



AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE

26 SEPTEMBER 2023

OFFICER REPORT

STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER BRIEF REPORT:

Introduction

This paper provides summary information on the key changes which have been made to the Strategic Risk Register since the last meeting of the Audit and Standards Committee

The Risk Register was also reviewed at the Corporate Governance Group on May 23rd.

In the last quarter all risks have been transferred to the new Risk and Performance system resulting in a change to their classification. All risks are now SR followed by a number reflecting the order which they were put on the system. All existing Strategic Risks have been transferred onto the new system.

Risks which have reviewed

Risks SR1 (inflation) has been reviewed after the financial closedown for 2022/23 and rescored from 12 to 9. The outturn for 2022/23 reflects an overall reduction in the General Fund equalisation reserve but by marginally less than forecast in the budget monitoring.

Inflation remains high in the general economy but it is not causing an impact on SDC services and energy costs are likely to be lower than budgeted for 2023/24.

Risk remains for the local government pay award which is not agreed at this stage. Overall score is reduced from 12 to 9 to reflect a change in status from "very likely" to "likely".

Risk SR2 (information governance) has been Re-assessed but no change to overall risk. Severity not changed even with reduction in ICO fines against public authorities (best use of public funds). Probability remains unlikely due to ongoing works and mitigations. Realistically, very unlikely to reduce the risk further. Main focus will be in improving the controls available.

Risk SR10 (Canal Project) has been fundamentally reviewed and rescored at the request of the corporate governance group. The overall score has been increased to a 9 (previously 4) to reflect the current position on the planning application and overall funding. A member update is included in the papers for consideration at Strategy and Resources Committee on July 11th.

Newly added risks

SR15 (Strike Action)

The local government pay award for 2023 has not yet been agreed nationally and Unions are consulting on industrial action. Direct strike action at SDC is not likely but it is important to record a corporate risk in recognition of the services provided by Ubico, who are also part of local government pay negotiations. Officers are working closely with Ubico to understand the risk, and appropriate controls and mitigations will be put in place as required.

Deleted Risks

None

REPORT SUBMITTED BY	Andrew Cummings
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