

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Item No 7

MEETING: 13 SEPTEMBER 2021

SUBJECT: CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT

JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE (THE CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY) THE FINANCE DIRECTOR AND THE PERSONNEL ADVISOR TO THE AUTHORITY

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the outcome of the recent review of the services Risk Management (RM) process. It also details the latest refresh of the Authority's Corporate Risk Register (CRR) with a view to raising awareness of the risks currently faced by the Authority.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the request of the Corporate Risk Management Group (CRMG) a comprehensive review of the services approach to RM was undertaken by the Business Assurance Manager, Resilience Team in February 2021.
- 2.2 Recommendations to streamline the RM process were presented to and agreed by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) at their meeting on 6 April 2021 and subsequently endorsed by the CRMG at their meeting on 14 June 2021. A summary of key changes to the process can be seen below:-
- The cessation of the bi-annual CRMG and introduction of an enhanced reporting cycle of the CRR to members of ELT as part of their standing agenda at monthly management meetings (both removing the duplication of meetings and increasing corporate oversight).
 - The introduction of a bi-annual progress report to members, submitted to the Full Authority in June and December of each cycle of meetings.
 - Introduction of a 'live' CRR within Microsoft Teams facility to ensure continual updates to risks are captured consistently at the same time increasing transparency.
 - Risk descriptors were reviewed and expanded to identify the origin of the risk and provide a more in depth narrative.
 - Corporate Risks were linked to Corporate Goals.
 - Clear links between Corporate Risks and Departmental Risks were identified and the CRR was updated to include a dashboard to departmental risks to draw all mitigating actions into one document.
 - Risk Management added to the Senior Leadership Teams (SLT) monthly standing agenda to provide a vehicle to escalate emerging risks to the CRR via the Chair of SLT (member of ELT).

- 2.3 Following implementation of recommendations the CRR was reviewed and recommendations to 'cleanse' the register were presented to ELT at their meeting on 4 May 2021. Recommendations were approved and the CRR was updated appropriately. This exercise was undertaken to provide assurance that the content of the CRR was relevant and risks were being managed appropriately.

3 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER (CRR)

- 3.1 The CRR hosts details of risks that could have a significant impact on the medium and long-term goals of the Authority. The CRR currently has 10 risks listed.
- 3.2 Risks are categorised using a 5x5 risk matrix producing a score between 1 and 25 which subsequently allocates a risk rating ranging from trivial to Intolerable. Risks that are above the trivial/tolerable threshold (moderate, substantial or intolerable) require further consideration and a decision taken as to how the risk should be treated and where these are on a Department risk register, whether they potentially should be escalated for inclusion within the CRR (agreed by ELT).
- 3.3 Of the 10 risks currently on the CRR, 2 risks have been categorised as having a 'substantial' impact on the service should the risk not be treated and mitigated against appropriately, namely:-
- 11/02 Risk that financial pressures will impact on Service's decision making and delivery of its goals/priorities and objectives.
- 01/20 Risk that the impending Remedy for Age Discrimination in Pension Schemes results in detrimental Financial and workforce impacts for the Service.
- 3.4 The remainder of the risks are classified at 'moderate' and can be seen within the CRR, attached as Appendix A.

4 FUTURE REPORTING

- 4.1 As part of the changes to the risk management procedure a bi-annual progress report will be submitted to members (June and December) each year to ensure members are aware of the risks to the Authority and are sighted on the mitigating factors being undertaken to manage the risk appropriately.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 The CRR directly supports Goal 2 of the 2020-21 Strategic Community Safety Plan (interim) 'to respond appropriately to the risk'.
- 5.2 Regular updating and approval of the Authority's CRR will ensure that the Authority has in place suitable and appropriate arrangements to mitigate the risks facing the Authority and its staff in delivering services to our community.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no financial implications in respect of this report.

7 EQUALITY AND FAIRNESS IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no equality and fairness implications in respect of this report.

8 HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no health and safety implications in respect of this report.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The Authority is recommended to:

- a) Review the content of this report.
- b) Receive further reports as appropriate.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The under mentioned Background Papers refer to the subject matter of the above report:

ELT Report of 6 April 2021 – Review of Risk Management
ELT Report of 4 May 2021 – Corporate Risk Management
Admin Procedure 2.38 – Risk Management Procedure

