Report Title:	RBWM Risk Management Report
Contains	No - Part I
Confidential or	
Exempt Information	
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Hilton, Cabinet Member for Finance
	and Ascot
Meeting and Date:	Audit and Governance Committee – 19 May
	2022
Responsible	Adele Taylor, Executive Director of Resources
Officer(s):	and Section 151 Officer
	Andrew Vallance, Head of Finance and
	Deputy Section 151 Officer
Wards affected:	All



REPORT SUMMARY

- 1. This report sets out how satisfactory risk management is in place for RBWM as part of its governance arrangements.
- 2. It includes:
 - the key strategic risks and how they are monitored and managed.
 - RBWM's "approach to management of risk 1 April 2022 31 March 2023" which describes the application of risk management techniques used by RBWM.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

RECOMMENDATION: That the Audit and Governance committee notes the report.

2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Options

Table 1: Options arising from this report

Option	Comments
To note this report.	The Council is required to publish
This is the recommended option.	an annual governance statement
	in which a fundamental
	requirement is to demonstrate
	how it manages risk.
Not note this report.	Without any risk management
This is not recommended.	structure it is far more likely the
	Council will have insufficient
	awareness of risks and be
	exposed to the impact of
	unnecessary levels of risk.

- 2.1 Risk management is a governance process open to scrutiny from councillors and the public at RBWM's Audit and Governance Committee meetings.
- 2.2 Making sound use of risk management processes supports good strategy setting, operational performance and effective service delivery to residents.
- 2.3The purpose of risk analysis is to help all decision-makers get a better understanding of a realistic array of possibilities, what drives the associated uncertainty and hence where efforts can be best concentrated to manage this uncertainty.
- 2.4 The corporate risk register records the risks relating to RBWM's strategic and operational objectives. The risk registers are appropriate at the point in time at which they are produced and require consideration to be given to a broad range of potential risks and outcomes. Anything that could inhibit the way in which such risks are expressed would weaken the quality of decision making when determining the most appropriate response to a risk.
- 2.5 Risks potentially carrying the most damaging impacts on our measurement scale are classified as key risks. However, the inclusion of risks within any level of risk register does not mean there is an immediate problem but instead it signifies that officers are aware of potential risks and have devised strategies for the implementation of any relevant mitigating controls.
- 2.6 Appendix A contains a current summary of the key strategic risks. These risks were last presented to Members at the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee on 21 October 2021. Since that report 2 key risks have been removed and 2 added. Although the full articulation of the newly created "acting unlawfully" risk is not finalised the draft threat wording is included below in 2.6.3:

2.6.1 **Removed: failure to deliver a sound Borough Local Plan**. Since the plan is now in place any subsequent risks to RBWM will be from workflows following its adoption. The risk of not actually having a plan has gone.

2.6.2 **Removed: use of s106 monies**. Officers consider this exposure to have lessened to a significant degree and the more probable risk to be around the impacts of the "levelling up" agenda.

2.6.3 **Added: acting unlawfully.** Failure to comply with council constitution and code of conduct exposes council/elected members to criticism, loss of confidence from electorate and general reputation damage. The most likely cause is insufficient knowledge regarding the constitution. There needs to be understanding of the content in order to expect adherence to it as well as suitable governance

2.6.4 **Added:** Funding risk arising from "levelling up" agenda.

- 2.7 Members are notified of the key risks where they are named as the risk owner typically as part of a Member briefing. Officers are tasked with ensuring that any comments by Members are reflected in the assessment.
- 2.8 Risk reports are reviewed and debated by senior management which gives the opportunity for challenge and discussion. If any risks are of such low impact that

there is no good reason to continue including them in these discussions, then they are removed from the risk register. This is also an opportune moment to incorporate any new risks into this governance structure.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly	Date of
				Exceeded	delivery
Lead officers and Members are engaged in regular risk reviews of the risk register - the nature of the threat and the progress on mitigations.	Risks are left without officer or Member attention.	Quarterly reviews.	Risks are reviewed more frequently than quarterly.	None.	Ongoing by quarterly review.
Officers and Members make strategic, operational and investment decisions around projects with the risks in mind.	Risks are left without officer or Member attention.	Monthly reviews.	Risks are reviewed more frequently than monthly.	None.	Ongoing until conclusion as part of project management.

Table 2: Key Implications

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

4.1 There are no explicit financial consequences arising from this report. However, risk owners need to contemplate resource implications when devising their mitigation strategies.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are potential legal implications should a risk occur to the Council that is not prepared for. The purpose of risk management is to provide awareness of these so that management can make a risk-based judgement.
- 5.2The Council must comply with Regulation 6 (2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 by publishing an Annual Governance Statement which demonstrates how it manages risk.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Level of uncontrolled risk	Controls	Level of controlled risk
The Council fails to make good use of risk management processes. Management and Members have insufficient awareness of those risks which carry the potential to severely damage the organisation and affect residents. Risk register ref: IRM0003	HIGH	 Risks are reviewed by risk owners, the senior management team and Members. The Audit and Governance Committee provides a mechanism for examination of the process. Quarter 1 audit of risk management by SWAP Internal Audit Services. Indicative timescale is for close out meeting on 13 June 2022. 	LOW

Table 3: Impact of risk and mitigation

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 7.1 Equalities. None directly although some risks may from time to time contain obligations in this area that need to be considered.
- 7.2 Climate change/sustainability. None directly although some risks may, from time to time, include associated obligations.
- 7.3Data Protection/GDPR. None directly although some risks may, from time to time, involve related obligations.

