Decision Pathway Report



PURPOSE: For reference

MEETING: Cabinet

DATE: 26 January 2021

TITLE	Corporate Risk Management Report (CRR)				
Ward(s)	City Wide				
Author: Jan Cadby		Job title: Risk and Insurance Manager			
Cabinet lead: Councillor Cheney		Executive Director lead: Mike Jackson / Denise Murray			
Proposal origin: BCC Staff					
	maker: Cabinet Member forum: Cabinet				

Purpose of Report: Managing risks are an integral element to the achievement of the Bristol City Council's (BCC) Corporate Strategy (CS) deliverables. The report provides an update on work completed to improve risk management at BCC and sets out the council's current significant risks and summarises progress in managing the risks as at Quarter 3 2020-21. The Q3 Corporate Risk Management Report will be presented to Cabinet in January 2021.

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 2018-2023. 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.

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.

The CRR summary of risks is attached to this report at Appendix A is the latest formal iteration following a review by members of the council's Corporate Leadership Board (CLB) in January 2021.

Evidence Base: The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require the council to have in place effective arrangements for the management of risk. These arrangements are reviewed each year and reported as part of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

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.

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 and communicated to minimise the impact.

Cabinet Member / Officer Recommendations: That the Cabinet notes the report and progress on embedding Risk Management arrangements within the Council.

Corporate Strategy alignment: Managing risks are an integral element to the achievement of the BCC Corporate Strategy (CS) deliverables.

City Benefits: Risk Management aims to maximise achievement of the council's aims and objectives by reducing the risks to those achievements and maximising possible opportunities that arise.

Summary

Corporate Risk Report (CRR) - Summary of Corporate Risks:

Members of the Executive Director Meetings (EDM) reviewed the Directorate Risk Reports (DRR) in January 2020 to form the CRR. The Mayor's Office was consulted in January 2020. CLB are asked to accept the attached CRR as a working summary report of the critical and significant risks from the Service Risk Registers as at end of 12th January 2021.

The CRR sets out the critical, significant and high rated risks both threats and opportunities. All other business risks reside on the Service Risk Registers and reported through the DRRs.

The Q3 20-21 Corporate Risk Report (CRR) as at 12th January 2021 contained:

Threat Risks	Opportunity Risks	External / Contingency Risks
3 critical	0 significant	1 critical
• 16 high	3 high	• 1 high
• 2 new	• 0 new	• 0 new
4 improving	1 improving	• 1 improving
1 deteriorating	1 deteriorating	 0 deteriorating
• 1 closed	0 closed	 0 closed

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

There are three critical threat risks:

- CRR41: Long Term Major Capital projects. The risk rating being 4x7 (28) critical threat risk. This risk is managed on the Growth and Regeneration Service Risk Registers.
- CRR9: Safeguarding Vulnerable Children. The risk rating being 4x7 (28) critical threat risk. This risk is managed on the People Service Risk Registers.
- CRR32: Failure to deliver enough affordable Homes to meet the City's needs. The risk rating being 4x7 (28) critical threat risk. This risk is managed on the Growth and Regeneration Service Risk Registers.

There are four improving threat risks:

- CRR5: Business Continuity and Council Resilience. The risk rating being 4x5 (20) high threat risk. This risk is managed on the Growth and Regeneration Service Risk Registers.
- CRR6: Fraud and Corruption. The risk rating being 3x5 (15) high threat risk. This risk is managed on the Resources Service Risk Registers.
- CRR12: Failure to deliver suitable emergency planning measures, respond to and manage emergency events when they occur. The risk rating being 4x5 (20) high threat risk. This risk is managed on the Growth and Regeneration Service Risk Registers.
- CRR34: Corporate Equalities. The risk rating being 1x5 (5) medium threat risk. This risk is managed on the Resources Service Risk Registers.

There are two new risks:

- CRR40: Unplanned Investment in Subsidiary Companies. The risk rating being 2x7 (14) high threat risk. This risk is managed on the Resources Service Risk Registers.
- CRR41: Long Term Major Capital projects. The risk rating being 4x7 (28) critical threat risk. This risk is managed on the Growth and Regeneration Service Risk Registers.

There is one closed risk:

 The risk CRR1: Lack of long term commercial investments and major projects has been reviewed, closed and replaced by, CRR40: Unplanned Investment in Subsidiary Companies, CRR41: Long Term Major Capital Projects and Financial Investments. The Financial Investment risk 2x5 (10) medium risk resides on the Resources Service Risk Registers.

There is one improving opportunity risk:

• OPP3: Devolution. The risk rating being 3x7 (21) high opportunity risk. This risk is managed on the Resources Service Risk Registers.

There is one deteriorating opportunity risk:

• OPP2: Corporate Strategy. The risk rating being 3x7 (21) high opportunity risk. This risk is managed on the Resources Service Risk Registers.

The risks BCCC2/OPP4 - Brexit is an unpredictable external threat and opportunity, and because of this the reporting for these entries may already be out of date. These risks are being managed within the Resources Service Risk Registers via a council-wide Brexit Project Board (for general preparedness) and Brexit Coordination Group (a tactical response group to manage any immediate issues presented in a 'no deal' scenario).

