

Cherwell District Council

Accounts Audit and Risk Committee

26 July 2023

Risk Monitoring Report Quarter 1, 2023

Report of Assistant Director – Customer Focus

This report is public.

Purpose of report

To update the committee on how well the council is managing its Strategic Risks and to seek the committee's views on the Council's Risk Management Strategy.

1. Recommendations

The meeting is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the Risk Monitoring Report for Quarter 1 2023.
- 1.2 To review the Council's current Risk Management Strategy 2022/23 (Appendix 2) and recommend any improvements for Executive consideration.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 The Council carries out regular reviews to identify risks at the earliest opportunity so that it can assess and mitigate them as soon as possible.
- 2.2 Risks that may affect the Council's performance as a whole, and particularly, on its ability to deliver its corporate priorities are captured in its Leadership Risk Register.
- 2.3 The Leadership Risk Register is reviewed by the Corporate Leadership Team and Executive Committees every month; however, this is a live document and therefore updated as and when required, to manage new risks effectively.
- 2.4 The Council's approach to risk management is set out in its Risk Management Strategy, which is attached in Appendix 2. The **Accounts Audit and Risk Committee** is responsible for reviewing the strategy annually and making any recommended improvements to the Executive Committee for their consideration.

3. Risk Update – Quarter 1, 2023.

3.1 There were no changes to any of the risk scores in the Leadership Risk Register in Quarter 1. The scores for current risks remain as follows:

		Probability				
		1 - Remote	2 - Unlikely	3 - Possible	4 - Probable	5 - Highly Probable
Impact	5 - Catastrophic			L08		
	4 - Major		L09	L03-L06-L07 L11-L14	L01	
	3 - Moderate		L04-L05-L10	L02-L12	L13	
	2 - Minor					
	1 - Insignificant					

Figure 2: Risk scorecard showing the risk scores in the Leadership Risk Register for Quarter 1 2023.

3.2 There were however changes to the descriptions and controls for the following risks:

Risk	Score	Latest Update
L03 CDC Local Plan	12 Medium Risk	Comments added: “The emerging draft of the Local Plan is scheduled to be re-presented to the Council's Executive in September 2023”
L09 Safeguarding the vulnerable - Internal procedures	8 Low Risk	Comments added: “New member training will be launched in the bitesize briefing on 24th July”.
L10 Sustainability of Council owned companies and delivery of planned financial and other objectives	6 Low Risk	Comments added: “Governance Review completed and approved by Shareholder Committee”
L11 Financial sustainability of third- party suppliers and contractors	12 Medium Risk	<p>Controls updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensure contract management in place review and anticipate problems within key service suppliers and partners. -Business continuity planning arrangements in place in regard 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 -Intelligence unit set up procurement Hub to monitor supplier and contractor market -Analysis of third party spend undertaken to identify and risk assess key suppliers/contractors <p>Comments added:” Contract management sits with individual service departments as owners of those contracts”</p>

L12 Corporate Governance	9 Low Risk	<p>Controls updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clear and robust control framework including: constitution, scheme of delegation, ethical walls policy etc. - Clear accountability and resource for corporate governance (including the shareholder role). - Integrated budget, performance and risk reporting framework. - Corporate programme office and project management framework. Includes project and programme governance. - Internal audit programme aligned to leadership risk register. - Training and development resource targeted to address priority issues; examples include GDPR, safeguarding etc. - HR policy framework. - Annual governance statement process undertaken for 2021/22 connects more fully and earlier with ELT and CLT. - Annual Review of the Constitution by the MO with member involvement and approval by the Full Council
L13 Major Infrastructure Projects and Programmes	12 Medium Risk	<p>Name changed from "Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal"</p>

4. Conclusion

This report provides an update on how well the council is managing its Strategic Risks for the first Quarter of this year.

5. Consultation

N/A

6. Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

N/A

7. Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

7.1 There are no financial and resource implications arising directly from this report.

Comments checked by:

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Tel:

Legal Implications

- 7.2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.
Comments checked by:
Shiraz Sheik, Assistant Director for Law and Governance, Tel: 01295 221651
shiraz.sheikh@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Risk Implications

- 7.3 This report contains a full update with regards to the Council's risk position at the end of Quarter 1, 2023. There are no risk implications arising directly from this report.
Comments checked by:
Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance & Insight Team Leader.
Tel: 01295 221556 Celia.prado-teeling@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Equalities and Inclusion Implications

- 7.4 There are no equalities nor inclusion implications arising directly from this report.
Comments checked by:
Celia Prado-Teeling, Performance & Insight Team Leader.
Tel: 01295 221556 Celia.prado-teeling@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

8. Decision Information

Key Decision

Financial Threshold Met: No

Community Impact Threshold Met: No

Wards Affected: All

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

This report supports all Corporate Priorities

Lead Councillor

Councillor Sandy Dallimore – Portfolio Holder for Corporate Services

Document Information

Appendix number and title

Appendix 1 – Leadership Risk Register Quarter 1, 2023

Appendix 2 – Risk Management Strategy 22/23

Background papers

None

Report Author and contact details.

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