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 This matter was last presented to the Audit and Governance Committee on 21st October 2021. Consultations have taken place with Directors' Forum, Heads of Service, directorate management teams and the previous Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Panel who received iterations of this report during 2019/20.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION – not applicable

10. APPENDICES

10.1 This report is supported by three appendices:

A - heat map showing assessment of current key strategic risk impact/likelihoods

B - detail of the key risks summarised in appendix A.

C - Approach to Management of Risk 1 April 22 – 31 March 23 which has three appendices:

- 1 impact/likelihood scoring metrics.
- 2 risk classifications.
- 3 risk appetite definitions and assessment scoring criteria.

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

11.1 This report is not supported by any background documents:

12. CONSULTATION

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Date returned
Mandatory:	Statutory Officers (or deputies)		
Adele Taylor	Executive Director of	27/04/22	
	Resources/S151 Officer		
Emma Duncan	Deputy Director of Law and		
	Strategy / Monitoring Officer		
Deputies:			
Andrew Vallance	Head of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer)	27/04/22	10/05/22
Elaine Browne	Head of Law (Deputy Monitoring Officer)		
Karen Shepherd	Head of Governance (Deputy Monitoring Officer)		
Mandatory:	Procurement Manager (or		
	deputy) - if report requests		
	approval to award, vary or		
	extend a contract	1	
Lyn Hitchinson	Procurement Manager	n/a	
Other consultees:			
Directors (where relevant)			
Duncan Sharkey	Chief Executive	10/05/22	11/05/22
Andrew Durrant	Executive Director of Place		
Kevin McDaniel	Executive Director of Children's Services		
Hilary Hall	Executive Director of Adults,		
	Health and Housing		
Heads of Service			
(where relevant)			
N/a External (where			
External (where			
relevant) N/a			
Confirmation	Cabinet Member for Finance	Yes	10/05/22
relevant Cabinet	and Ascot	165	10/03/22

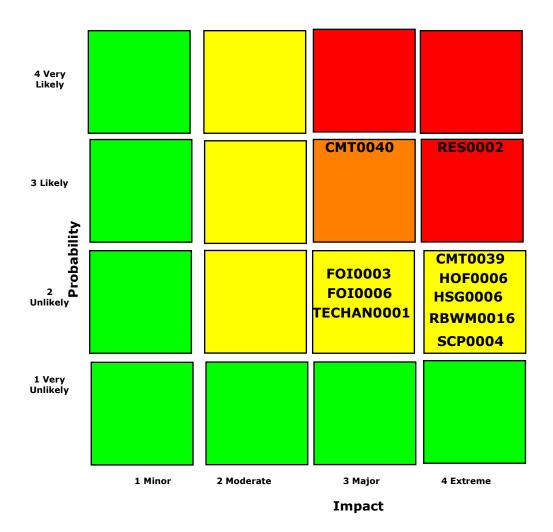
Member(s)		
consulted		

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type:	Urgency item?	To follow item?
For information	No	No

Report Author: Steve Mappley, Insurance and Risk Manager 01628 796202

Appendix A - Current key strategic risks



Detailed Risk Information

Current Risk Rating	Risk Ref	Summary	Assigned To	Review Date
12	RES0002	 Maidenhead regeneration programme 1. The large schemes do not commence delivery as planned leaving the town weakened as an offer with reduced footfall making it less likely investment will be attracted in the future. Potential impact on Council commercial interests as well. 2. Changes in the economy, particularly influenced by Covid-19, could affect the benefits that can be realised e.g. a loss of consumer confidence, loss of office workers and rising build costs would affect the financial viability of schemes and could result in stalled development or completed development not being as attractive/successful as planned. 3. Ensuring effective join up of sites and infrastructure delivery. With so many different sites being developed/planned there could be a long-term issue of the town centre being a 'building site' so scheduling works and keeping businesses open will be critical. Similarly, development of infrastructure needs to make sure it is delivered when (or before) need. 4. Funding markets do not support the quantum of development leading to delay in commencing schemes. 5. Impact on capital receipts. 	Adele Taylor (as client)	26/07/2022
9	CMT0040	Insufficient local community resilience which could lead to residents being without the necessary assistance and increased financial impact on RBWM should a critical event occur. Underdeveloped and untested business continuity planning may reduce the ability of the council to provide critical functions in the event of emergency situation. Covid has tested all sorts of BCP, and we have responded well to this pandemic emergency challenge.	David Scott	08/08/2022
8	СМТ0039	The UK is facing threats and not just from groups inspired by al Qaida e.g, far right extremists, disenfranchised groups. There is the risk of security and community problems putting residents and visitors at risk of personal injury arising from the actions and behaviour of such groups, particularly in the area around Windsor. This is due to the high volume of visitors, the military and ceremonial links to the town centre and castle as well as being under the flight path. Clause 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act requires LAs to establish panels (in RBWM's case, the Channel Panel) to assess the extent to which identified individuals are 'vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism'.	David Scott	08/08/2022
8	HOF0006	Historically, the council's financial strategy has not been effective in dealing with pressures. The CIPFA action plan along with a robust MTFS and improved budget management (as detailed in the last two budgets) have stabilised matters. Addressing the impact of several years of low CTax bills is a concern. It is expected the council should soon be in a position to boost its reserves. Confidence level: strong degree of confidence that the assessments accurately capture the current position in risk terms. Timescale: as at Spring 2022, our aim is that within 2-3 years the impact of our mitigations will result in sufficient resilience.	Andrew Vallance	26/07/2022

