

Appendix 3 – Leadership Risk Register as at 17/02/2021

Level of risk	How the risk should be managed
<b>High Risk</b> (16-25)	<b>Requires active management</b> to manage down and maintain the exposure at an acceptable level. Escalate upwards.
<b>Medium Risk</b> (10 -15)	<b>Contingency Plans</b> - a robust contingency plan may suffice together with early warning mechanisms to detect any deviation from the profile.
<b>Low Risk</b> (1 – 9)	<b>Good Housekeeping</b> - may require some risk mitigation to reduce the likelihood if this can be done cost effectively, but good housekeeping to ensure that the impact remains low should be adequate. Re-assess frequently to ensure conditions remain the same.

Risk Scorecard – Residual Risks						
		Probability				
		1 - Remote	2 - Unlikely	3 - Possible	4 - Probable	5 - Highly Probable
Impact	5 - Catastrophic			L09		
	4 - Major			L04, L07, L11, L1, L21 & L22	L01, L17, L19 & L20	
	3 - Moderate		L16	L02, L05, L14, L15 & L18	L08	
	2 - Minor				L10	
	1 - Insignificant					

Risk Definition	
<b>Leadership</b>	Strategic risks that are significant in size and duration, and will impact on the reputation and performance of the Council as a whole, and in particular, on its ability to deliver on its corporate priorities
<b>Operational</b>	Risks to systems or processes that underpin the organisation’s governance, operation and ability to deliver services

Ref	Name and Description of risk	Potential impact	Inherent (gross) risk level (no Controls)			Controls	Control assessment	Lead Member	Risk owner	Risk manager	Residual risk level (after existing controls)			Direct'n of travel	Mitigating actions (to address control issues)	Comments	Last updated
			Probability	Impact	Rating						Probability	Impact	Rating				
2020/21																	
L01 -	<b>Financial resilience –</b> Failure to react to external financial impacts, new policy and increased service demand. Poor investment and asset management decisions.	Reduced medium and long term financial viability	4	4	16	Medium Term Revenue Plan reported regularly to members.	Fully effective	Councillor Tony Illot	Lorna Baxter	Michael Furness	4	4	16	Review of workload and capacity across the team. Interim Capital Accountant post recruited to. Interim Accountant recruited and beginning process of permanent recruitment. Additional resilience and resource for financial accounting and reporting engaged through external partners and agencies. Assessment of national picture undertaken and being reported through senior managers and members highlighting the medium term challenges. Looking to recruit to a further interim accountant post to support with the new business grant schemes that have been introduced as a result of lockdown restrictions.	Maintaining focus in this area with ongoing review, staff and member training and awareness raising. Moving to a risk based approach to budget monitoring in order to address workload issues and vacancies in the team, as well as exploring joint working opportunities with OCC New interim capital accountant started phased introduction in November and begins full time in December. New interim Accountant began in November to bring capacity to assist with anticipated additional test and trace and business grants workload	Risk reviewed - 10/02/21 - No changes	
Reduction in services to customers	Balanced medium term and dynamic ability to prioritise resources	Fully				Investment strategy approach agreed and operating and all potential investments now taken through the working groups prior to formal sign off. Robust review and challenge of our investment options to be regularly undertaken through our usual monitoring processes.	Investment options considered as and when they arise, MTF5 and budget setting being developed to enhance the scrutiny and quality of investments.										
Increased volatility and inability to manage and respond to changes in funding levels	Highly professional, competent, qualified staff	Partially				Timeliness and quality of budget monitoring particularly property income and capital improving. Financial Systems replacement project underway. LEAN review of budget monitoring undertaken with significant engagement from within the wider business.	Financial System Solution Project continuing to consider future finance system options, incorporating budget management via Lean, extension of Civica and new procurement.										
Reduced financial returns (or losses) on investments/assets	Good networks established locally, regionally and nationally	Fully				Asset Management Strategy being reviewed and refreshed.	Review underway										
Inability to deliver financial efficiencies	National guidance interpreting legislation available and used regularly	Fully				Review of BUILD! to ensure procurement and capital monitoring arrangements are in place and development of forward programme - work still underway.	Review in hand.										
Inability to deliver commercial objectives (increased income)	Members aware and are briefed regularly	Fully				Finance support and engagement with programme management processes continuing.	Finance business partners involved with reflection locally on outcomes.										
Poor customer service and satisfaction	Participate in Oxfordshire Treasurers' Association's work streams	Fully				Further integration and development of Performance, Finance and Risk reporting.	Integrated reporting has been embedded										
Increased complexity in governance arrangements	Review of best practice guidance from bodies such as CIPFA, LGA and NAO	Fully				Regular involvement and engagement with senior management across County as well as involvement in Regional and National finance forums.	Engagement with a number of national and regional networks to ensure we are as up-to-date as we can be in relation to potential funding changes from 2020/21 and impact on our										
Lack of officer capacity to meet service demand	Treasury management and capital strategies in place	Fully				Regular member meetings, training and support in place and regularly reviewed. Briefings provided on key topics to members with particular focus on key skills for specific committees such as audit committee.	Regular training will be undertaken.										
Lack of financial awareness and understanding throughout the council	Investment strategies in place	Fully				New approach to budget setting introduced linked to service planning. Additional challenge added into the process to ensure robustness of estimates. 2021/22 Budget Consultation will begin on 8 December. BPC will consider the revenue budget pressures and savings proposals on 15 December 2020.	Budget setting for 2020/21 underway.-Budget and Business Planning Process Report considered by BPC on 29 September and Executive on 5 October.										
	Regular financial and performance monitoring in place	Fully				Regular utilisation of advisors as appropriate.	Review of borrowing approach being considered alongside our financial advisors.										
	Independent third party advisers in place	Fully				Internal Audits being undertaken for core financial activity and capital as well as service activity.	Regular reporting of progress on internal audits considered by the committee.										
	Regular bulletins and advice received from advisers	Fully				Assessment of national picture via Pixel and LG Futures has identified that the funding available in later years is likely to be significantly reduced, adding longer term resilience challenges.	Medium/long term position assessed as significantly worse, increasing risk alongside the capacity needed to work on activity to reduce spending levels. The ongoing impact of Covid on business rates and council tax income will be carefully monitored. When the Spending Review is announced this will be analysed to assess what implications this may have for the Council.										
	Property portfolio income monitored through financial management arrangements on a regular basis	Partially				Financial forecasts of resources for 2021/22 have assumed a reduction in resources that will be available from business rates compared to February 2020 assumptions. The budget consultation identifies possible savings proposals to mitigate this. If resources fell significantly below the 2021/22 forecast level then a review of which reserves could be made available to mitigate this would be required (e.g. due to greater ongoing impact of Covid-19 or due to further economic shocks in the short-term). A similar approach to reviewing reserve availability could be adopted if the cost of goods we purchase were to increase.	The impact of Covid19 has changed the financial outlook for the Council, with regular updates helping to outline the impact on the Council both in the short, medium and longer term. The Council currently anticipates a significant, short, medium and long term funding shortfall in overall terms. Set alongside the anticipated funding reductions due to start from 2021-22 the financial resilience of the Council could be severely impacted. The Council agreed a revised budget for 2020/21 to address the short term impacts of Covid-19 and provided its Budget and Business Planning Process 2021/22 - 2025/26 report to Executive on 5 October 2020. Chancellor's Spending Review confirmed the delay of the business rates reset. Only a 1 year SR so no additional certainty of funding and any additional Covid related funding is likely to be for one year only. Provisional local government finance settlement has announced some one-off funding to support local government in 2021/22.										
	Asset Management Strategy in place and embedded. Transformation Programme in place to deliver efficiencies and increased income in the future	Partially Fully	A business rates reset is assumed from 2022/23 which will significantly reduce the resources available to the Council. Should resources from business rates fall much below this (e.g. due to any further ongoing impacts to the economy) then resources would be supplemented by a "safety net" payment from the Government under the current regime. The budget process for 2022/23 will need to begin shortly after setting the 2021/22 budget to identify further savings necessary to operate within this level of resources.														



