

Report to:	Audit Committee
Relevant Officer:	Head of Audit and Risk
Date of Decision/ Meeting	15 th March 2018

STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER 2018/2019

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To present the Council's revised Strategic Risk Register to the Audit Committee.

A new way of reporting progress to Audit Committee is also proposed and a template of what this will look like is suggested.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 The Audit Committee is asked to approve the Strategic Risk Register and the new template for reporting progress to the Committee.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that strategic risks are effectively managed.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
N/a

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The Strategic Risk Register covers all Council priorities.

5.0 Background Information

5.1 Blackpool Council's Risk Management Framework 2018-2021 was agreed by Audit Committee on the 18th January 2018. This sets out the roles and responsibilities of Audit Committee and these include:

- Monitor the adequacy of the Council’s risk management arrangements.
- Approve the strategic risk register and consider progress reports on the risks included in it.
- Gain assurance about the extent to which risk management objectives are being met.
- Approve the Council’s Risk Management Framework.

The Strategic Risk Register is reviewed and updated by the Corporate Risk Management Group and the Corporate Leadership Team. It receives annual approval from the Audit Committee.

Risk Owners are required to attend Audit Committee on a periodic basis to provide an update in terms of how each risk is being managed. In previous years this has consisted of the relevant extract of the Strategic Risk Register being presented to Audit Committee.

For 2018/19 it is intended that a new report will be taken to Audit Committee for the Risk Owners / Risk Managers to answer questions on. The new template will be prepopulated by Risk Services based on the information contained in the Strategic Risk Register. The Head of Audit and Risk will then liaise with the Risk Owner / Risk Manager to complete the progress update before submitting this to CLT for approval, prior to it being taken to Audit Committee. If there is a particularly high risk / topical area then the Audit Committee may request a more detailed presentation at a future meeting to gain further assurance that the risk is being effectively managed.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 9(a) – Strategic Risk Register

Appendix 9(b) – Example template for reporting to Audit Committee

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 The Council needs to ensure that it effectively manages its risks to avoid the potential of legal challenge or prosecution.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 The actions identified in the Strategic Risk Register will be delivered using existing staffing levels.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 N/a

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 Where possible, risks will be managed within current budgets. Where it is not feasible to do so, this will be escalated to the Corporate Risk Management Group and the Corporate Leadership Team where a decision will be made to accept the risk or identify additional funding to implement the required controls.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The Strategic Risk Register is a key component of the Council's overall Risk Management Framework.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 N/a

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 The Strategic Risk Register has been prepared in consultation with the Corporate Risk Management Group and the Corporate Leadership Team.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 N/a