Detailed Risk Information

Current Risk Rating	Risk Ref	Summary	Assigned To	Review Date
8	HSG0006	1. Lack of joint early planning between children's services, adult social care and health can potentially lead to children and young people with high needs, who will need to transition to adult services, not being identified early enough for their ongoing costs to be built into future planning/Medium Term Financial Strategy.	Hilary Hall and Kevin McDaniel	21/08/2022
		 Lack of early joint planning between children's and adult services may limit opportunities to prepare young people for adulthood and independence. 		
		3. Lack of sufficient accommodation in the borough often leads to young people being placed out of borough in expensive placements leading to higher costs and loss of contact with their communities.		
8	RBWM0016	The novel coronavirus (COVID 19) outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in January 2020 and a pandemic in March 2020. It presents a significant challenge for the country and local authorities. This pandemic has exposed a vulnerability to whole-system emergencies – that is, emergencies that are so broad that they engage the entire system.	Hilary Hall/Kevin McDaniel/Stuart Lines/David Scott	09/05/2022
		There is not a single area of local government that is not affected by the COVID 19 pandemic so a separate risk register details the works being done in this area.		
		Note the current risk rating and appetite metrics will vary depending on the area of impact. Thus the values depicted here should be read with that in mind.		
		The council's response to the COVID emergency is testament to the robustness of the Council's emergency planning.		
8	SCP0004	 Council owned companies or major contractors delivering statutory and discretionary services on behalf of the council fail and/or go out of business as a result of increased demand or poor performance. Leads to: Statutory services for children and adults not delivered. Resident facing community services, such as highways or waste collection, not delivered. Reputational damage to the council. Potential risks to public health. Vulnerable adults and children may be left more at risk. Problems in maintaining the streetscene to a safe level leading to highways injuries/claims against the statutory highway authority. 	Hilary Hall/Andrew Durrant	18/05/2022
6	FOI0003	(a) Serious external security breaches, (b) data loss or damage to data caused by inadequate information security leads to delays and errors in business processes.	Nikki Craig	07/07/2022

Detailed Risk Information

Current Risk Rating	Risk Ref	Summary	Assigned To	Review Date
6	FOI0006	Statutory breach arising from non-compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2016 leads to reputation damage e.g. naming and shaming and fines potentially up to €20m (that level of fine is unlikely to be applied to a local authority although low 6 figure fines from the ICO in that regard have occurred) as well as legal action costs following judicial remedies.	Karen Shepherd	07/05/2022
		Adequacy status was granted to the UK in June 2021 meaning all data processing with the EU/EEA will continue as it did before EU withdrawal.		
		Non-compliance can only be identified if a breach actually occurs. The type of information breach is key - only if significant harm is likely to arise from the breach are fines expected to be punitive.		
		Regulators can also issue enforcement action in the form of temporary or permanent bans on processing.		
		Confidence level in accuracy of current risk assessment: medium.		
6			Nikki Capia	26/07/2022
	TECHAN0001	If there is an IT infrastructure failure i.e. data storage infrastructure, systems access or total loss of council data centre then this could affect the ability of RBWM to function normally.	Nikki Craig	26/07/2022
		Several large consecutive and concurrent projects are scheduled for 22/23 and 23/24.		
		Details are within the IT risk register of which this is a summary.		
		Causes: External cyber threats e.g. distributed denial of service (DDOS) attacks.		
		Loss/damage/denial of access to primary, secondary or hosted data centres. Accidental or deliberate loss of data or physical/logical failure to disk		
		drive. Lapse of accreditation to Public Services Network. Physical or virtual server corruption or failure.		
		This could lead to: - increased costs of downtime in the event of insufficient back up		

- expensive emergency service to rectify at short notice.