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L04 -	<b>CDC Local Plan</b> - Failure to ensure sound, up to date local plan remains in place for Cherwell resulting in poor planning decisions such as development in inappropriate locations, inability to demonstrate an adequate supply of land for housing and planning by appeal	Poor planning decisions leading to inappropriate growth in inappropriate place.				Local Development Scheme (LDS) is actively managed and reviewed, built into Service Plan, and integral to staff appraisals of all those significantly involved in Plan preparation and review	Partially							Regular review meetings on progress and critical path review. Regular Corporate Director and Lead Member briefings. LDS updated as required with programme management approach adopted to ensure progress against plan. LDS timeline built into Directorate level objectives (e.g. via Service Plans) and incorporated into SMART targets within staff appraisals. Authority Monitoring Reports continue to be prepared on a regular annual basis.	The Local Development Scheme (LDS) was updated in March 2020. It includes the programmes for the Partial Review of the Local Plan, the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, a Local Plan Review, the Banbury Canalside Supplementary Planning Document and work on a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The Partial Review of the Local Plan was adopted by Council on 7 Sept. An issues consultation for the Local Plan Review was completed on 14 Sept in accordance with the LDS timetable. Re-starting work on the Canalside SPD has been delayed and the timetable for the Oxon Plan process is outside the Council's direct control. Work on the Local Plan Review is continuing but the precise timetable is under review. Potential national changes to the planning system may affect how plans are prepared. They may also influence a decision on whether or not to proceed with work on CIL. The 2020 Annual Monitoring Report has been published.	Risk reviewed 09/02/2021 - No changes.	
	Negative (or failure to optimise) economic, social, community and environmental gain		4	4	16	Team capacity and capability kept under continual review with gaps and pressures identified and managed at the earliest opportunity.	Partially	Councillor Colin Clarke	Jane Portman	David Peckford	3	4	12	↔	Regular Corporate Director and Lead Member briefings		
	Negative impact on the council's ability to deliver its strategic objectives, including its commitments within the Oxfordshire Housing & Growth Deal					Some additional resource budgeted for 20/21.	Partially							LDS updated as required with programme management approach adopted to ensure progress against plan			
	Increased costs in planning appeals					Delegations to Chief Exec agreed to ensure timely decisions	Fully							LDS timeline built into Directorate level objectives (e.g. via Service Plans) and incorporated into SMART targets within staff appraisals.			
	Reputational damage with investor community of Cherwell as a good place to do business created by uncertainty/ lack of					On-going review of planning appeal decisions to assess robustness and relevance of Local Plan policies	Partially							Authority Monitoring Reports continue to be prepared on a regular annual basis.			
L05 -	<b>Business Continuity</b> - Failure to ensure that critical services can be maintained in the event of a short or long term incident affecting the Councils' operations	Inability to deliver critical services to customers/residents				Business continuity strategy in place	Fully							Business Continuity Statement of Intent and Framework agreed by CEDR	Business continuity status reports being collated and reviewed weekly in view of increased infection rates and new national restrictions. Staff reassignment process re-established to provide rapid response where demands or absences may result in critical service failure. Previous reporting demonstrated that the council could continue to provide critical services throughout the first lockdown period. Remote working enables most teams to work effectively from home and sustain services whilst also avoid unnecessary social contacts. The EU Exit deal reduced potential impacts of EU Exit on service delivery and no impacts have been identified. A new incident management framework is in development.	Risk Reviewed 9/02/2021 - Mitigating actions and comments updated	
	Financial loss		4	4	16	Services prioritised and recovery plans reflect the requirements of critical services	Fully	Councillor Andrew McHugh	Rob MacDougall	Richard Webb	3	3	9	↔	Cross-council BC Steering Group meets regularly to identify BC improvements needed		
	Loss of important data					ICT disaster recovery arrangements in place	Fully							ICT transition to data centre and cloud services have reduced likelihood of ICT loss and data loss			
	Inability to recover sufficiently to restore non-critical services before they become critical					Incident management team identified in Business Continuity Strategy	Partially							Corporate ownership and governance sits at senior officer level			
	Loss of reputation					All services undertake annual business impact assessments and update plans	Fully							BC Impact assessments and BCPs in place for all teams and peer reviewed by OCC's Emergency Planning team			
						Business Continuity Plans tested	Partially							Progress report was provided to CEDR in March 2019 BC assurance framework under development			
														Updated Incident management framework in development			