The external / contingency risk BCCC3: COVID -19 reflects the positive action and pace of change the Council has adapted to delivering its services. This risk is being overseen by the Corporate Leadership Team, Gold Meetings and within the Growth and Regeneration Directorate by the Resilience Director.

All risks on the CRR have management actions in place.

As with all risks, 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.

The summary of the threat risks is set out on pages 1 to 17 opportunity risks pages 18 to 19, and external and civil contingency risks on page 20 and 21 all including controls and management actions. A summary of risk performance on pages 22 and 23 by level of risk, the risk matrix on page 24 and the risk scoring criteria on page 25. More detail is available on request.

Risk Management Framework

Risk management is the culture, process and structures that are directed towards effective management of potential opportunities and threats to the council achieving its priorities and objectives and a key element of the council's governance framework. The Annual Governance Statement (AGS) declaration highlighted a number of opportunities to enhance Risk Management. Areas for improvement included:

- Increasing the level of engagement and ownership by Service Managers.
- Enhancing the engagement of Members in the risk management process.
- Refreshing the Corporate and Directorate Risk Reports.
- Risk Management training and awareness.
- Risk Management within Business Case approvals, Project Management and Procurement Frameworks.
- Maintaining the focus of the process on reducing risk against the council's Corporate Plan 2018-23.

The Risk Management Audit was allocated a Limited Opinion as at June 2020. Areas to improve include:

- Engagement with the timeliness, completion and accuracy of Service Risk Registers.
- Risk Management within Decision Making, Business Case approvals, Project Management and Procurement Frameworks.

The risk management framework and process continues to be developed. During 2020/21 we have:

- Managed, maintained and communicated Risk Management on the SharePoint and via Internal Communications.
- Carried out workshops and drop-in sessions.
- Reviewed and relaunched the Corporate Risk Management Board (CRMB).
- Supported Mangers for Covid 19 related gueries.
- Procured the Risk Management Database.
- Directorate Risk Reports received by Scrutiny.

Plans for 2020/21 include:

- Mandatory Risk Management ELearning for key staff.
- Annual Risk Management Maturity Assessment.
- Approach to management of risk reporting to CLB from the Corporate Risk Management Board.
- Member training.

Revenue Cost	£0	Source of Revenue Funding	N/A
Capital Cost	£0	Source of Capital Funding	N/A
One off cost ☐ Ongoing cost ☐ Saving Proposal ☐ Income generation proposal ☐			

Required information to be completed by Financial/Legal/ICT/ HR partners:

1. Finance Advice: The CRR is a live document refreshed regularly following consultation across the organisation, and aims to provide assurance that the council's main risks have been identified and appropriate mitigations are in place to ensure they are managed within agreed tolerances. This includes, as set out in the annual budget report, measures to ensure appropriate financial provision is made through the budget planning process and reserves. The Council should ensure it has sufficient resource available to implement actions required to bring risks down to a tolerable level.

Finance Business Partner: Michael Pilcher, Chief Accountant, Deputy Section 151 Officer, 18th January 2021

2. Legal Advice: The Corporate Rick Register enables the Council to monitor and manage identified risks and mitigations to ensure good governance and compliance with its statutory and other duties. Advice will be given separately in relation to any specific legal issues that may arise from the risks identified.

Legal Team Leader: Nancy Rollason, Head of Legal Service and Deputy Monitoring Officer, 14th January 2021

3. Implications on IT: IT Services recognise the risks owned by the Service Area and will continue to work on the mitigation activity as documented.

IT Team Leader: Simon Oliver, Digital Transformation Director, 12th January 2021.

4. HR Advice: It is essential that staffing resources are appropriately deployed to manage these risks that are highlighted and in particular the new and elevated risks that are identified in the report. There are no other HR implications arising from the CRR report.

HR Partner: HR Partner: Mark Williams, Head of Human Resources, 12th January 2021.

4. Procurement Advice: There are no direct Procurement implications related to this report.

Category Manager: Steve Sandercock, Head of Strategic Procurement and Supplier Relations, 12th January 2021.

Appendix A – Further essential background / detail on the proposal: Q3 2020/21 Corporate Risk Report (CRR) - The Corporate Risk Summary Report sets out the risks on pages 1 to 21 including controls and management actions, a summary of risk performance on page 22 and 23, the risk matrix on page 24 and the risk scoring criteria on page 25.	YES
Appendix B – Details of consultation carried out - internal and external	NO
Appendix C – Summary of any engagement with scrutiny	NO
Appendix D – Risk assessment	NO
Appendix E – Equalities screening / impact assessment of proposal	NO
Appendix F – Eco-impact screening/ impact assessment of proposal	NO
Appendix G – Financial Advice	NO
Appendix H – Legal Advice	NO
Appendix I – Exempt Information	NO
Appendix J – HR advice	NO
Appendix K – ICT	NO