Risk Ref	Headline	Implemented or ongoing controls	Assessment	Controls not fully developed	Changes made at last review	Owners
			Appetite			
RES0002	Maidenhead regeneration programme fails to deliver expected benefits.	1. CPO for the Landings granted and CPO for the Nicholson Centre about to commence.	12 High	1. Council as an anchor investor.	Reviewed 06/04/22. Prop Co governance review of their own risk register proposed.	Clir Andrew Johnson
1. The large town weake	d regeneration programme e schemes do not commence delivery as planned leaving the ened as an offer with reduced footfall making it less likely will be attracted in the future. Potential impact on Council	 Regular engagement via PropCo with developers, tenants and business organisations. 	8 - Medium			Adele Taylor (as client)
commercial 2. Changes affect the b	interests as well. in the economy, particularly influenced by Covid-19, could enefits that can be realised e.g. a loss of consumer confidence,	 Planning and other regulatory functions are resourced and responding in a timely manner to need. 				
viability of s developme	e workers and rising build costs would affect the financial schemes and could result in stalled development or completed nt not being as attractive/successful as planned. effective join up of sites and infrastructure delivery. With so	4. Consideration with developers and funders of the current market conditions.				
issue of the keeping bus	ent sites being developed/planned there could be a long term town centre being a 'building site' so scheduling works and sinesses open will be critical. Similarly development of re needs to make sure it is delivered when (or before) need.	5. PropCo and specialist legal team protecting the Council's direct interests.				
4. Funding delay in cor	markets do not support the quantum of development leading to nmencing schemes. n capital receipts.	 Consideration of the Council's place making role in driving or supporting delivery. 				
		 Landings on site and progressing, good progress on Shanly and Countryside Schemes as well. 				
		8. Any signed contracts contain minimum land values and are actively managed. Further income (overage) is not expected nor in MTFS.				

CMT0040 Fail to protect residents should an emergency incident occur

Insufficient local community resilience which could lead to residents being without the necessary assistance and increased financial impact on RBWM should a critical event occur.

Underdeveloped and untested business continuity planning may reduce the ability of the council to provide critical functions in the event of emergency situation.. Covid has tested all sorts of BCP, and we have responded well to this pandemic emergency challenge.

There is also the impact on RBWM from failures in our links with external networks and supply chains e.g. impact of local or global political unrest, any failure in the integrity for gas/electric/other utilities on which the council relies esp. re: vulnerable people.

1. Improve pool of EP silver or gold leaders.

2. Inter authority agreement in relation to JEPU in place (RBWM, WBDC and BFBC) to provide resilience with experts in the field.

3. Develop an action plan to get our emergency response back into business as usual.

4. Waste suppliers have confirmed their processes and arrangements in the event of severe weather.

5. Ensure sufficient resilience for IT systems/back ups in emergencies for the 24/7 control room or EOC.

6. Residential care homes have temporary alternative accommodation plans for vulnerable adults for use in emergency situations

7. The need for contractors to have BCPs in place is part of the commissioning and contracting process (but no testing process).

8. The new generator at Tinkers Lane is extended to provide wider back up to support greater emergency use of the depot.

- 1. Progress an action plan for improving resilience by way of developing training plans on a regular routine way based on risk.
- 6 Medium 2. Service BCPs continuing development. Original timeline disrupted by pandemic but this proved helpful to stress test the BCPs.

9

Medium/Hiah

Low

3. An effective means of testing plans is being put in place including, where possible, our key contractors.

4. Training package to upskill those responsible in services to undertake the work, including CLT, commencing 20/21.

5. Develop and support community based EP's in conjunction with parish councils working in propriety order with communities. **Cllr** Cannon

No changes.

David Scott

SCP0004 Failure of service provision

Council owned companies or major contractors delivering statutory and discretionary services on behalf of the council fail and/or go out of business as a result of increased demand or poor performance. Leads to:

- Statutory services for children and adults not delivered.

- Resident facing community services, such as highways or waste collection, not delivered.

- Reputational damage to the council.

- Potential risks to public health.

- Vulnerable adults and children may be left more at risk.

- Problems in maintaining the streetscene to a safe level leading to highways injuries/claims against the statutory highway authority.

The environmental/highways services and contracts all sit with Andrew Durrant.

1. Robust governance arrangements at Member and officer levels in place and operating.

2. Escalations, including financial penalties and "step in" procedures, in place for all contracts with clear triggers identified.

3. Identified contract managers in place.

4. Road categorisation project woven into HMMP.

5. Change control mechanisms in place across all contracts.

6. Tight contract monitoring - quarterly and monthly contract meetings.

7. Exit clauses/strategies negotiated and in place across all contracts.

8. Clear vision and business plans for all companies, aligned to the Council Plan.

9. Performance dashboard of key service and financial indicators - reviewed monthly and quarterly.

10. Published HMMP risk based as per 2018 Code of Practice to show our rationale in case of legal challenge.

8 None Medium

4 - Low

Reviewed by HH and AD 17/01/22. No changes. Need to confirm current assessment v appetite position as with no further mitigations listed, these metrics should be the same.

Cllr Carroll Cllr Stimson Cllr Clark and Cllr Cannon

Cllr Coppinger

Hilary Hall/Andrew Durrant

HOF0006 Effectiveness of the council's financial strategy

Historically, the council's financial strategy has not been effective in dealing with pressures. The CIPFA action plan along with a robust MTFS and improved budget management (as detailed in the last two budgets) have stabilised matters. Addressing the impact of several years of low CTax bills is a concern. It is expected the council should soon be in a position to boost its reserves.

Confidence level: strong degree of confidence that the assessments accurately capture the current position in risk terms. Timescale: as at Spring 2022, our aim is that within 2-3 years the impact of our mitigations will result in sufficient resilience.

- long term COVID pressures on income budgets e.g. parking, leisure.