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L07 -	<b>Emergency Planning (EP)</b> - Failure to ensure that the local authority has plans in place to respond appropriately to a civil emergency fulfilling its duty as a category one responder	Inability of council to respond effectively to an emergency	4	4	16	Key contact lists updated monthly.	Fully effective	Councillor Andrew McHugh	Rob MacDougall	Richard Webb	3	4	12	↔	Emergency plan contacts list being updated monthly and reissued to all duty managers.	The Emergency Plans which were enacted and command structures established with partner organisations to support the response to the Covid-19 pandemic are still in place and operating now new national restrictions have been implemented. Recovery work continues. Partners are liaising with organisers of events to ensure they have robust infection management arrangements in place and that there is awareness of all the events being planned. The council is maintaining its duty director rota for any other emergency incidents that might arise and the emergency contact numbers have been tested. Contact arrangements for out of hours incidents have been reviewed following recent isolated flooding as a result of high levels of rainfall. The end of EU Exit transition did not result in any new emergency incidents locally. A new incident management plan is being developed to align the council's response arrangements more closely to the county councils.	Risk Reviewed 09/02/2021 - Comments amended.
Unnecessary hardship to residents and/or communities	Emergency Planning Lead Officer defined with responsibility to review, test and exercise plan and to establish, monitor and ensure all elements are covered	Partially effective				OCC Emergency Planning providing expert advice and support under a partnership arrangement. Accountability for both OCC and CDC's arrangements now sit with the Chief Fire Officer who reviews the arrangements with the Assistant Director.											
Risk to human welfare and the environment	Added resilience from cover between shared Environmental Health and Community Safety Teams as officers with appropriate skill	Fully effective				Supporting officers for incident response identified in the emergency plan and wallet guide											
Legal challenge	Senior management attend Civil Emergency training	Fully effective				Refreshed incident management plan under development to align with OCC											
Potential financial loss through compensation claims	Multi agency emergency exercises conducted to ensure readiness	Partially effective				Senior managers have attended multi-agency exercises and duty manager training with OCC senior managers.											
Ineffective Cat 1 partnership relationships	On-call rota established for Duty Emergency Response Co-ordinators	Fully effective				On-call rota being maintained											
	Active participation in Local Resilience Forum (LRF) activities	Fully effective	Authority represented at the Local Resilience Forum														

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L08 -	Health and safety - Failure to comply with health and safety legislation, corporate H&S policies and corporate H&S landlord responsibilities	Fatality, serious injury & ill health to employees or members of the public  Criminal prosecution for failings  Financial loss due to compensation claims  Enforcement action – cost of regulator (HSE) time  Increased agency costs  Reduction in capacity impacts service delivery  Reputational Impact	5	4	20	Health & Safety Corporate HS&W Policy and Corporate Arrangements & guidance in place as part of the HSE's recommended Management System HSG 65. Organisations have a legal duty to put in place suitable arrangements to manage health & safety.  Clearly identified accountability and responsibilities for Health and Safety established at all levels throughout the organisation  Corporate H&S Manager and H&S Officer in post to formalise the H&S Management  Proactive monitoring of Health & Safety performance management internally  Effective induction and training regime in place for all staff  Positive Health & Safety risk aware culture  Corporate Health & Safety meeting structure in place for co-ordination and consultation  Corporate body & Member overview of Health & Safety performance  Assurance that third party organisations subscribe to and follow Council Health & Safety guidelines and are performance managed where required	Partially effective  Fully  Fully  Fully  Partially  Partially  Fully  Fully	Councillor Lynn Pratt	Yvonne Rees	Ceri Harris	3	4	12	↔	A new Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy was ratified BPM meeting on 17th June 2020. The Corporate arrangements are in the process of being updated. These are now being uploaded onto the intranet.  Following the ratification of the Corporate Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy all Assistant Directors have been asked to complete a Departmental Risk Assessment Checklist. The Checklist identified the areas of risk within the department and whether there is a risk assessment in place to cover the risks. So far 9 departments have responded. Following the departure of the Interim Director of Finance/ Health and Safety Champion and the appointment of Corporate Director – Commercial Development, Assets and Investment who has become the Corporate Health and Safety Champion, the Corporate Health and Safety Policy has now been reviewed and updated and is awaiting ratification by CEDR.  As Health and Safety Officers are in place no further action is required and risk mitigated.  A 2-year internal Health and Safety Audit programme is in place covering the period until May 2021. The health and safety internal audit programme covers all elements of our overall H&S management system to ensure compliance with legislative standards. The full programme of audits was temporarily on hold due to the Coronavirus Lockdown, however health and safety checks on the front line operations of Environmental Services and workplace inspections have now recommenced.  Good awareness in higher risk areas of the business, e.g. Environmental Services. However other areas need improved awareness of risk assessment process. This needs to be achieved by a review of training needs across CDC and the mandatory training of managers on risk assessment. Property team have undertaken a review of CDC owned operational properties to ensure health and safety compliance is fully maintained in line with the legislative compliance requirements.  Currently the Council has no formal committee structure in place for the consultation of health safety with staff.  Quarterly reporting to ELT and to the Portfolio Holder by the Corporate Health and Safety Manager  Robust procurement process that requires health and safety documentation and commitment to be proven prior to engagement of contractors.	The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) receives a quarterly report from the Corporate H&S Manager.  Corporate Health and Safety Team to ensure all departments to responds to the Departmental Risk Assessment Checklist and to follow up with departments on areas of concern. Responses are being collated on a central spreadsheet which will become the database of all risk assessments across the Council.  These two posts are established posts and budgeted accordingly to secure future funding for continuity.  The H&S team are conducting health and safety inspections internally across all services and teams. To date a total of 9 audits have been carried out across the Council however, the audits are currently on hold due to Corona Virus. The audit reports have been provided to the relevant service managers, including recommendations, advise and timescales for remediation.  Implementation of a new e-learning package has commenced. Modules have been assigned to staff based on their positions. Deadline for completion of these modules was January 2020. Modules include training on Health and Safety, DSE, Manual Handling, Lone working etc.  A review has been undertaken of all CDC owned properties to ensure that fire risk assessments, water hygiene surveys and asbestos surveys have been completed where required. A compliance review of tenanted properties leased by CDC is also under way to ensure that the tenants are managing the property in accordance with legislative requirements.  A proposal for the formation of a Health and Safety Committee to report to the ELT will be submitted to ELT once stability has been achieved following COVID 19. The purpose of this committee, if ratified, will monitor the activities of the Corporate Health and Safety Team and to act as a scrutiny committee for the Corporate Arrangements.  Reporting dates have been agreed and adhered to.  Corporate Health and Safety has scheduled to undertake a review of Procurement process to ensure compliance.	Risk reviewed 09/02/21 - Mitigating actions updated

