periodic formal	Level 1 - Operational Management (Policies & Procedures)	Strategic Management Board receive periodic updates on		No update on the commentary provided by the Head of DLP, 10th May 2019, that the range of partnerships that the Council participates in is being reviewed as part of the Legal	Head of DLP

Strategic	Risk Regis	ter - Monitor	ing Repo	ort - Sept	ember 20	19		
Risk	Current Risk	Consequences	Internal Controls	Assurance Level	Evidence of Assurance	Actions	Latest Note	Assigned To
		 Failure to realise economies of scale Duplication of work Impact on public perception of the wider public sector 	quality reviews undertaken by Management Partnership oversight		partnership relations		and Governance work stream, which is part of the Resource work stream. An extract for the Legal and Governance work stream work programme - August 2019 recorded that the following was in progress: Develop a draft significant strategic partnership register identifying key member leads / senior officer leads.	
SR06 Investment in infrastructure	Likelihood 16	 Lack of investment in infrastructure could lead to issues as regards both the short and long term sustainability of the local community and economy. Deterioration of the Councils image and reputation as a place to live, work, visit and invest in. Restriction in economic growth 	Periodic formal quality reviews undertaken by Management Established Programme Boards Assessed budget volatility	Level 1 - Operational Management (Policies & Procedures)			Corporate Director has confirmed the content of this risk entry for the purpose of monitoring. Work is ongoing to continue the delivery of the following:	Corporate Director

Risk	Current	Consequences	Internal Controls	Assurance	Evidence of	Actions	Latest Note	Assigned
	Risk	could impact on service provision & funding through reduced business rate growth.		Level	Assurance			То
		 Programmes /Project are funded by external borrowing rather than internal funds. 						
SR07 Data and Information security		 2 Internal Information Governance Information Commissioners Office (ICO)infringements /fines Criminal proceedings against the Council and individuals. Reputational damage Complaints leading to ICO findings against the Council. 		Level 2 - Internal Governance (Risk / Performance Management)			As part of the Legal and Governance work stream, a review of: paper records, closed and archived records is to be undertaken and consideration is to be given as to a methodology for the management of digital/electronic records. As part of the Legal and Governance work stream, a review key policies has been requested: Records Management - October, GDPR – November, all of which are part of a wider	Head of HR

Strategic Risk Register - Monitoring Report - September 2019										
Risk	Current Risk	Consequences	Internal Controls	Assurance Level	Evidence of Assurance	Actions	Latest Note	Assigned To		
		 Complaints leading to Ombudsman findings against the Council. Loss of sensitive data Unlawful release of personal data 					review to be implemented by March 2020 in advance of the new Unitary Council.			
		External IT Governance Loss of IT services	External Information Governance (Suite of Internal Controls)				Wycombe is currently developing a Cyber Risk register.			