

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Audit and Corporate Governance Committee

DATE: 9th December 2021

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WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION**

RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE – QUARTER 3 2021/22

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to report to the Audit and Corporate Governance committee on the corporate risk register with the opportunity to comment and amend it, as shown in Appendix 1
- 1.2 This is the second revision of the risk register which is being reviewed on a monthly basis. This is to ensure that the Council continues its development of a proper strategic risk register.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 This report recommends that the Audit and Corporate Governance Committee notes the revisions to the risk register and comments on the report.

3 The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities –

The actions contained within the attached reports are designed to improve the governance of the organisation and will contribute to all of the emerging Community Strategy Priorities

Priorities:

- *Economy and Skills*
- *Health and Wellbeing*
- *Regeneration and Environment*
- *Housing*
- *Safer Communities*

3b. Five Year Plan Outcomes

The actions contained within this report will assist in achieving all of the five year plan outcomes

4. **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

There are no direct financial implications of the updates on the actions but resolution of the queries/issues will improve the Council's processes which underpins sound financial management, by way of example the Council's accounts and budget

(b) Risk Management

Risk	RAG Before Mitigation	Mitigation	RAG After Mitigation
<p>Failure to operate an adequate strategic risk register exposes the Council to risk across a wide variety of services because:</p> <p>Risks are not identified</p> <p>Actions are not planned and progress reported</p> <p>Members are not made aware of the serious risks facing the Council</p>	Red	<p>Pro active officer risk and audit board</p> <p>Pro active management of the risk register</p> <p>Risk register that encompasses strategic risks with actions, milestones</p> <p>Reporting that shows trends, update on actions, impact of actions</p>	<p>Amber – to reflect the continuing work to develop management of strategic risk (currently, work over the coming months will improve this to Green)</p>

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act or other legal implications in this report

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There is no identified need for an EIA

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 **Further Improvements to the Corporate Risk Register**

- 5.1.1 Risk management is a critical part of good governance and it is needed to effectively deliver the Council's priorities.
- 5.1.2 The council is routinely reviewing all strategic level risks to ensure their ongoing relevance to the needs of the Council. This is done through the officer risk and audit board on a monthly basis, as well as review by executive board quarterly.
- 5.1.3 Further improvements include updating mitigating actions to note those that have been completed as well as new actions that respond to changing circumstances and events.
- 5.1.4 Internal Audit are conducting an audit of risk management, the findings will be considered to help further strengthen risk management processes and procedures.

5.2 **Revised Risk Register**

- 5.2.1 Identification of new and emerging corporate risks that are on our horizon is being identified on a regular basis and revisions to the register reflect comments from September's Audit and Corporate Governance Committee and the officer risk and audit board.
- 5.2.2 Risks that are already on the register have been reviewed to ensure they reflect the current risks the Council is facing, and take into account any mitigating actions that have been implemented and new actions required to further mitigate the risk. Risk scores have also been reviewed to reflect the mitigating actions in place and comply with the council's risk management strategy.

5.3 **Changes to note**

- 5.3.1 The following risks are new to the Corporate Risk Register:
- council companies – residual risk score 12
 - staffing risks within Slough Borough Council and Slough Children First – residual risk score 15
- 5.3.2 The following risks have been substantially updated to reflect the current situation in the Council:
- financial sustainability – more detail related to the consequences of the risk materialising. Reference to member and officer training as a mitigation.

- recovery and renewal plan – more detail related to the consequences of the risk materialising. Implementation of governance recommendations as a mitigation.

6. **Comments of Other Committees**

There are no comments from other Committees

7. **Conclusion**

Members note the reports

8. **Appendices Attached**

Appendix 1 – Corporate Risk Register

9. **Background Papers**

None