- inflation pressures. Possible inflation and/or interest impacts.
- service pressures cannot be controlled or mitigated;
- reduction in income due to recession fees/charges/interest/severe income disparity across the borough;
- savings plans not achieved:
- cost of demand led services rises significantly beyond expectation;
- reduced resilience for services meeting strategic challenges (for instance. demographic pressures;
- increased number of child referrals and child specific placements.
- impact of changes driven by Social Care Bill (this requires a separate set
- of mitigations for this risk presently being addressed by Hilary Hall)

- Local Government reform and funding

HSG0006 Inadequate strategic planning between children's services, adults and health.

1. Lack of joint early planning between children's services, adult social care and health can potentially lead to children and young people with high needs, who will need to transition to adult services, not being identified early enough for their ongoing costs to be built into future planning/Medium Term Financial Strategy.

2. Lack of early joint planning between children's and adult services may limit opportunities to prepare young people for adulthood and independence.

3. Lack of sufficient accommodation in the borough often leads to young people being placed out of borough in expensive placements leading to higher costs and loss of contact with their communities.

1. Action plan completed on the outstanding issues arising from the CIPFA report.

2. Robust MTFP in place. Approved by Cabinet 22/07/21. Cabinet approved draft 22/23 budget Nov 21.

3. Director of resources' annual assessment of the need to retain reserves based on the key risk register financial exposures.

4. Budget manager bi-monthly forecasts proving effective and reported to cabinet alongside the finance adjusted forecast fiaure.

5. Finance management has a closely monitored corporate savings tracker noted monthly at CLT and reported bi monthly to Cabinet.

6. New team of business partners commenced Jan 22.

7. Increased focus on monitoring debt recovery programme.

1. Implementation of robust management controls in Optalis to manage funding packages and spend.

2. New operational procedures in place to plan and manage transitions between children's and adult services

3. Adult social worker based in CYPDS to manage transition cases.

4. Supported housing needs assessment completed in December 2021.

5. Improved "forward look" of cases in place to inform future years' budget planning.

8 Medium

4 - Low

1.5 year savings plans commencing 2021.

2. Continue to make improvements to budget build and review scope for business partner arrangements.

3. Reconstruct MTFS and align to corporate plan.

Reviewed 06/04/22 - added local Cllr Hilton govt reform and funding to scope of influencing factors. Andrew Vallance

1. Commissioning plan for supported Medium

8

6 - Medium

Low

housing being developed - for June 2022.

2. Transitions Strategy being developed for April 2022.

Reviewed by DASS and DCS February 2022. Risk reshaped in light of implemented controls

Hilarv Hall and Kevin McDaniel

Cllr Carroll

6. Annual transitions census day to review each case of young people >14 with additional needs to inform planning/commissioning.

RBWM00	Covid 19 response
16	

The novel coronavirus (COVID 19) outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in January 2020 and a pandemic in March 2020. It presents a significant challenge for the country and local authorities. This pandemic has exposed a vulnerability to whole-system emergencies - that is, emergencies that are so broad that they engage the entire system.

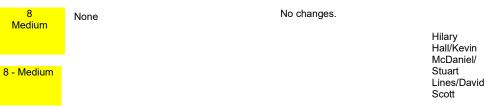
There is not a single area of local government that is not affected by the COVID 19 pandemic so a separate risk register details the works being done in this area.

Note the current risk rating and appetite metrics will vary depending on the area of impact. Thus the values depicted here should be read with that in mind.

The council's response to the COVID emergency is testament to the robustness of the Council's emergency planning.

1. RBWM Outbreak Control Plan.

2. There is an extensive risk register in support of the controls and detailed threats (contents deemed a Part 2 reporting matter).



No changes.

Cllr Cannon

CMT0039 Security	1. Permanent, integrated hostile vehicle mitigation measures in Windsor to ensure the safety of residents, phase 1a complete.	8 Medium	None	No changes.	Cllr Cannon David Scott
The UK is facing threats and not just from groups inspired by al Qaida e.g, far right extremists, disenfranchised groups. There is the risk of security and community problems putting residents and visitors at risk of personal injury arising from the actions and behaviour of such groups, particularly in the area around Windsor. This is due to the high volume of visitors, the military and ceremonial links to the town centre and castle as well as being	2. Counter Terrorism Local Profile used to help inform and shape our local understanding of threat levels/risks and thus plans.	8 - Medium			
under the flight path.	3. Evacuation plan for Windsor in place.				

8

Nono

Clause 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act requires LAs to establish panels (in RBWM's case, the Channel Panel) to assess the extent to which identified individuals are 'vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism'.

4. Community safety partnership strategy and action plan in place, updated annually.

5. Channel Panel and Prevent Delivery Board meet regularly and membership has been updated.

6. Update reports from DVS to the CLT on Channel arrangements and Prevent provided annually to the CLT.

7. Close partnership working with police and military to share intelligence and ensure risks are reduced.

8. TOR for Channel Panel, (administered and chaired by DVS) who assess risk and decide on support packages, refreshed in 18/19.

9. RBWM works closely with the One Borough group to build and maintain public inter-faith confidence in preventing all extremism.

1. Multiple data centres provides increased resilience.

2. £900k investment in modern workplace project phase 1. Completed March 2020.

