



GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – 8TH OCTOBER 2024

SUBJECT: CORPORATE RISK REGISTER 2023-2024 6 MONTH UPDATE

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update of the Corporate Risk Register in accordance with the Council's Risk Management Strategy.
- 1.2 The updated Corporate Risk Register (CRR) (Appendix A) is presented to Governance and Audit Committee so there is opportunity for the Committee to satisfy itself that appropriate arrangements are in place for the Council's risk management processes to be regularly and robustly monitored and scrutinised.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Under the Council's Risk Management Strategy, the Corporate Management Team (CMT) own, manage, monitor, and review the Council's Corporate Risks monthly with six monthly progress reports submitted to Cabinet and to Governance and Audit Committee, which has the role of reviewing and challenging the Risk Register and where relevant, any resultant action plans for the Council's key strategic or corporate risks.
- 2.2 In order to present the most recent information, this report focuses on the Corporate Management update as at the end of **September 2024**
- 2.3 There are currently 17 risks on the Corporate Risk Register with no new risks added since the last report to Governance and Audit in April 2024.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Governance and Audit Committee review the content of the Corporate Risk Register and associated mitigating actions to scrutinise and satisfy itself that risks that are being identified are managed effectively.

4. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

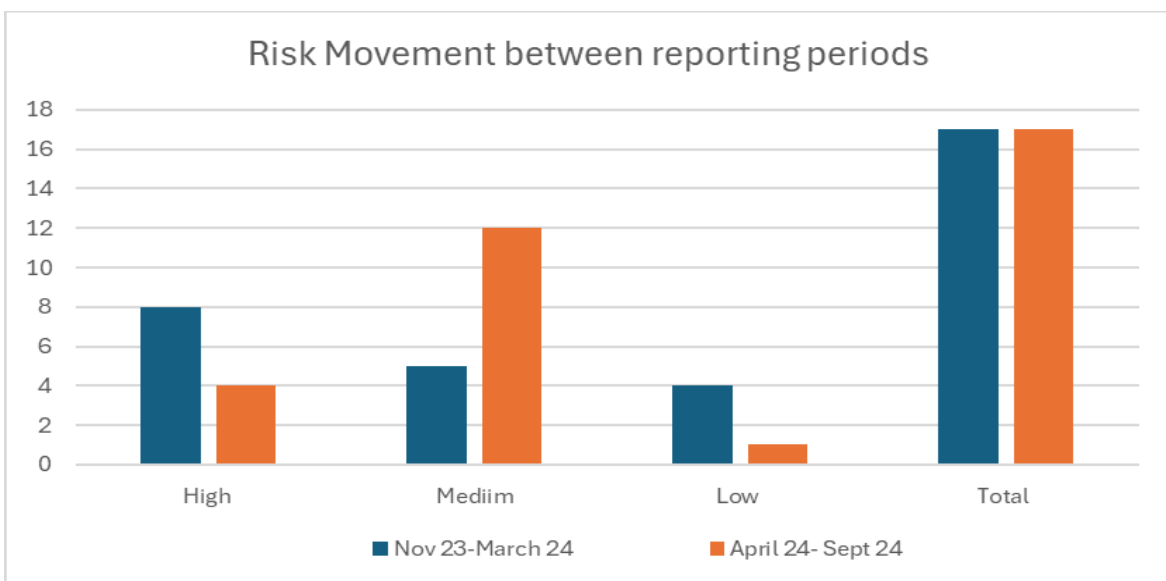
For the Governance and Audit Committee to satisfy itself that robust processes and procedures exist and are applied for the management of top-level risks. Members have a critical role to play in evaluating the Council’s risk management arrangements and in particular understanding how the council identifies, manages and, where possible, mitigates/removes risk.

5. THE REPORT

- 5.1 The Council identifies and manages risks at different levels. Service priorities identify risks to delivering business whilst directorate risks can be more significant risks and may have cause and effect across a Directorate. The Corporate Risk Register is the highest level of risks to the whole authority, the strategic risks often referred to as the Corporate Risk Register (CRR).
- 5.2 This report, updates on the risks within the CRR only. The directorate risks are updated on a routine basis within the ‘Directorate Performance Assessment’ (DPA)
- 5.3 The Corporate Risk Register is a ‘living document’ and will change when reviewed, Corporate Management team assess the CRR monthly. New risks will emerge, and some existing risks will be closed. Risk ratings will change (red/amber/green), and mitigating actions and progress comments will be updated.
- 5.4 The Risk Register was last updated to Governance and Audit Committee April 2024.

Currently there are 17 Risks on the Risk Register (Appendix A) of which 4 are rated as a high risk, 12 medium and 1 low.

Movement of risk from the last update shows that while there are the same number of risks in total from end of March to Sept 2024, five high risks have been reduced to a medium rating, indicating the mitigating actions are having results.



One low risk increased to medium (CRR-24) – Impact of Strike action on public services and one medium risk increased to high (CRR-26) which is about the

replacement of WCCIS, the national social care system. No new risks that have been added to the register at this time.

5.5 For accuracy the figures in paragraph 5.4 include the numbers for the whole risk register, however the appendix attached has 2 risks that are redacted due to the sensitive nature of the risks; therefore, the appendix and the data noted in para 5.4 do not total to the same amount.

5.6 As requested by Governance and Audit Committee in April 2024 a new column has been added to the risk register called 'targeted risk'. This is the level or rating we would hope the risk would reach once the mitigating actions have been carried out. It should be noted that risks that are more within the organisations control are more likely to see an opportunity to target a reduced rating, but those that are national risks such as the 'cost of living' crisis may see a maintaining of the risk level despite successful mitigating actions.

5.7 **Conclusion**

5.8 In line with the approved Risk Management Strategy the Corporate Risk Register is periodically reviewed and updated and is presented to the Governance and Audit Committee to provide an opportunity for the Committee to satisfy itself that appropriate arrangements are in place for the Council's risk management processes to be regularly and robustly monitored and scrutinised.

6. **ASSUMPTIONS**

6.1 It is a reasonable assumption that the significant financial and demand challenges facing the authority will continue, however it is assumed that resource will be reviewed for those significant risks where required.

7. **SUMMARY OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 This report does not relate to the development of a policy, strategy, practice or project so no specific Integrated Impact Assessment has been undertaken on this report, however Risk Management is part of the 7 organisational activities within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and as such also needs to recognise risk to the citizen over the long term and look at ways to prevent further impact occurring.

8. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 There are no direct financial implications to this report, although the Risk Register identifies risks regarding the Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

9. **PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 There are no personnel implications arising from this report although there is a risk around the Resilience and Well-being of Staff.

10. CONSULTATIONS

This report has been sent to the consultees listed below and all comments received are reflected in this report.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

11.2 Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

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Consultees: Richard (Ed) Edmunds, Corporate Director Education and Corporate Services
Cllr. Eluned Stenner, Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance.
Mark S Williams, Corporate Director for Economy and Environment
Dave Street, Deputy Chief Executive
Stephen Harris, Head of Financial Services and S151 Officer
Robert Tranter, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Sue Richards, Head of Education Planning and Strategy
Kathryn Peters, Corporate Policy Manager
Deborah Gronow, Internal Audit Manager

Background Papers:

Appendices:

Appendix A – Corporate Risk Register (as of September 2024)