

# Non-key Decision Committee Report

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**PURPOSE:** Non-key decision update report

**COMMITTEE:** Children and Young People Committee

**DATE:** 11 June 2024

**TITLE:** Q1 2024/25 Corporate Risk Report

**Officer presenting the report:** Joachim Adenusi **Title:** Senior Risk and Insurance Officer

**Committee Chair:** Cllr Christine Townsend

**Executive Director lead:** Hannah Woodhouse – Executive Director Children and Education

**Purpose of Report:** The report provides an update on current significant strategic risks to achieving the Council's objectives, within the Children and Young People Committee, as set in the Corporate Strategy 2022-2027 and summarises progress in managing the risks and actions being taken as at Quarter 1\_2024-25.

Evidence Base / Context

1. The Corporate Risk Report (CRR) is a key document in the council's approach to the management of risk; it captures strategic risks set out in the Corporate Strategy 2022-2027. It also provides a context through which Directorates construct their own high-level risk assessments and is used to inform decision making about business planning, budget setting, transformation, and service delivery.
2. The CRR provides assurance to management and Members that Bristol City Council's significant risks have been identified and arrangements are in place to manage those risks within the tolerance levels agreed. It should be noted that 'risk', by definition, includes both threats and opportunities, which is reflected in the CRR.
3. Ensuring that the Service Risk Registers (SRR), Directorate Risk Reports (DRR) and the Corporate Risk Reports (CRR) are soundly based will help the council to ensure it is anticipating and managing key risks to optimise the achievement of the council's objectives and prioritise actions for managing those risks.
4. The registers and reports are a management tool. They need regular review to ensure that the occurrence of obstacles or events that may put individual's safety at harm, impact upon service delivery and the council's reputation are minimised, opportunities are maximised and when risks happen, they are managed effectively to minimise the impact.
5. The CRR summary of risks is attached to this report at Appendix A1 and is the latest position following a review by managers and Directors. The risks in Appendix A1 are presented in the order of severity, starting with the highest scoring risks followed by lower scoring risks.

**Summary of Corporate Risks:**

6. Corporate Leadership Board (CLB) members noted the CRR as a working summary report of the critical and significant risks from the Service Risk Registers as of 31st May 2024.
7. The CRR sets out the critical, significant, and high rated threats and opportunity risks. All other business risks reside on the Service Risk Registers.
8. Further programme of work with clear instructions to colleagues was undertaken to review and revise each CRR/DRR risk description, internal controls and mitigation plans and governance. The scope of this work included where possible the identification of new risks and a fresh look to confirm ongoing risks are current along with the actions to mitigate the risks.
9. Members of Children and Education Directorate reviewed the current CRRs and the DRRs on the 5th of June 2024 to form the current CRR risks. On the 11 of June 2024, CLB members accepted the attached CRR as a working summary report of the critical and significant risks from the Service Risk Registers.
10. The Q1 24-25 Children and Young People Corporate Risk Report (CRR) as at June 2024 contains 4 risks:

Threat Risks	Opportunity Risks	External / Contingency Risks
2 Critical 2 High 0 Medium  0 Improving Risks 0 Deteriorating Risks 0 Escalated Risks 0 De-escalated Risks	Nil	Nil

A summary of risks (Threat and Opportunities) for this reporting period are set out below:

**Critical Threat Risks**

11. There are two Critical Threat risks scoring Critical 7 x Almost Certain 4 = 28.
  - CRR9 - Possible Failure of Safeguarding Vulnerable Children: The risk is Critical due to recent tragic deaths of six children in the city that has also led to national media interest.
  - CRR55 - Risk of children placed in unregistered provision which is unlawful: The risk is Critical as we continue to have children placed in unregistered provision.

**High Threat Risks**

12. There are two High Threat risks within the report:
  - CRR45 - Potential failure to deliver statutory duty in respect of Children.
  - CRR62 - Possible failure to manage the deficit of the Dedicated Schools Grant by March 2026 will have a severe impact on the council's funding of all services for the community

**Proposed Escalation to the Corporate Risk Register**

13. The following risk is recommended for escalation from service risk registers to the Corporate Risk Register.
  - CRR62 Possible failure to manage the Dedicated Schools Grant deficit by March 2026 will have a severe impact on the council's funding of all other services for communities.

### Interconnective Risks

14. Some risks scoring above 20 are interconnected and inform existing corporate risks. These risks will not be escalated to the CRR as they are shown as 'Related to' the interconnected corporate risk in Pentana.

Main Risk	Connected Risks and Implications
<i>CRR13 Possible Financial Framework and Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) Failure.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>CRR62 Possible failure to manage the Dedicated Schools Grant deficit by March 2026 will have a severe impact on the council's funding of all other services for communities.</i></li> </ul>

### Mitigation Actions Update

15. Seven new mitigation actions were created during the reporting period which are relevant to this committee. When completed this will result in improved risk assurance and improvement towards our tolerance levels. One risk mitigation action was successfully completed.

### Static Risks

17. Two risks have scores that have remained static over the last 3 reporting cycles including Q1 2024-25. These risks are summarised in Appendix A2 of this report. During Q4, risk owners were challenged to reduce the risk scores or justify why the scores cannot reduce. These reasons are stated in the 'Summary of Progress' contained in the table for each risk in Appendix A1.

#### Additional Information:

18. For more detail on individual risks and their management, please see the attached Appendix A1.
19. The closed risks are now reflected within individual risks across the Council's Service Risk Registers.
20. All risks on the CRR have management actions in place.
21. It is not possible to eliminate the potential of failure entirely without significant financial and social costs. The challenge is to make every reasonable effort to mitigate and manage risks effectively, and where failure occurs, to learn and improve.
22. Completeness of risk information, including potential financial impact, will be an area of focus moving into the next quarter.
23. Risks are escalated to the Corporate Risk Report (CRR) if the risk scores higher than a 20 or if a risk is determined by CLB to remain on the corporate risk report due to monitoring its significance to the councils aims and objective.

### Officer Recommendations:

That the Children and Young People Committee note this report.

**Corporate Strategy alignment:** Corporate Strategy alignment: This report covers all areas of what Bristol City Council does, and therefore aligns with all themes of the Corporate Strategy. In particular, taking safe but proportionate approaches to risk aligns with Corporate Strategy Theme 7: Effective Development Organisation.

## APPENDICES

**Appendix A – Further essential background information and detail** **YES**

Appendix A1 – Q1 Children and Young People Committee Corporate Risk Report 2024-2025

## Summary page (remove for final publication)

**COMMITTEE:** Children and Young People Committee

**COMMITTEE DATE:** 17 June 2024

	<b>Who Name and Job Title</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>EDM sign off date</b>	EDM Members		5 <sup>th</sup> of June 2024
<b>Committee Chair sign off</b>			
<b>Date published on forward plan</b>			

<b>Checklist for FINAL submission</b>	
<b>The PR comments with yellow highlight have been deleted from the main report</b>	Choose an item.
<b>All red and grey text removed from main body of report</b>	Choose an item.
<b>All text consistent in Calibri font size 12</b>	Choose an item.
<b>A link to background documents has been included</b>	Choose an item.

Only if all of the above checklist points are ‘yes’ will the report be accepted by the Policy Committee Team for publication.