3. Line of business systems hosted either on local servers or on remote cloud-hosted servers.

4. Council networks are protected by multiple security layers using firewall and other control technologies.

5. Physical Infrastructure controls - access controls, remote access capability, environmental monitoring, generator and UPS.

6. DDOS protection in place.

7. Phase 2 of modern workplace project

8. Disk drives are configured to use RAID technology.

9. Diverse routing of external network links supplied and supported by tier-one UK network suppliers.

1. Business Continuity/Disaster Recovery. All services' IT usage is understood. JEPU to steer next steps based on org'l needs.

6

Medium/Low

6 - Medium

Low

2. Network redesign and hardware replacement commenced with capital in 22/23 budget.

Reviewed 06/04/22. A few changes to controls regarding forthcoming projects 22/23 and Nikki Craig beyond.

Cllr Ravner

TECHAN0 IT Infrastructure failure 001

If there is an IT infrastructure failure i.e. data storage infrastructure, systems access or total loss of council data centre then this could affect the ability of RBWM to function normally.

Several large consecutive and concurrent projects are scheduled for 22/23 and 23/24.

Details are within the IT risk register of which this is a summary.

Causes:

External cyber threats e.g. distributed denial of service (DDOS) attacks. Loss/damage/denial of access to primary, secondary or hosted data centres.

Accidental or deliberate loss of data or physical/logical failure to disk drive. Lapse of accreditation to Public Services Network. Physical or virtual server corruption or failure.

This could lead to:

- increased costs of downtime in the event of insufficient back up
- expensive emergency service to rectify at short notice.

concluded

FOI0006 Data protection

Statutory breach arising from non-compliance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation 2016 leads to reputation damage e.g. naming and shaming and fines potentially up to €20m (that level of fine is unlikely to be applied to a local authority although low 6 figure fines from the ICO in that regard have occurred) as well as legal action costs following judicial remedies.

Adequacy status was granted to the UK in June 2021 meaning all data processing with the EU/EEA will continue as it did before EU withdrawal.

Non-compliance can only be identified if a breach actually occurs. The type of information breach is key - only if significant harm is likely to arise from the breach are fines expected to be punitive.

Regulators can also issue enforcement action in the form of temporary or permanent bans on processing.

Confidence level in accuracy of current risk assessment: medium.

- DPA requirements are:
- 1. Process fairly and lawfully.
- 2. Use only for the purposes it was originally obtained.

3. Ensure it is adequate, relevant and not excessive for the purposes for which it's processed.

4. Ensure it's accurate and up to date.

5. Retain only for the time period required to meet the organisation's reasonable requirements.

6. Process in accordance with rights of data subjects.

7. Adopt appropriate technical and organisational measures against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, damage or destruction of data.

Where the UK sends data to a non-EEA country, UK GDPR rules apply and standard contractual clauses should be used

The UK GDPR took effect from 1 January 2021. This is, in essence, the UK version of the existing EU GDPR which continues to apply to the rest of the European Union and has been modified to reflect the UK-specific context.

1. Update and keep maintained the Medium/Low corporate register of processing activities as per article 30 of GDPR.

2. Services are responsible for ensuring their own policies align to the UK Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR.

3. Reviewed information assets. Continuing development of the information asset register and updating entries by info asset owners

4. SIRO attended a one day SIRO training course 05/02/2020.

5. Officers required to undertake annual GDPR online training.

6. Online form to enable staff to easily and quickly report data security breaches.

7. Security induction and annual training procedure embedded in HR procedures and the appraisal process.

8. All RBWM-issued mobile devices are controlled by our mobile device management solution, Microsoft InTune.

9. Review all partnership agreements and determine the information sharing arrangements, updating as necessary.

10. Optalis and AfC data sharing and handling arrangements in place and part of contract management with major partners.

11. DPO and SIRO meet monthly to discuss any breaches and where necessary identify issues to be raised at CLT (by the SIRO).

12. Services are responsible for complying with applicable statutory retention timescales in their information asset registers.

13. GDPR - data protection risk overview reviewed monthly by DPO and SIRO. The contents are aligned to GDPR Articles and RAG rated.

1. Services to ensure they have complete registers of their held data at Iron Mountain guided by applicable retention schedule.

2. Establish with SIRO how the file 6 - Medium categorisation at Iron Mountain can be improved so that data is not held unnecessarily.

6

Low

3. Further develop service's privacy notices to ensure uniformity.

4. Improved Member online GDPR training (over 95%). Mandatory with reminders sent and completion details sent to Group leaders.

Reviewed by KS 07/01/22. Updated to reflect receipt of adequacy status and current assessment now medium because of this factor.

Cllr Rayner Karen Shepherd

14. Reporting of any partner org data breaches is a regular reporting item to the monthly operational commissioning board meetings.

15. DPO role currently vacant; deputy is acting up whilst team structure reviewed. Updated DP Policy so DPO is a mandatory role.

1. Security awareness of officers and external service providers who use our IT.

2. Secure remote working with computers, encrypted area for sensitive laptop data.

3. Develop, publish and communicate information security policies.

4. Audit use of all Council laptops and obtain management authorisation for their use.

5. DPO/SIRO to check and take action when inappropriate external transmissions of data are reported.

6. Mandatory annual security induction and training procedure embedded in HR procedures and the appraisal process.

7. Disposal of confidential waste papers. Specific bins are in place to ensure such waste is locked and secure at all times.

