

**Risks**

Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Description	Consequences	Opportunities	Risk Owner	Risk Manager	Current Controls	Mitigating Actions	Date added	Date Updated	Curr. Score	Tgt Score	Trend
	<b>Business continuity</b>	Loss of key staff due to welfare reform and potential reduction in required resource	Inability to meet statutory requirements and to deliver services according to performance targets	With the expanded partnership we can ensure that skills are more widely held	Head of ARP and Strategic managers	Head of ARP	Staff are encouraged to take IRRV exams and internal structures allow for career progression	New partnership structures have widened knowledge base	01/04/14	07/12/2015	C3	C4	no change
	<b>Business continuity</b>	Loss of premises including loss of power/telecoms leading to loss of systems	Difficulty in finding some members of staff access to systems	Shared services mean that we operate from 4 centres and work can be carried out from 6 sites	Strategic Manager (Support)	Strategic Manager (Support)	Systems mirrored at 2 sites enabling work to continue. A number of staff are home enabled and more could be on a short term basis. Workers can be asked to travel to alternative sites.	Review of business continuity plan including test of accessibility of systems from all sites to be carried out	01/04/14	07/12/2015	E2	E2	no change
	<b>In House Enforcement Agency service</b>	Income from Enforcement Agency does not cover cost	The income budgeted for is not achieved	Income may exceed projected budget	Strategic Manager (Revenues)	Strategic Manager (Revenues)	Monitoring of performance of Enforcement Agency will determine income levels against expenditure	system is generating fees and collection commenced	01/04/14	07/12/2015	D3	E3	no change
	<b>Income from retained Business rates and Council Tax (Service Delivery Plan item 6)</b>	Income from NDR and Council Tax do not meet budgeted amount	The income available to the Councils is insufficient to meet needs	Income may exceed projected budget	Strategic Manager (Revenues)	Strategic Manager (Revenues)	All Partners have achieved projected income levels for 2014/15 monitoring will continue for 2015/16	The NNDR1 and Taxbase calculations include provision for bad debt and appeals - on target to meet spending requirements	01/04/14	07/12/2015	C2	C2	no change
	<b>Localised Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS) (Service Delivery Plan item 6)</b>	Upon LCTRS review the reduction in help received by LCTRS claimants is reduced to the point where they can not afford to pay	Customers are asked to pay more than they can afford and arrears accrue	Increased income from Council Tax could be achieved	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Current scheme has set payment levels below the actual cost of the scheme to the partner Councils which gives realistic opportunity to recover most of the debt through attachment to Benefit	Current scheme has set payment levels below the actual cost of the scheme to the partner Councils which gives realistic opportunity to recover	01/04/14	07/12/2015	D3	D3	Reached target score
	<b>A partner or partners leave the partnership</b>	A reduction in partners could occur for a number of reasons in the future such as Local Govt reorganisation	Possible loss of key staff and TUPE implications - loss of resilience - also leading to increased cost of service and reduction in VFM	Develop trading opportunities to carry out some functions for other Councils	Head of ARP	Head of ARP	Partnering agreements will include notice period for cessation of partnership	Opportunities for trading to be considered and business cases developed	01/04/14	07/12/2015	D3	E3	no change

**Risks**

	<b>Billing and Benefit letter production</b>	External printer does not issue daily or annual bills and letters within legal timescale	Bills may have first instalment date later than 01/04/2016 which could result in loss or delay in collection of Council Tax and Business Rates	The contract will offer significant savings to the Councils	Strategic manager (support)	Strategic manager (support)	2015/16 annual billing process successful and daily bills and letters designed and active with printers	The process was carried out successfully last year and testing will ensure that all documents are sent with correct information and on time	01/04/14	07/12/2015	<b>E2</b>	<b>E2</b>	Reached target score
	<b>staff leaving</b>	With SFIS and UC coming and the move to automated processes some staff are feeling vulnerable	increase in work out standing leading to customer complaints and loss in subsidy	To make use of overtime and Agency staff to cover short term issues and continued use of temporary appointments	Head of ARP	Head of ARP	Contact maintained with Agencies who can provide experienced agency staff	Contact maintained with Agencies who can provide experienced agency staff resilience business case to go to Joint Committee linked to ARP	01/04/14	07/12/2015	<b>E2</b>	<b>E2</b>	no change
	<b>Housing benefit subsidy shortfall</b>	Overpayments that are a local authority's fault can be claimed back as income if the value is less than 0.48% of the overall HB expenditure.	If LA error is not kept below this level it can have a significant financial impact on councils	To ensure that processes and procedures are correct and are followed and to ensure that backlogs do not effect LA error	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Rigorous procedures and high level of professional training. We have a Quality Assurance team that test accuracy levels and looks for and at areas of weakness all councils were kept below LA error levels for audited claims for 2013/14	To continue to use overtime and agency where vacancies mean that there is a risk to subsidy. To continue to apply QA to areas identified in audits and random testing to identify other areas of risk / error	11/12/14	07/12/2015	<b>C3</b>	<b>C3</b>	no change
	<b>Universal Credit implementation</b>	Uncertainty over future funding from DWP and CLG from 2016/17. Affect upon customers currently receiving HB and resultant impact on customer teams	From April 16 UC will be rolled out to new claimants but later a managed migration of HB caseload will occur - the impact on customers and social Landlords will be enormous if the migration falters	To continue to work with the DWP and Stakeholders to jointly offer customers assistance in making the transition	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	We have entered in to an agreement with DWP to jointly help customers to make the transition and agreed a Universal Support Partnership with them	Continuing liaison with all partners and stakeholders to ensure all parties are aware of the changes and are preparing to help customers with the transition	11/12/14	07/12/2015	<b>C3</b>	<b>C3</b>	no change

