



Governance Scrutiny Group

Thursday, 23 February 2023

Draft Risk Management Strategy 2023 - 2026

Report of the Director – Finance and Corporate Services

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The current Risk Management Strategy is due to expire in April 2023. A review has taken place and changes have been made to reflect best practice as a result of further risk management training for officers and members of the Group last Autumn.
- 1.2. The Council's Risk Management Strategy forms the framework within which risks are identified, articulated, assessed and managed. Identified risks are reviewed monthly by Lead Specialists, bi-monthly by Service Managers, and twice a year by the Risk Management Group and Governance Scrutiny Group.

2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that Governance Scrutiny Group:

- a) Considers the attached draft Risk Management Strategy for 2023-2026
- b) Approves the Risk Management Strategy for 2023-2026.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1. To provide guidance on the review of the Risk Management Strategy and the Council's approach to risk management to demonstrate good governance.

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1. Rushcliffe Borough Council takes risk management seriously and has had a Risk Management Strategy since 2010. This Strategy provides guidance and assurances that are used in order to identify, mitigate and control risks that have potential impact on the strategic and operational business of the Council.
- 4.2. The Council in the past has used Zurich Municipal to deliver training to both officers and councillors and will continue to ensure specialist training continues to be provided. Risk management specialists are also on hand to provide advice on increasing the effectiveness of the Strategy and ensuring that the Council continues to follow best practice.

- 4.3. Zurich provided training for key officers in July 2022, to follow up on training provided in 2019 and 2016. Zurich also provided training to members of the Governance Scrutiny Group in November 2022. Current best practice has been drawn from the training and implemented within the draft Strategy.
- 4.4. The Council's Internal Audit provider BDO also conducted an audit of the Council's Risk Management process during 2022 and made the following recommendations:
- Risk registers should be reviewed by risk owners and re-worded where risk - cause - consequence is unclear
 - Similarly, mitigating controls and actions detailed in Pentana and reporting should be SMART. The descriptions of these actions should provide the reader with reasonable assurance that they would be able to minimise the likelihood of the risk materialising to an acceptable level. Implementation dates and action owners for each recorded action should be stated to ensure actions are being implemented in a timely manner.
- 4.5. The following changes have been made to the Strategy:
- More comprehensive introduction and explanation of the RBC Risk Management process
 - Reference to the recent training from Zurich Insurance and BDO audit
 - Reference to Pentana, the Council's performance monitoring system which includes a risk management module
 - Information about the monitoring and review process of both risks and the Risk Management Strategy
 - Alterations to the roles and responsibilities section to reflect the internal management restructure of 2021.
- 4.6. A revised Risk Management Strategy is presented at Appendix One.

5. Risks and Uncertainties

- 5.1. Maintaining a responsive risk register is essential to the Council's ability to manage potential risks focusing attention on controls and mitigating actions.

6. Implications

6.1. Financial Implications

6.1.1. Risk Management training will be met from the Council's existing budgets.

6.1.2. Indirectly a more robust risk management process will ensure financial risks are minimised.

6.2. Legal Implications

No direct legal implications.

6.3. Equalities Implications

The risk of not complying with Equalities legislation is an active risk on the Council's risk register and is monitored and reviewed regularly.

6.4. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Implications

No direct implications.

7. Link to Corporate Priorities

Quality of Life	The report links to all key themes within the Corporate Strategy
Efficient Services	
Sustainable Growth	
The Environment	

8. Recommendations

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For more information contact:	Peter Linfield Director of Finance and Corporate Services Tel: 0115 9148439 plinfield@rushcliffe.gov.uk
Background papers available for Inspection:	
List of appendices:	Appendix One – Draft Risk Management Strategy 2023-2026