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L09 -	<b>Cyber Security</b> - If there is insufficient security with regards to the data held and IT systems used by the councils and insufficient protection against malicious attacks on council's systems then there is a risk of: a data breach, a loss of service, cyber-ransom.	Service disruption  Financial loss / fine  Prosecution – penalties imposed  Individuals could be placed at risk of harm  Reduced capability to deliver customer facing services  Unlawful disclosure of sensitive information  Inability to share services or work with partners  Loss of reputation	4	5	20	File and Data encryption on computer devices  Managing access permissions and privileged users through AD and individual applications  Consistent approach to information and data management and security across the councils  Effective information management and security training and awareness programme for staff  Password security controls in place  Robust information and data related incident management procedures in place  Appropriate robust contractual arrangements in place with all third parties that supply systems or data processing services  Appropriate plans in place to ensure ongoing PSN compliance  Adequate preventative measures in place to mitigate insider threat, including physical and system security  Insider threat mitigated through recruitment and line management processes  Cookie pop-ups on the website  Increased threat to security during Covid-19 period in part due to most staff working from home.	Fully effective  Fully  Fully  Fully  Fully  Fully  Fully  Fully  Fully  Fully	Councillor Ian Corkin	Claire Taylor	David Spilsbury	3	5	15	↔	The cyber-essentials plus certification has now been passed. The Microsoft Multi-Factor Authentication system has been introduced to provide a enhanced level of cyber security.  Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee Members updated and given a presentation on Cyber Security November 2019  The Regional Police Cyber Security Advisor gave the IT management team two training sessions (full cyber awareness and table top DR exercise) followed by a series of all-Council staff awareness sessions in 2019. 2020 Cyber Security now included in mandatory e-learning for all staff to be completed by 31.12.2020. Members given a Cyber training session with the Police Cyber Security Advisor.  Implemented an intrusion prevention and detection system.  Agreed Terms of Reference and re-implementation of the security forum as the Information Governance Group, with meetings to be held on a minimum quarterly basis chaired by the Information Governance Manager. Information Governance support is now provided to Cherwell as part of a joint working relationship with Oxfordshire County Council. An action for the next month will be to ensure there are effective partnership working arrangements in place under this new service.  Cyber Awareness e-learning available and will be part of new starters induction training.  Cyber Security issues regularly highlighted to all staff.  External Health Check undertaken January 2020, no high risk security issues highlighted.  Internal Audit completed a cyber audit in June 2020 with no major issues or significant risks identified. The findings have an agreed action plan in place.  Cookiebot live on website for users to confirm cookie preferences.  Joint OCC/CDC Cyber Security Officer started work August 2020  Additional IT security advice provided for all staff during the Covid-19 working at home period including online coronavirus related scams. Update provided to Accounts, Audit & Risk Committee Members July 2020.	Cyber security incidents are inevitable. The only way to manage this risk is to have effective controls and mitigations in place including audit and review.	Risk Reviewed 10/02/21 - No changes





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L12 -	<b>Financial sustainability of third-party suppliers including contractors and other partners</b> Supply chain management ensuring effective delivery through the supply chain	The financial failure of a third party supplier or partner results in the inability or reduced ability to deliver a service to customers. A reduced supply market could also result in increased costs due to the council's; loss of competitive advantage.  Reduced resilience and business continuity  Reduced staff morale, increased workload and uncertainty may lead to loss of good  Opportunities for joint working with OCC take longer to develop than planned delaying potential service improvements for residents and communities.  Northamptonshire re-organisation impacts on services being delivered to SNC from CDC, impacting on the quality of services delivered to residents and communities.	3	4	12	Ensure contract management in place review and anticipate problems within key service suppliers and partners  Business continuity planning arrangements in place in regards to key suppliers  Ensuring that proactive review and monitoring is in place for key suppliers to ensure we are able to anticipate any potential service failures  Programme Board and Project Team established to deliver separation.  S113 agreement in place with Oxfordshire County Council  Partnership Working Group established with OCC to oversee the development of joint working proposals.  On-going service delivery arrangements to SNC set out clearly and underpinned by the Collaboration Agreement with protocols in place for dealing with any emerging issues.  Regular review and sharing of partnership activity / engagement at senior officer meetings.	Partially  Partially  Partially  Fully  Fully  Fully  Partially  Partially	Councillor Tony Illot	Steve Jordan	Jeremy Richards	3	4	12	↔	Service areas to hold meetings as required with suppliers to review higher risk areas and ensure risks are being managed. Reminders to be sent to all who have Procurement/Contract Management responsibility to regularly meet with key suppliers and partners to gain early understanding of the effects a second wave of COVID-19, and lockdown, would have on supply.  The Procurement Team is now providing ELT members and identified Contract Mangers a monthly update of all suppliers with spend above £25k c/w a credit risk rating score to enable contract managers to manage any identified risks, with support from the Procurement Team. Furthermore, as a result of Covid-19 the likelihood of this risk is deemed to have increased and thus the procurement and finance team now hold a weekly joint meeting to consider funding solutions to support At Risk Suppliers in accordance with the national guidance note PPN04/20.  Legal advice sought with regards to the employment implications of re-organisation and separation proposals.  Separation tracker and risk register to be circulated at all senior management meetings.  Collaboration Agreement to underpin joint working with SNC following the end of the s113 in place.	Council departments monitor suppliers financial stability as part of their contract management responsibilities. In addition, through collaboration with Oxfordshire CC, a joint Provision Hub has been established, and went live 04.01.2021 and has put in place greater commercial skills and controls across the two authorities. Specifically, a Procurement and Contract Management Intelligence team has been established, and responsibility for financial checks and controls around the supply base will sit within that team. This will result in improved monitoring and management of commercial contract risk across the council's supply chain.  Reviews of service delivery arrangements with SNC to take place between October-December 2019.  Strategic Capability proposal considered by Partnership Working Group in August.  Proposals for two Joint Corporate Directors between CDC and OCC approved in July.	Risk reviewed 11/02/21 - Comments updated

