

BRECKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of: Jason Cole - Executive Director
To: Governance and Audit Committee- Thursday 2nd December 2021
Author: Ryan Pack - Innovation and Change Business Partner
Subject: Strategic Risk Update
Purpose: To inform the Committee on the status of the Councils' strategic risks

Recommendation(s):

- 1) That the contents of the report are noted

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report presents the current status of the Council's strategic risks as of September 2021. The committee last reviewed the council's strategic risks at their meeting in June 2021.
- 1.2 Strategic risks are captured on the Corporate Dashboard which is available to the Central Management Team (CMT) and reviewed by CMT and GOLD as required while we remain in COVID response and COVID recovery.
- 1.3 Strategic risks have been reviewed and updated with responsible members of the Central Management Team. These cover the over-arching risks that may affect the strategic direction of the council, rather than risks linked to business continuity.
- 1.4 In their nature, strategic risks have been identified as having the potential to cause organisation-wide impact and will often cover a number of key services and departments.
- 1.5 The Council's risk scoring mechanism is based on a 5x5 matrix and is comparable with best practice in other similar organisations. The risk matrix provides a comprehensive assessment and understanding of risk likelihood and impact. The matrix results in a numerical score that combines the impact of the risk occurring with the likelihood of it happening.
- 1.6 Risks fall into High, Medium or Low categories depending on their rating.

High	
Medium	
Low	

- 1.7 Risks are tracked below in a heat map to represent the number of strategic risks currently reported at each score.
- 1.8 There are 12 risks included within the update report

The risks are made up of the following

Level of identified risk	September 2021	December 2021
High	3	6
Medium	8	6
Low	0	0

- 1.9 One risk has been added to the register since it was last seen by the committee. This is:
- General Data Protection Regulations
- 1.10 This risk has been reintroduced as the result of two specific events which are listed in the latest note under the risk. This risk has been classified as a high risk due to its nature.
- 1.11 During Q3, the most notable change to a risk was the cyber security risk. As a result of a cyber incident, this risk did reach a likelihood of 5 during Q3. Subsequently, it has been revised down to a 4, which still represents a slight increase in terms of likelihood. This is the only risk to have moved from medium to high risk during Q3.
- 1.12 Another notable change to the risk register was the downgrading of the HGV driver shortage risk. This is due to there now being a greater pool of drivers for the council to use and therefore a lower risk of service disruption.
- 1.12 One change likely to occur between the Q3 and Q4 risk reports is the breaking down of the current waste consultation risk. This is as a result of decisions being made in relation to the consultation meaning that the council can begin to assess each component part of the consultation and any potential risks to the organisation.
- 1.14 Both COVID-19 risks remain at the same level and continue to be monitored by the council's CMT and external bodies that the council engages with.

2.0 **OPTIONS**

- 2.1 Note the contents of the report and the recommendation and do nothing.

3.0 **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4.0 **EXPECTED BENEFITS**

- 4.1 That the Committee is made aware of the Council's strategic risks and understands that they are being managed and mitigated effectively.

5.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 **Carbon Footprint / Environmental Issues**

- 5.1.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no carbon footprint or environmental implications.

5.2 **Constitution & Legal**

5.2.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no direct constitutional or legal implications.

5.3 **Contracts**

5.3.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no direct contract implications.

5.4 **Corporate Priorities**

5.4.1 This report contains information on strategic risks relevant to the delivery of the Councils corporate priorities.

5.5 **Crime and Disorder**

5.5.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no direct crime and disorder implications.

5.6 **Equality and Diversity / Human Rights**

5.6.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no direct equality or human rights implications.

5.7 **Financial**

5.7.1 This report contains information on strategic risks relevant to the Council's budgets and financial management.

5.8 **Health & Wellbeing**

5.8.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no health or wellbeing implications.

5.9 **Reputation**

5.9.1 Risks which come to fruition have some reputational consequences. It is the purpose of the risk management strategy to manage potential outcomes by means of control measures.

5.10 **Risk Management**

5.10.1 This report provides details on the Council's strategic risks.

5.11 **Safeguarding**

5.11.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no direct safeguarding implications as a result of this report.

5.12 **Staffing**

5.12.1 This report contains information on strategic risks relevant to the delivery of the Council's corporate priorities.

5.13 **Stakeholders / Consultation / Timescales**

5.13.1 It is the opinion of the author that there are no direct implications arising from this report.

6.0 **WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED**

6.1 Non applicable

7.0 **ACRONYMS**

7.1 CMT: Central Management team

7.2 HGV: Heavy Goods Vehicle

7.3 GDPR: General Data Protection Regulations

Background papers:- None

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Key Decision: No

Exempt Decision: No

This report refers to a Discretionary Service

Appendices attached to this report: (list appendices below or delete)

Appendix A Breckland District Council Strategic Risk Register

Appendix B Breckland District Council Strategic Risk Matrix