

CITY OF CARDIFF COUNCIL CYNGOR DINAS CAERDYDD

CABINET MEETING: 14 July 2016

CORPORATE RISK REGISTER – YEAR END REVIEW 2015/16

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR RESOURCES

AGENDA ITEM:

**PORTFOLIO: CORPORATE SERVICES & PERFORMANCE (COUNCILLOR
GRAHAM HINCHEY)**

Reason for this Report

1. To bring the Corporate Risk Register (CRR) to the attention of the Cabinet, in order to consider the strategic risks facing the Council.

Background

2. To support the arrangements for good corporate governance, it is necessary for the Council to have a clear statement of its overall position in relation to corporate risks which are reviewed on a regular basis.
3. The CRR should identify the main risks facing the Council so that elected Members and senior management can make informed decisions and prioritise actions, with these high level risks in mind. The process followed is to identify the risk and then to address it through the control measures and mitigations in place or planned within the Council. This exercise results in a residual risk score which should demonstrate the effectiveness of the controls in place to manage the risk.
4. From 2016/17, the responsibility for leading on risk management was assigned to the Information Governance and Risk Section. Work has commenced in order to build upon the risk management practices previously facilitated by the Internal Audit Section. The existing reporting processes and the well-established risk management infrastructure will continue.
5. The Cabinet last sighted the CRR on 10 December 2015 containing 24 risks, which reflected the mid-year position 2015/16. The register continues to be updated quarterly and presented to the Senior Management Team, to ensure their collective ownership and agreement of the strategic risks facing the Council. On this occasion the register has been updated to reflect the year end position 2015/16.

Issues

6. The CRR is currently made up of twenty four risks, all of which are assigned to members of the Senior Management Team to ensure the most senior level of ownership and accountability by officers.

7. Each risk has been reviewed and updated by the respective risk owner to reflect the year end position, and then the full register was shared with all Directors at the Senior Management Team meeting on 24 May 2016, to gain their collective agreement. It is felt that the updates have strengthened the mitigating actions against the risks currently identified.
8. At the meeting with Senior Management Team, the corporate risks register was discussed together with collated comments received from the Risk Champion Team. The consensus was that that two risks from the year-end position have been sufficiently addressed, which were:
 - Preparing a Local Development Plan that is considered 'sound' by the inspector, within the proposed timescale, and;
 - To ensure effective operation of the Council's Asset Management Board to achieve effective strategic oversight and savings.
9. For the year-end position risk descriptions, controls and risk ratings have been updated resulting from the management review. Some positive milestones have been achieved in relation to certain corporate risks which represent areas of good progress. However, in 2016/17 consideration will be given to whether achieving certain milestones will represent the closure of particular risks, or whether it is a case that new risks have now emerged which require management and monitoring at a corporate level. Decisions about any changes to the content and structure of the CRR will be made in the next Risk Management Steering Group meeting and prior to the mid-year review for 2016/17.
10. It is important to note that risks are liable to change as circumstances alter and the CRR presents the position at a point in time i.e. this report reflects the year end position. The register will continue to be refreshed quarterly and the identified risk owners have a responsibility to ensure the register remains focused and relevant.
11. It is appreciated that there is considerable detail in the complete register and, therefore, two appendices are attached; Appendix A details the complete register while Appendix B is a summarised version.

Reason for Recommendations

12. As part of the arrangements for good corporate governance, it is necessary for the Council to have a clear statement identifying what strategic risks the Authority faces. The CRR will update Members and enable them to make informed decisions. In addition, the Council will be able to demonstrate that there are effective and robust systems in place for managing risk.

Financial Implications

13. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The Corporate Risk register will be used to guide the Internal Audit Plan and the Council's resource planning processes and forms an important part of the governance arrangements for the Council.

Legal Implications (including Equality Impact Assessment where appropriate)

14. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. However, one of the benefits of identifying risk is that mitigation measures may be taken, if appropriate, and consequently successful claims against the Council may be avoided altogether, or reduced.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15. The Cabinet is recommended to note the content of the Corporate Risk Register.

Christine salter
Corporate Director Resources
Date: 14 July 2016

The following appendices are attached:

Appendix A – Corporate Risk Register (Detailed)
Appendix B – Corporate Risk Register (Summary)