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2020/21																	
L14 -	<b>Corporate Governance</b> - Failure of corporate governance leads to negative impact on service delivery or the implementation of major projects providing value to customers.	<p>Threat to service delivery and performance if good management practices and controls are not adhered to.</p> <p>Risk of ultra vires activity or lack of legal control</p> <p>Risk of fraud or corruption</p> <p>Risk to financial sustainability if lack of governance results in poor investment decisions or budgetary control.</p> <p>Failure of corporate governance in terms of major projects, budgets or council owned companies impacts upon financial sustainability of the councils.</p> <p>Inability to support Council's democratic functions / obligations (e.g. remote public meetings, remote voting).</p> <p>Elements of the COVID-19 response may be compromised, delayed or not taken forwards.</p>	4	4	16	<p>Clear and robust control framework including: constitution, scheme of delegation, ethical walls policy etc.</p> <p>Clear accountability and resource for corporate governance (including the shareholder role).</p> <p>Integrated budget, performance and risk reporting framework.</p> <p>Corporate programme office and project management framework. Includes project and programme governance.</p> <p>Internal audit programme aligned to leadership risk register.</p> <p>Training and development resource targeted to address priority issues; examples include GDPR, safeguarding etc.</p> <p>HR policy framework.</p> <p>Annual governance statement process under way for 2020/21 under oversight of the Corporate Governance Assurance Group (CGAG) for Cherwell and Oxon. The Group is taking an aligned approach (with Oxon CC) to working up a revised and complementary Annual Governance Statement which also</p> <p>Joint Corporate Governance Assurance Group (CGAG) for Cherwell and Oxon is working up a revised and complementary Annual Governance Statement process for 2020/21, which also connects more fully and earlier with ELT and CEDR.</p> <p>CGAG also mapping respective (CDC/Oxon CC) governance processes to achieve alignment and efficiency where appropriate. Annual Review of the Constitution will take place each Autumn led by the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and approved by Full Council</p>	Partially Partially Partially Partially Partially Partially Partially	Councillor Barry Wood	Yvonne Rees	Anita Bradley	3	3	9	↔	<p>Standing item at senior officer meetings – regular review of risk and control measures.</p> <p>Monitoring Officer to attend management team meetings.</p> <p>Annual Governance Statement process under review (reviewing previous actions and identifying new) and draft Corporate Lead Statements which identify potential actions for 2020/21 are being produced for review by the Corporate Governance Assurance Group - on schedule. Corporate Governance Assurance Group mapping governance processes to ensure visibility and refresh.</p>	<p>In January 2019, Council agreed to enter into a Compromise Agreement with South Northants DC to ensure the continuation of key aspects of service delivery that required ongoing joint working (following the ending of the partnership S113 Agreement).</p> <p>Monitoring Officer undertook a focused Constitution review during the Autumn, closely with members. Changes were agreed and being implemented, particularly to Meeting Procedure Rules. Full Council also agreed to an Annual Review of the Constitution each Autumn, led by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with Full Council receiving a report for decision</p> <p>Model Code of Conduct has been published by LGA and all Oxon Council Monitoring Officers have met to give initial consideration. Agreed that Oxon authorities ideally wish to adopt a consistent Code across the county, and across all tiers. As such, working plan is for Monitoring Officers to achieve a draft to take through each Council post-election with a view to implementation by May 2022.</p>	Risk reviewed 04/02/21- Comments updated
L15 -	<b>L15 Oxfordshire Growth Deal - (contract with HMG)</b>	<p>Failure to meet its obligations as a partner within the Growth Deal could see Cherwell as a factor in Government holding back some or all of its funding and/or cease to extend the arrangement beyond 2023.</p> <p>Infrastructure milestone delivery late (for infrastructure linked to accelerated housing)</p> <p>Accelerated housing numbers delivered late, outside of the programme time scale</p> <p>Delivery of Infrastructure projects fail to accelerate housing delivery as commercial pressures impact house builders</p> <p>Delivery of affordable houses below programme targets as GD contributions insufficient to attract sufficient builders/ registered providers</p> <p>Oxfordshire Plan delivered late</p>	4	5	20	<p>Established programme structure and partnership ethos to support effective programme delivery.</p> <p>Engagement with housing developers to understand their commercial constraints.</p> <p>Engage with developers to ascertain which sites would benefit most from infrastructure delivery.</p> <p>Identify potential "top up" schemes to supplement GD affordable housing scheme.</p> <p>Utilise effective Programme controls to facilitate prompt escalation of issues to enable appropriate decision making and delivery timescale review.</p> <p>Develop Year 4 Plans of Work to detail the expected delivery by CDC for Year 4 of the Growth Deal Programme; building on the experiences and knowledge gained during previous years.</p>	Fully Partially Partially Fully Fully Partially	Councillor Barry Wood	Robert Jolley	Jonathan MacWilliam	3	3	9	↔	<p>A CDC GD programme and programme board capability.</p> <p>Work stream plans of work (work stream brief, schedule, RAID log) .</p> <p>Structured engagement with developers to better understand their needs.</p> <p>Appropriate escalation of issues to agree programme flexibilities where required.</p> <p>Improved collaboration working with partners.</p> <p>Ongoing work with partners to realistically reflect deliverable schemes within programme time frame.</p>	<p>Work progressing to transition from Growth Deal Year 3 to Year 4. Resourcing levels across workstreams and central teams under review to ensure capacity to maintain expected delivery.</p>	Risk reviewed 03/02/2021 - Comments updated