8. All data security breaches are investigated. Intel shared with organisational development team to weave into future learning.

9. Exchange of data and information with other organisations. Policies, procedures and declarations available to increase security.

10. HR complete ICT change form when an employee leaves - triggers responses by system owners to close off access.

11. Implement a robust exit strategy with accountabilities when staff leave the organisation or return surplus IT equipment..

1. Enhanced password policy to enforce Medium/Low industry best-practice.

6

8 - Medium

Reviewed by Nikki Craig 07/01/22 - no changes.

Cllr Rayner Nikki Craig

2. Enable multi-factor authentication on Microsoft cloud services.

FOI0003 IT security breach

(a) Serious external security breaches, (b) data loss or damage to data caused by inadequate information security leads to delays and errors in business processes.

Royal Borough Windsor and Maidenhead Approach to Management of Risk 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023

Date: 1 April 2022

Our corporate plan sets out an overarching vision of 'Creating a sustainable borough of innovation and opportunity' and is framed around three key objectives:

- **Thriving Communities**: Where families and individuals are empowered to achieve their ambitions and fulfil their potential.
- **Inspiring Places**: Supporting the borough's future prosperity and sustainability.
- A Council trusted to deliver its promises.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document sets out the working definitions of risks and issues and how RBWM approaches risk management.

Definition

- 1.2 Risk is defined as "the chance of something happening which may have an impact on the achievement of an organisation's objectives".
- 1.3 Risk management is defined as "the culture, processes and structure that are directed towards effective management of potential opportunities and threats to the organisation achieving its objectives".
- 1.4 An issue is defined as an event that is happening right now or has already happened. There is the possibility for a risk to turn into an issue when it is realised.
- 1.5 The difference between a risk and an issue is one of timing. The risk event is a future event so the task is to assess its probability, its proximity and estimate the impact that would be caused if it did occur. An issue event has already happened so there is no need to assess its probability what must be considered is the impact and whatever reaction is required to deal with it.

Risk

- 1.6 RBWM's approach to risk management stems from the Alarm¹/Airmic²/IRM³ enterprise risk management approach also adopted by FERMA⁴.
- 1.7 Risk is a normal part of business. The understanding and management of risks is an integral part of the RBWM corporate governance framework.
- 1.8 RBWM employees will adopt a consistent and systematic approach to managing risk. The management of risk is a responsibility of all senior managers in the council. It is important that the identification of risks is timely to support effective service delivery.
- 1.9 RBWM manages specific project work through a stand-alone system where the risk assessment methodology is scaled to the project under consideration.
- 1.10 Risks relating to health and safety are addressed through a separate policy⁵.
- 1.8 How successful RBWM is in dealing with the risks it faces can have a major impact on the achievement of the council's strategic priorities. When management of risk goes well it often remains unnoticed. When it fails the consequences can be significant and high profile, for example, inefficient use of or wasted resources,

¹ Alarm is the primary voice for public sector risk management in the UK.

² Airmic promotes the interests of insurance buyers and those involved in enterprise risk management.

³ The IRM (Institute of Risk Management) provides risk management related education.

⁴ The Federation of European Risk Management Association.

⁵ https://rbwm.sharepoint.com/sites/intranet/our-council/health-and-safety

financial loss, service disruption, adverse publicity, litigation or failure to meet objectives. Hence the need for effective risk management.

2. THE COUNCIL'S 2022/23 RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

- 2.1 This policy is fundamental to the council being less risk averse i.e. accepting greater levels of risk. Successful organisations are not afraid to take risks; unsuccessful organisations take risks without understanding them.
- 2.2 The objective of risk management is not to eliminate all possible risks that is not possible but to recognise risks and deal with them appropriately. Underpinning the implementation of the council's risk management strategy are the following principles:
 - The **informed acceptance** of risk is essential to good business strategy.
 - Risk management is an effective means to enhance and protect the council.
 - **Common definition and understanding** of risks is necessary in order to better manage those risks and make more consistent and informed business decisions.
 - Management of risk is an **anticipatory**, **proactive** process.
 - All risks are to be **identified**, **assessed**, **measured**, **monitored** and reported on in accordance with this strategy.
 - Officers will **ensure cabinet members are aware** of all key risks in a timely way.
- 2.3 Consequently, staff will need to understand the nature of the risks in their areas and systematically identify, analyse, assess, treat, monitor and review those risks.
- 2.4 Risk management encompasses both external and internal influences.

External influences

- 2.5 Risk management is an important element of corporate governance. The council must demonstrate that it complies with regulations⁶ in relation to the publication of an annual governance statement⁷. One of its core principles is a requirement for RBWM to demonstrate how it manages risk and ensure that it has a system of controls that mitigate those risks that may affect the achievement of its objectives.
- 2.6 CIPFA⁸ in their 2018 publication "audit committees practical guidance for local authorities and police" emphasise that a core function of the audit committee is to review the effectiveness of the risk management arrangements. This role is fulfilled by the remit of RBWM's Audit and Governance Committee.

⁶ Regulation 6 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The council's financial management arrangements similarly conform to the governance requirements set out in CIPFA's 'the role of the chief financial officer' (2016).

