

Audit and Governance Committee

27 March 2009

Corporate Risk Profile

Report of the City Treasurer

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform the Audit and Governance Committee of the current Corporate Risk Profile following an earlier review together with recommended amendments and the proposed actions.

2. Description of Decision

- 2.1 The Audit and Governance Committee is invited to consider the report.

3. Background

- 3.1 Risk profiling is a systematic risk identification and evaluation process designed to provide an organisation with a clear focus on the major risk issues it faces. The Profile identifies measures to assist in ensuring those risks are managed; appropriate opportunities are taken advantage of; targets are achieved and service delivery improved.
- 3.2 The Corporate Risk Management Group carries out a six monthly review of the Corporate Risk Profile, the results of which are reported to the Audit and Governance Committee and Cabinet. The Profile reflects the substantial changes and challenges the Council faces in its ambitious agenda for the future. This report contains the findings of the latest review completed in November 2008. Please note that although the review was completed in November 2008, this is the first meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee since then.

4. Current Position

- 4.1 The Corporate Risk Management Group carries out programmed major reviews of the Risk Profile in March and September each year, the latest review having now been completed.
- 4.2 The latest robust review confirmed that the Corporate Risk Profile identified and detailed the major risks facing the Council. However within individual areas issues evolve and develop and new or amended actions have been recommended to ensure successful management of these issues. Only two major changes have been made to the

Corporate Risk Profile review, which are highlighted in section 5 below. A copy of the Profile is also attached.

5. Changes to the Corporate Risk Profile

- 5.1 A new risk issue “Sunderland Strategic Transport Corridor” (Risk ID 33) has been added and actions have been included to mitigate the risks relating to this major new capital project.
- 5.2 Additionally the Corporate Risk Management Group in its review in September 2008 recognised that the onset of the current international financial markets crisis could have major implications for the Council. As a result the Corporate Risk Profile includes broad actions to monitor and review the ongoing position to identify possible service and financial impacts on the Council, and specific reference is made in Risk ID 28 “Financial Pressures”.
- 5.3 To take into account previous comments by the Audit and Governance Committee regarding the tracking of the performance of the actions from one review of the Profile to the next the format of the document had been amended. This now more clearly identifies which actions have been completed; which actions are on target; which actions have not met their particular deadline and any new actions that have been identified.

6. Reason for the Decision

- 6.1 To ensure that the major risk issues the Council faces are being actively managed.

7. Alternative Options

- 7.1 There are no alternative options to this report.

8. Background Papers

Audit and Governance Committee Report – Corporate Risk Profile – September 2006

Audit and Governance Committee Report – Corporate Risk Profile – March 2007

Audit and Governance Committee – Corporate Risk Profile June 2007

Audit and Governance Committee – Corporate Risk Profile March 2008

Audit and Governance Committee – Corporate Risk Profile June 2008