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2020/21																	
L16 -	<b>Joint Working</b> That the challenges and risks associated with joint working between Cherwell and OCC, outweigh the benefits and impacts on the provision of services to residents and communities.	Opportunities for joint working take longer to develop than planned delaying potential service improvements for residents and communities.  Resources are allocated to the development of proposals, reducing the capacity of the Council to deliver on its priorities and plans, impacting on quality of services delivered to residents and communities.  Uncertainty around joint working could lead to reduced staff morale and potentially increase staff turnover.  Benefits to be realised from joint working business cases do not materialise or take longer to deliver than planned.	3	3	9	S113 agreement in place with Oxfordshire County Council Partnership working group meets quarterly programme management in place.  Partnership Working Group established with OCC to oversee the development of joint working proposals.  Robust programme and project management methodologies in place.  Regular meetings of the OCC Cabinet and CDC Executive in place to oversee development of partnership.	Fully effective Partially effective Not effective							Regular reporting on joint working proposals to the senior management team. HR policies in place to enable joint working proposals to be delivered	The appointment process for the joint Corporate Director Environment and Place has been completed with the post holder starting in March 20201.  The Audit plan for 2021 will ensure joint working arrangements are included. Plans are in place to consider further opportunities for joint working and these are reported to the Partnership Working Group. The Joint MO and Director for Law and Governance has commenced in role.	Risk reviewed – 12/01/21 Mitigating actions and comments updated, risk rating remains unchanged.	
L17 -	<b>Separation</b> That the separation of joint working arrangements with South Northamptonshire Council impacts on the provision of services to residents and communities.	Separation of joint working arrangements result in reduced capacity and resilience to deliver services. Specific impacts on Revenues & Benefits and IT services which are the only remaining shared services.  Services being delivered to SNC are impacted by re-organisation in Northamptonshire, impacting on the quality of services delivered to residents	4	4	16	On-going service delivery arrangements to SNC set out clearly and underpinned by the Collaboration Agreement with protocols in place for dealing with any emerging issues. Currently SNC are not able to confirm end date or transitional arrangements for these shared services going into West Northamptonshire Unitary. This created a level of uncertainty for Cherwell, plans are being prepared for separation on the assumption that West Northants will seek to deliver their own IT, Revs and benefits services. Legal advice has been sought with regards to governance and technical advice has been sought regarding technology. CEDR level shareholder and governance roles clarified with regards to shared services delivery company CSN.  Robust programme and project management frameworks in place.	Partially effective							Regular reporting on joint working proposals to the senior management team and briefings to Executive BPM.	The majority of services have now separated or been moved into a new service delivery arrangement. Although Customer Services has now been successfully separated, there is a lack of clarity with regards to CSN and IT in the transition into the unitary. Plans are being prepared to ensure both areas are ready to separate in line with unitary deadlines. Work has begun to explore the impact of local government reorganisation on the jointly owned arm's length company that delivers revenues and benefits services. This will require additional resource and oversight if a decision to separate is taken. A proposal to separate IT as SNC transitions into West Northants has been agreed by SNC but West Northants has not yet engaged. There is a risk that prolonged delay will prevent CDC working with OCC on future proposals. Work is ongoing to ensure the proposal is progressed. West Northants Council have still not yet set out any long term vision for the delivery of revenues and benefits and therefore their aspirations for CSN. Whilst we have governance arrangements and contracts in place to oversee the delivery of the service the uncertainty associated with the current situation can only be partially managed, hence the unmitigated score of 16. With regards to IT a fully worked up proposal has been developed to ensure SNC ICT can be migrated to the new unitary. This approach has been externally validated. CDC remains a positive partner to SNC with regards to ICT and is pressing for a clear timeframe to ensure separation is smooth and delivered during 2021. Without a clear agreement as to timeframes there remains a risk that CDC will be required to support SNC's ICT migration which could prevent closer joint working with OCC. However, there is not a greater risk posed to SNC business continuity, revenue or operational delivery.	Risk reviewed – 09/02/21 risk rating remains heightened and unchanged. Controls and mitigating actions updated. Commentary updated	
L18 -	<b>Workforce Strategy</b> The lack of effective workforce strategies could impact on our ability to deliver Council priorities and services.	Limit our ability to recruit, retain and develop staff  Impact on our ability to deliver high quality services Overreliance on temporary staff  Additional training and development costs	3	4	12	Analysis of workforce data and on-going monitoring of issues.  Key staff in post to address risks (e.g. strategic HR business partners) Weekly Vacancy Management process in place Ongoing service redesign will set out long term service requirements	Partially effective							Development of relevant workforce plans. IT has build a new reporting system with a RAG rating to update each area indicating and/or forecasting significant staff pressures when they happen due to COVID-19. This data is monitored weekly at Silver. HR monitors and report sickness absence data on a weekly basis.  Development of new L&D strategy, including apprenticeships.  Development of specific recruitment and retention strategies.  New IT system is being implemented to improve our workforce data. The ability to interrogate and access key data (ongoing) in order to inform workforce strategies.	Training on workforce planning for the HR team planned to start across both CDC and OCC during Quarter 4.	Risk reviewed 10/02/2021 - No changes	

