Risk Category: Security

Risk: a) Terrorism related act at major events and in publicly accessible locations.

Risk Owner: Director of Communications and Regeneration, Director of Resources

Gross Risk Score	20	Impact - 5	Likelihood – 4

What impact does this have?
- Long term damage to the visitor economy.
- Negative impact on the local community.

What opportunities does this create?
- Develop increased confidence amongst visitors that Blackpool is a safe place to visit.
- Residents feel safe when in Blackpool Town Centre.

What controls do we already have in place?
- Close working with Police, Counter Terrorism Policing and other agencies via the Emergency Planning Team, Lancashire Resilience Forum and Safety Advisory Group for events.
- Action Counters Terrorism (ACT) Awareness training rolled out to council staff. See, Check and Notify (SCaN) training being rolled out to relevant council staff and businesses across the town.
- Emergency Services and partners train and exercise in relation to responding to major incidents.
- Multi and single agency plans in place to respond to a major incident.
- Where known/involved, protective security advice and considerations provided and encouraged for new development schemes across the town.
- Work programme in place to develop and continuously improve Protect and Prepare elements of CONTEST.
- Introduction of an anti-terrorism traffic regulation order (ATTRO) which gives the police stronger powers over the road and pedestrian network in the event of a serious incident.

Net Risk Score	15	Impact - 5	Likelihood – 3

What are we doing to further manage the risk?

To work with partners to consider learning from the Manchester Arena inquiry as lessons identified are issued.

We are still awaiting the outcome from the public inquiry and we will consider any recommendations made and how best to implement these across Blackpool. However, we are receiving updates from the CTSA about potential impacts, and we are also in discussion with major venues across the town to assess their level of preparedness.

An independent review into the preparedness for, and emergency response to, the Manchester Arena

attack on 22nd May 2017 has been published (Kerslake Report), and steps have been undertaken to address some of the outcomes of this such as the planned roll out of Publicly Accessible Trauma First Aid kits.

To embed with the Growth and Prosperity team the requirement to ensure protective security in relation to counter terrorism is considered for development schemes across the town.

The Emergency Planning Team and Counter Terrorism Security Advisors (CTSA) met with the consultants appointed by the Growth and Prosperity Team to develop the Town Centre Strategy.

Where appropriate, security is built into the design. A good example of this is the Quality Corridor Scheme where the pedestrian route between the train station and the conference centre has been protected through the use of bollards. Likewise, security measures were introduced as part of the development of the Conference Centre and retrospectively fitted outside key leisure assets such as Blackpool Tower.

When available, consider any forthcoming legislative requirements in relation to a potential 'Protect Duty' and ensure the Council has a plan in place to meet these duties.

The Council commented on the public consultation to the proposed changes and is broadly in support of the proposals. We are now waiting for the agreement and publication of the legislation in order for us to assess what additional actions we may need to take.

A business group has been established to consider Protect and Prepare issues from the UK's Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST).

There is also investment in a new CCTV control room with additional training for security based scenarios.

It is recognised that the Council is very proactive in its approach and therefore the Emergency Planning Manager has been invited to speak to a number of other local authorities about the approach being taken at Blackpool.

Identify funding for additional protective security measures such as hostile vehicle mitigation.

An outline strategy is in place to improve HVM across the town looking at a whole town solution. Steps are now been taken to understand the costs of the various options so that a delivery plan can be prepared and rolled-out.

What will these additional actions achieve?
Through awareness raising there will be better informed and prepared organisations in relation to terrorist risks.

Security knowledge and advice provided in the design phase of schemes will enable developers to consider designing in protective security measures.

Contribute towards the Council and others meeting potential statutory obligations under a Protect

Duty.

What barriers do we face?

Delays in legislation so the Council is not yet clear what additional actions need to be taken. However, all above measures are based upon taking a pro-active approach to meet anticipated requirements.

Do these actions contribute to the sustainability of the Council?

The Council's ability to prepare for and protect against a potential terrorist attack help to reduce the impact which such as event could have on Council services and the town as a whole.

An attack can take place at anytime and anywhere. It is therefore important that the Council take the risk seriously and by working with our partners the Council consider this and plan appropriately. This is not unique to Blackpool and similar activity will be taking place across the country.

Do these actions impact on the Council's finances?

There may be some costs associated with implementing any actions required from the legislation and this will be factored into the budget setting process.

How does this contribute to the Council Plan?

Creating a safe space for residents and visitors to enjoy Blackpool contributes to both the economic and community priorities in the Council Plan.

Any additional changes to this strategic risk?

The national threat level reduced from SEVERE, meaning an attack is highly likely, to SUBSTANTIAL, meaning an attack is likely, on 09th February 2022.

A National Risk Register is in place which is used to help inform planning undertaken by the Council for a wide range of potential incidents including terrorist threats. A copy can be accessed using the following link: CCS's National Risk Register 2020 (publishing.service.gov.uk)

Risk: b) Pandemic infection / health security concern (human and animals).

Risk Owner: Director of Public Health, Director of Community and Environmental Services

Gross Risk Score	25	Impact - 5	Likelihood –5

What impact does this have?
- Impact on the local economy and job market.
- Death and / or serious illness as a result of infection.