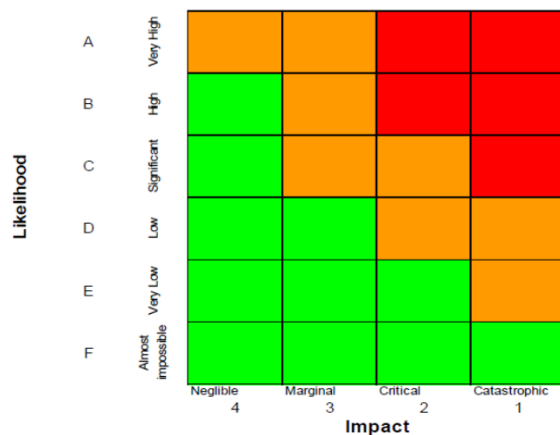
### Risks

<b>Fraud and Error</b>	Risk of Fraud entering the system upon transfer of staff to the DWP - LCTRS fraud and Council Tax fraud will not be investigated by the DWP - retained service has to be self funding	If no service is retained by the partnership then Fraud will not be identified in cases.	To submit claims for FERIS funding to resource interventions in cases currently receiving benefit and to present a business case for a retained team of investigators - seeking joint funding from County and Police	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Team retained to investigate LCTRS, Tenancy, Ctax discount/exemptions and NNDR from 1/9/15	Discussions have taken place with County Councils and we await there funding decisions	11/12/14	07/12/2015	<b>C2</b>	<b>C2</b>	Reached target score
<b>Welfare reform</b>	The government have announced that they intend to make Further cuts from the welfare budget - this could mean reductions in grant funding for the administration of HB and LCTRS	If funding is reduced the Councils need to decide whether to reduce benefits compliment and cost or how the cuts in grants will have to be funded	To consider options for delivering services for other Councils which would see resource retained and income generated	Head of ARP	Strategic Manager (Benefits)	Awaiting Government announcement concerning where cuts may fall	After cuts announced an impact analysis and options appraisal will be carried out so that recommendations can be made to the Joint Committee	07/05/15	07/12/2015	<b>B1</b>	<b>C3</b>	no change

### Risk management process and toolkit

#### Step 3 – Prioritisation using the matrix below

- How likely is this risk?
- How big an impact will this risk have?



#### Steps 4 and 5 – Mitigation and monitoring

Mitigation	Monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess current actions and controls .... Adequate or more needed.</li> <li>• Within your Service Plans -develop specific SMART actions that will either reduce the likelihood of the risks or minimise the impact.</li> <li>• What should the score be after you have taken action?</li> </ul>	Review the Risk Register with colleagues (for example, as part of your Service Plan) at least quarterly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risks changed?</li> <li>• New risks?</li> <li>• Need to report or escalate risks?</li> <li>• Risks ranking changed?</li> </ul>

#### Definitions

Likelihood		Impact	Example Descriptions
Very High	> 90%	Negligible	Financial impact below £10k, no effect on partnership / service provision or reputation, minor delays to a project, limited physical consequences
High	55% -90%	Marginal	£10k - £200K, service slightly reduced broken bones/illness, objectives of one team not met, minor adverse local media, impact on an external inspection (s)
Significant	15%- 55%	Critical	£200K - £500k, service suspended short term / reduced, loss of life/major illness, service objectives not met, industrial action, adverse national publicity, service taken over temporarily
Low	5% - 15%	Catastrophic	£500k +, partnership / service suspended long term, statutory duties not delivered, major loss of life/large scale major illness, corporate objectives not met, mass staff leaving/unable to attract staff, Remembered for years!! Service taken over permanently
Very Low	1% - 5%		
Almost Impossible	0% - 1%		

## Risks