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2020/21																	
L19 -	<p><b>Covid-19 Community and Customers</b></p> <p>Significant spread of the Covid-19 virus results in potential impacts in terms of customers and communities. Including community resilience, ability to access services, consequences of prolonged social distancing or isolation, economic impacts to business, including but not limited to the visitor economy.</p>	<p>Possible reductions in frontline service delivery, events, meetings and customer contact.</p> <p>Economic hardship impacting local business and potentially the local workforce.</p> <p>Impact on vulnerable residents who may find it harder to access services.</p> <p>Increased demand on both frontline and enabling services.</p> <p>Prolonged risk of social isolation and the mental and physical consequence thereof.</p>	5	4	20	<p>Business Continuity Plans have been reviewed and tested to ensure the ongoing delivery of priority services.</p> <p>Remote (home based) working in place, to facilitate self isolation and limit impact on service delivery.</p> <p>Communications stepped up, to support remote working, reinforce national guidelines and set out the current organisational response.</p> <p>Regular updates from Director of Public Health, shared internally and externally. Partnership communications. Partnership communications enhanced and regular conversations convened.</p> <p>Regular teleconference with local councils and emergency services discussing updates, concerns and best practice. (in-line with usual business continuity and emergency planning protocols). Mutual aid where appropriate with regional Thames Valley partners enable a tactical response to community resilience.</p> <p>Tactical response to community resilience.</p> <p>Creation of a dedicated telephony helpline to support the most clinically extremely vulnerable (shielded) residents in the county and operating extended hours each day.</p> <p>Provision of additional body storage as temporary place of rest to support the current mortuary provision.</p> <p>Face to face customer events e.g. wedding ceremony, library provision ceased in line with government guidance.</p> <p>Engagement with suppliers to manage impacts across the supply chain.</p>	<p>Fully</p> <p>Partially</p> <p>Fully</p> <p>Partially</p> <p>Fully</p> <p>Fully</p> <p>Fully</p> <p>Fully</p> <p>Partially</p>	Councillor Barry Wood	Yvonne Rees	Rob MacDougall	4	4	16	↔	<p>Ongoing review and implementation of Council and partnership business continuity and emergency planning arrangements.</p> <p>COVID19 security on building in place to support the restart of services and this is being coordinated by the Organisational Recovery Steering Group and CEDR</p> <p>An urgent review of business continuity plans has taken place to adjust for COVID19 disruption and impacts of the 2nd wave of infection.</p> <p>Outbreak planning and Standard Operating Procedures completed and table top exercising has been completed and the learning has been incorporated into plans.</p>	<p>The nature of the risk is such that national public health guidelines will determine the councils' response. The councils will enact any support schemes as set out by national government as they emerge.</p> <p>Oxfordshire Health Protection Board is operating effectively and the Council has set up Command and Control structures to response to the 2nd wave of the pandemic.</p> <p>National and local rise in cases linked to new variant, critical services will continue to be delivered.</p> <p>Community Testing is being implement and will be available for all staff as part of a phased approach.</p>	Risk reviewed 04/02/21 - Comments updated

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2020/21																	
L20 -	<b>Covid-19 Business Continuity</b> Significant staff absence due to the Covid-19 virus results in potential impacts on frontline service delivery and the ability to run the councils' business on a day to day basis.	<p>Possible reductions in frontline service delivery, events, meetings and customer contact.</p> <p>Potential confusion amongst staff with regards to how to plan and respond to reduced service availability, professional support and maintain business as usual.</p> <p>Requirement to reprioritise service delivery.</p> <p>Requirement to offer mutual aid to partner organisations.</p> <p>Potential impact in the medium to long term resilience of staff may result in wider wellbeing issues.</p>	5	4	20	<p>Business Continuity Plans have been reviewed and tested.</p> <p>Guidance has been prepared for managers to support agile working. A survey is taking place to ensure we are meeting remote working needs, facilities management are working to create covid compliant work spaces.</p> <p>Remote working in place.</p> <p>Staff communications stepped up, to support remote working, reinforce national guidelines and set out the current organisational response.</p> <p>Regular updates from Director of Public Health, shared internally and externally.</p> <p>Regular teleconference with local councils and emergency services discussing updates, concerns and best practice. (in-line with usual business continuity and emergency planning protocols).</p> <p>Regular communication messages following Public Health advice.</p> <p>Sanitisers in washrooms.</p> <p>Agile working being tested further across services, ensuring equipment and access is in place.</p> <p>Posters around the offices encouraging regular hand washing. Hand sanitisers available in washrooms and shared spaces.</p>	Fully Partially Fully Fully Fully Fully Partially Fully Fully	Councillor Barry Wood	Yvonne Rees	Claire Taylor	4	4	16	↔	<p>Ongoing review and implementation of Council and partnership business continuity and emergency planning arrangements. Full health, safety and HR response in place. IT remote working arrangements are sustainable.</p>	<p>The nature of the risk is such that national public health guidelines will determine the councils' response. Progress establishing the local outbreak plans and the Health Protection Board support mitigation of risk. Requirements of national lockdown arrangements are in place. Staffing absence is monitored weekly. Risk heightened due to increased incidence of Covid-19 in the district</p>	<p>Risk reviewed – 09/02/21 risk heightened due to rising rates of Covid infection locally. Whilst workforce incidence remains low, the impact of lockdown and home schooling requires flexibility within the workforce and with regards to service operations. Following review and the ongoing lockdown there remains no change to this risk.</p>

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2020/21																	
L21-	Post Covid-19 Recovery - challenges associated with adverse impact on customers, our workforce and the budget.	Long term response to the current covid-19 pandemic				Work underway, a governance programme is currently under development. Executive has agreed a recovery strategy working is underway to transition from an emergency planning environment to recovering environment.	Partially							Governance programme to be shared and implemented.	Work is ongoing to support recovery from Covid, necessarily focused on support for voluntary groups and implementing the various grants and support arrangements available.	09/02/21 - Risk reviewed and comments updated	
	Requirement to review service delivery		4	4	16	Working through a new corporate programme underpinned by policy research.	Partially	Councillor Barry Wood	Yvonne Rees	Claire Taylor	4	3	12	↔	CEDR and ELT working towards new corporate programme liaising with Insight and policy support.	Work is underway in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council to explore the role economic development will take in supporting the recovery and proposals are under development.	
	Budget implications					In year Budget will be considered by Executive in August to ensure the Council remains in a financially sustainable position in year.	Partially							In year budget on track.	The COMF (contain outbreak management fund) allocation to Cherwell has confirmed and plans are under development to ensure effective allocation of this grant to reduce the incidence of COVID in Cherwell and support the community.		
L22	Elections May 2021 – delivery of safe and legally sound elections on 6 May 2021	Non delivery of a legal and transparent election process resulting in legal challenge, undemocratic process and or complaints. Loss of confidence from participants if polling stations and count venue aren't deemed Covid safe, leading to a risk of low voter turnout, problems recruiting staff and compromised engagement from candidates/agents.				Corporate wide approach taken to delivering the election with specialists from service areas supporting different aspects.	Fully	Returning officer						Plan and risk register in place and regularly reviewed Weekly project board meetings chaired by the Returning Officer. polling stations inspected for Covid compliance	All	The Elections Project Board meet weekly to go through issues and agree actions. Key risks are around Covid compliance of polling stations and reluctance of some schools to allowing elections on site. All polling stations are being visited and checked for Covid compliance against Gov guidelines, with appropriate mitigations being put in place. Further risk of insufficient staff to run polling stations and count due to concerns over Covid. Various comms channels being used to appoint sufficient Polling Station staff, including working through the LEP. Discussions taking place about the possibility of putting count staff in bubbles so as to limit impact of any Covid related illness	08/02/21 - New risk proposed
	New councillors not elected		5	4	20	Specific risk register for the election in place and regularly reviewed	Fully		Yvonne Rees	Steve Jorden	3	4	12	New	Election project plan and detailed risk register in place.		
	Legal challenge													Staff working on the election at all levels receive relevant and appropriate training			

#### L04 - Local Plan Risk

The latest Local Development Scheme is that approved by the Executive in March 2020. It includes the programmes for the Partial Review of the Local Plan, the Oxfordshire Plan 2050, a Local Plan Review, the Banbury Canalside Supplementary Planning Document and work on a Community Infrastructure Level (CIL).

