

# Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission



7<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Report of:** Risk and Insurance Senior Officer

**Title:** Growth and Regeneration Risks from the Corporate Risk Management Report – Q3 2023/24

**Ward:** Citywide

## Recommendation

For the Growth and Regeneration Scrutiny Commission to note the attached Growth and Regeneration Risks from Corporate Risk Management Report Q3-2023/24 that went to Cabinet on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024.



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## **1. Policy**

- 1.1. 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). The Council is required to comment on the effectiveness of its arrangements in this regard. The statement must also identify any significant governance issues that may have resulted from failures in governance and risk management.
- 1.2. Risk Management is an integral part of good governance to which the Council is committed. Risk Management provides the framework and processes that enables the Council to manage uncertainty in a systematic way. As part of the Risk Management arrangements the Council reviews the Risk Management Assurance Policy on an annual basis.
- 1.3. It is considered good practice to regularly review and update the Risk Management Assurance Policy to ensure it strengthens the Council's approach to its risk management and assurance arrangements.
- 1.4. Ensuring that the Corporate Risk Report (CRR) is 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.
- 1.5. The CRR provides assurance to management and Members that the Bristol City Council's significant risks have been identified and arrangements are in place to manage those risks within the tolerance levels agreed.
- 1.6. The CRR is a management tool and needs 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.
- 1.7. The CRR has been prepared and presented in line with the Risk Management Assurance Policy that was approved by Cabinet in January 2019.

## **2. Consultation**

**Internal** - First to fourth tier managers, Extended Leadership Team, Corporate Leadership Team, Cabinet Member, Finance, Governance and Performance.

**External** - None

## **3. Context**

### **Corporate Risk Register (CRR)**

- 3.1. 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 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.

3.2. 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.

3.3. 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.

3.4. 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 and communicated to minimise the impact.

3.5. The CRR summary of G&R Q3 risks is attached to this report at Appendix A is the latest position following a review by managers and Directors.

**Summary of Growth and Regeneration Corporate Risks:**

3.6. 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.

3.7. The Q3 23-24 Corporate Risk Report (CRR) as at December 2023 contained the following risks that are the responsibility of the Growth and Regeneration directorate (please see the attached Appendix A for details on these risks and their management):

Threat Risks	External / Contingency Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 high</li> <li>• 0 medium</li> <li>• 0 low</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 high</li> </ul>

A summary of risks for this reporting period are set out below.

3.8. There are no improving threat risks.

3.9. There are no deteriorating risks from the Q2 period.

3.10. Two risks were escalated from the Corporate Risk Register in Q3.

- CRR 58 - Failure to maintain and replace the Highway and Traffic assets may lead to future budget shocks and potential injuries to the public: The risk score has increased from to 7 x 3 = High 21. Defects on network are increasing as depreciation accelerates; and this may lead to an increase in litigation and settlement payments to network users and motorists.

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- CRR59 - Failure to deliver timely statutory planning decisions: The risk score has increased to 5 x 5 = High 20 as the backlog in planning applications may lead to delays in delivering development and potentially refund of fees.

3.11. Four risks that were de-escalated from the Corporate Risk Register in Q3.

#### *Threat Risks*

- CRR18 - Possible failure to deliver enough new homes to meet Mayoral and Annual Business Plan targets: This risk has scored between Medium 10 and 15 High since December 2022; and will continue to be actively managed as a Growth and Regeneration Directorate Risk.
- CRR27 - We may fail to Deliver the Capital Transport Programme: This risk has score High 15 since December 2022 and will continue to be actively managed as a Growth and Regeneration Directorate Risk.
- CRR41 - Capital Portfolio Delivery May Fail: This risk has a score of High 15 and will continue to be actively managed as a Growth and Regeneration Directorate Risk.

#### *External and Civil Contingency Risks*

- BCCC1 - Flooding May Impact Public Safety: This risk has scored High 15 since 2021 and will continue to be actively managed as a Directorate Risk the Growth and Regeneration Directorate.

3.12. All risks on the CRR have management actions in place.

3.13. 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.

## **4. Proposal**

- Scrutiny receive and note the Risk Management update.
- Scrutiny review and comment upon the Corporate Risk Report (CRR) as a source of assurance that risk management arrangements are in place.

## **5. Other Options Considered**

5.1. None necessary. Having robust risk management processes in place is a requirement of the City Council. The CRR has been developed in line with the Risk Management Assurance Policy.

## **6. Risk Assessment**

6.1. The Risk Management Assurance Policy and the CRR will further develop risk management assessment within the City Council, and help the management of risk arrangements embed.

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## **7. Summary of Equalities Impact of the Proposed Decision**

No Equality Impact anticipated from this report.

## **8. Legal and Resource Implications**

### **Legal**

Not Applicable

### **Financial**

Not Applicable

### **Land**

Not Applicable

### **Personnel**

Not Applicable

### **Appendices:**

Appendix A – Q3 Corporate Risk Report 2023-2024

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

### **Background Papers:**

Risk Management Assurance Policy.