What opportunities does this create?
- Develop a robust local response to pandemic infection.

What controls do we already have in place?

- Staff signposted to advice provided by UK Health and Security Agency.
- Business continuity plans in place across the Council and system in place to record staff absence re: Covid to inform business continuity planning.
- Multi-agency working via the Lancashire Resilience Forum.
- Arrangements in place for the storage of protective equipment if needed.
- Process in place to ensure that relevant staff are vaccinated where mandated in law (social care sector).
- Outbreak management and track and trace processes implemented.
- Robust communication in place with businesses, visitors and residents.

Net Risk Score	15	Impact - 5	Likelihood – 3

What are we doing to further manage the risk?

Continued participation in planning for health protection as part of the ongoing pandemic and also for future pandemics.

A Health Protection Board is in place, which is a sub-group of the statutory Health & Wellbeing Board, and focuses on the Director of Public Health's statutory oversight and assurance role of health protection plans to protect the health of the population of Blackpool. The Board provides assurance to the Health & Wellbeing Board and its partner organisations on the delivery of health protection plans including, outbreak management, infection prevention and control, public protection and the performance of screening and immunisation programmes. The Board provides a setting for the exchange of information, scrutiny of plans, and analysis of data with all partners with a role in the delivery of health protection in Blackpool, ensuring they are acting jointly and effectively to protect the population's health.

The Board is the key mechanism for dealing with health protection / security issues locally however robust links are also in place with the UK Health and Security Agency and the Lancashire Resilience Forum to ensure that effective planning takes place.

The objectives of the Health Protection Board are to:

- Provide assurance to the Health & Wellbeing Board that the Director of Public Health's plans are in place to protect the population's health; a mandated function of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.
- Review plans for health protection and surveillance.
- Ensure there is a process in place to assure there are effective arrangements for health protection incidents and outbreaks, with key risks identified and appropriate mitigation measures undertaken.
- Review learning from health protection incidents and outbreaks.
- Develop shared action plans/work plans for the HPF to focus on.
- Provide regular updates to the Blackpool Health & Wellbeing Board (including short information updates and annual reports).

A number of sub-groups are in place or in the process of being formed to cover a wide range of health protection / security issues including:

- Communicable Diseases.
- Non-infectious Sources e.g. Contamination, Poisoning, Radiation.
- Screening and Immunisations.

- Emergency Planning, Resilience and Response (EPRR).
- Infection Prevention and Control (IPC).
- Environmental Hazards and Coastal Water Quality.
- Public Protection e.g. Food Control, Tattoo Parlours, Sunbeds.
- Harm Reduction and Prevention Forum.

These groups will report into the Health Protection Board which meets at least quarterly.

Finalise and embed the plans and procedures for managing animal health outbreaks such as avian flu.

Six members of the Public Protection Team have now achieved a qualification to enable them to effectively respond to an animal health outbreak. A lead officer has been identified in the Public Protection Team to deal with animal health incidents, and a second officer identified to support Public Health with human health incidents.

The Policy and Plan for dealing with such incidents has been fully reviewed and updated and is now in the final draft before implementation. A meeting will take place in August between the Public Protection Team, Public Health, Emergency Planning and key services such as Parks to finalise the document.

Steps have been taken to ensure that key departments who may be the first to identify a suspect animal health outbreak, such as Parks, are aware that they must contact the Public Protection Team so that the qualified officers can coordinate the response.

What will these additional actions achieve?

Effective planning to ensure that the Council is prepared to respond to a health incident, whether this relates to people or animals, has a number of benefits including:

- Improved coordination.
- Improved communication.
- Accurate reporting and notification of incidents / cases.
- The right decisions being made at the right time.
- Minimise the spread of disease.
- Ensuing staff welfare and safety when dealing with an incident.

What barriers do we face?

Any health security events require a multi-agency response and therefore effective partnership working is key to maximise the effectiveness of the response. The development of robust partnership working through the Covid-19 pandemic forged strong relationships with partner agencies to build on going forwardThere is also a reliance on the public to follow the advice and guidance given to help safeguard them in such incidents and therefore reliable and timely information is essential. The Communications Team developed crisis management communication skills during the pandemic which will be helpful for any future incidents. Community engagement also improved during the pandemic resulting in the Community Engagement Strategy being redrafted to take account of the lessons learned.

Do these actions contribute to the sustainability of the Council?

The Councils ability to prepare and respond to health security events helps protect residents, businesses and the Council's workforce when incidents occur. Whilst it is difficult to prevent incidents occurring, taking effective action helps minimise the impact and ensures that critical Council services can still be delivered.

Do these actions impact on the Council's finances?

On a day to day basis these actions can be managed within the Council's budget, however, a significant event, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, was extremely costly for a number of reasons. Examples include provision of personal protective equipment, managing the outbreak response, implementing infection control measures, and also loss of income due to the various lockdowns. Government funding was provided, however, which significantly contributed to the cost of managing the pandemic across Blackpool.

How does this contribute to the Council Plan?

Effectively managing incidents which could have a negative impact on health contributes to the economic and community priorities in the Council Plan.

Any additional changes to this strategic risk?

The unexpected spread of Monkey Pox across the world is currently on the agenda for the Public Health Team although no additional actions are required at this stage.