##### Partial Review

The Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan was adopted by Council on 7 September 2020. It is now part of the statutory development plan.

##### Oxfordshire Plan 2050

A Growth Deal commitment. The Plan is being prepared by a central Plan team appointed through the Oxfordshire Growth Board. The Council contributes to the plan-making process as a partner with a view to it being adopted as part of the Development Plan upon completion.

Public consultation on an Issues Paper ended on 25 March 2019. A public 'call for location ideas' ended on 12 April 2019. The central Plan team is evidence gathering and preparing 'spatial options' for Plan development. On 24 November 2020, the Oxfordshire Growth Board agreed a further revision to the timetable for completion of the Plan. This allows for public consultation on a formal Options Paper in Summer 2021, consultation on a proposed Plan in Spring 2022, submission for Examination in September 2022 and adoption in 2023. The Plan covers five Local Planning Authority areas, is not under the immediate control of Cherwell officers and can be affected by wider regional influences. There is therefore continuing risk of some delay.

##### Local Plan Review

The timetable for the district-wide Local Plan review in the new Local Development Scheme requires:

- commencement in April 2020
- Consultation on Issues: July-August 2020
- Consultation on Options: February-March 2021
- Consultation on a draft Plan: October-November 2021
- Consultation of a Proposed Submission Plan: July-August 2022
- Submission for Examination: November 2022

An issues consultation was prepared and completed in accordance with the LDS. Work has continued in considering the representations received. However, in view of the delay to the Oxfordshire Plan process, and in light of a necessary internal review of resources and service demands, the precise timetable for the Local Plan is having to be reconsidered. Expected national changes to the planning system could also affect how the plan is completed.

##### Banbury Canalside Supplementary Planning Document

The timetable for the Banbury Canalside SPD as set out in the new Local Development Scheme requires:

- preparation: March-September 2020
- formal consultation: September-October 2020
- adoption: December 2020

Staff resources have been focused on Local Plan work which has led to delay in re-commencing work on the SPD. A corporate review of the work needed for Canalside is also taking place which could affect whether/how the SPD is taken forward.

##### Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The timetable for CIL as set out in the new Local Development Scheme is aligned to Local Plan preparation. It requires:

- re-commencement: March 2021
- focused consultation on a draft charging schedule: October-November 2021
- formal consultation on a draft charging schedule: July-August 2022
- potential (if approved) submission of charging schedule: November 2022

Work on CIL has not yet recommenced due to other priorities. Expected changes to the planning system may affect the decision whether or not to proceed.





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LO6	<p><b>Partnering -</b> Financial failure of a public sector partner organisation</p> <p>Failure to build the necessary partnership relationships to deliver our strategic plan.</p> <p>Failure to ensure the necessary governance of third party relationships (council businesses, partners, suppliers)</p>	Potential reduction in service areas funded by the County Council resulting in an unplanned increase in demand on district functions leading to service difficulties.	4	4	16	Robust governance/contract management framework in place for key third party relationships	Fully effective Partially effective Not effective	Councillor Barry Wood	Graeme Kane	Nicola Riley	4	3	12	↔	Review existing arrangements/ contracts to ensure appropriate governance		29/04/19 - Risk reviewed, CEDR agreed to remove this risk. Elements will be captured as part of L1 & L12.
		Partially				Standard agenda item at senior officer meetings											
		Partially				Continue Institute of Directors training for Officers and Members											
		Partially															
		Partially															
						Ongoing meetings with wider health partners to ensure evidence based approach to investment in Wellbeing Directorate Services											
L13 -	<p><b>CLOSED RISK 18/11/19 - Separation and Joint-Working - Separation of joint services with SNC - and development of joint working partnership with OCC - impacts on the provision of services to residents and communities -</b></p>	Inability to deliver Council priorities and plans, impacting on quality of services delivered to residents and communities.	5	4	20	Agreed programme of separation in place between CDC and SNC	Fully	Councillor Barry Wood	Yvonne Rees	Claire Taylor	4	3	12	↔	Standing item at senior officer meetings - regular review of risk and control measures.	All services have now either been separated or moved into service delivery arrangements with SNC.	Risk reviewed 01/11/19 - Removed
		Fully				Legal advice sought with regards to the employment implications of re-organisation and separation proposals.											
		Fully				Separation tracker and risk register to be circulated at all senior management meetings.											
		Fully				Collaboration Agreement to underpin joint working with SNC following the end of the s113 in place.											
		Partially															
		Partially															
L03 -	<p><b>CLOSED RISK</b> <b>Organisational Capacity - Ability to deliver Council priorities and services - impacted by increased workload and reduced capacity/resilience - following end of joint working arrangements with South Northamptonshire Council -</b></p>	Financial impact due to use of agency staff, possible impact on customers and frontline service delivery if capacity risks are not managed.	4	4	16	Weekly HR Vacancy Control process in place to ensure appropriate resourcing decisions are made.	Partially	Councillor Barry Wood	Yvonne Rees	Claire Taylor	3	3	9	↔	Weekly CEDR and monthly ELT meetings with clear escalation pathways for issues to be resolved.	Proposals for two Joint Corporate Directors between CDC and OCC approved.	Risk reviewed 20/11/19 - Removed
		Partially				Learning and development opportunities identified and promoted by the Chief Executive.											
		Fully				Regular communications from Chief Executive. Quarterly staff briefings from Assistant Directors.											
		Fully				External support secured for key corporate projects including CDC/OCC joint working, Growth Deal and IT Transformation Programme.											
		Partially															
		Partially															