⁷ The latest governance statement covering 18/19 was signed off in November 2019.

⁸ "Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy". The only UK professional accounting body that specialises in the public sector.

Internal influences

- 2.7 The council's risk register draws together all the potential consequences of failing to deliver service and strategic objectives. It identifies the relative importance of these potential problems and assigns responsibilities for attempting to reduce the likelihood and/or impact to the preferred risk appetite if they do occur.
- 2.8 The terms of reference of the Audit and Governance Committee⁹ are specific to their responsibilities for ensuring that the key risks are properly assessed and managed and for their approving the annual risk management strategy.
- 2.9 Including specific risk management commentaries as part of reports to members and corporate leadership team ensures that any risks inherent in a decision or situation are more noticeable and hence subject to improved scrutiny. The report template requires writers to reference any relevant risks from the corporate risk register.
- 2.10 Risk management therefore requires:
 - A consistent management framework on how best to manage risk.
 - Risk being everyone's business. All staff must be competent in and accountable for managing risk within their area of responsibility.
 - Relevant legislative requirements and political, social, environmental and economic environments to be considered in managing risk.
 - Good quality information.

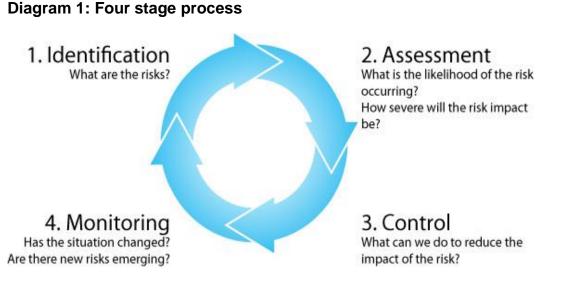
3. RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AIMS AND OBJECTIVES 2022/23

- 3.1 The risk management framework aims to achieve an environment in 2022/23 where risk management becomes an integral part of strategy, management processes and the general culture.
- 3.2 It will achieve this through implementing the following objectives:
 - Assessment of the challenges faced by the council, through improved decisionmaking and targeted risk mitigation and control.
 - Implementing transparent and responsible risk management processes, which align with accepted best practice.
 - Minimising risk to customers who use council owned/operated assets.
 - Providing a sound basis for the corporate risk financing strategy.
 - Detailing the justification of the level of balances held as reserves in each year's budget report.
 - Providing suitable training to officers and elected members.

⁹ B11 in the RBWM Constitution.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS

4.1 The approach to risk management in RBWM follows a four-stage process, see diagram 1. Each service area is assessed, by the relevant manager, against the process and a judgement drawn on the level of risk.



- Stage 1: Identify those circumstances risks that might prevent service/team/decision objectives being reached.
- Stage 2: Evaluate the likelihood, impact, confidence level in these assessments along with the appetite position for the risk:
 - Impacts and likelihoods are scored on a four-point scale. At the lower end 1 represents a minor impact and/or "very unlikely" and 4 represents an extreme risk and/or "very likely".
 - Protocols exist to guide officers in making these judgements. A note detailing the criteria is attached (appendix 1).
 - Key risks are those identified as high risks with consideration also given to those where the implications of failure carry the most damaging consequences i.e. a risk with an inherent impact of 4.
- 4.2 In terms of assessing each risk the assessment is detailed in four situations:
 - Inherent the risk without any controls whatsoever.
 - Current how the risk stands at the present time.
 - Controlled how the risk looks once all mitigations are implemented.
 - Appetite where RBWM considers itself to be on the spectrum ranging from willingness to take or accept risks through to an unwillingness or aversion to taking risks.
- 4.3 The critical part is identifying and understanding the risks to enable informed decisions to be made.

Diagram 2: Risk assessment heat map

- Stage 3: Treat the risks in order of priority. Mitigation measures address whether the likelihood and/or impact can be reduced or the consequences changed. Contingencies can be devised to respond should the risk occur. Key risks will be evaluated by risk owners i.e. directors, senior leadership team and cabinet members.
- Stage 4: This is a monitoring and review process. The quarterly reporting process demands from reviews that each risk indicates consequences, SMART mitigations and the risk owner¹⁰. This process adds scrutiny to ensure:
 - The correct risks are being identified.
 - Treatment measures identified are legitimate.
 - Correct individuals are assigned as risk owners.
 - Systematic scanning for novel and unexpected threats as well as dealing with identified risks is, as far as possible, considered a core part of management responsibilities.
 - There are challenges to what we "know" to ensure that our particular belief system is based upon the most up to date knowledge.
 - Early warning systems exist so information can filter up quickly and easily.
- 4.4 Each risk is classified into one of a comprehensive set of eleven categories (appendix 2). These can be used to:
 - Aggregate risks from various parts of the organisation for management purposes.
 - Help with the identification of mutating risk. A mutating risk is an existing risk which starts connecting with other threats or factors to generate new outcomes.

5. RISK APPETITE

- 5.1 Due to its diverse range of services the council does not have a single risk tolerance and appetite for risk. Risk appetite is the phrase used to describe where RBWM considers itself to be on the spectrum ranging from willingness to take or accept risks through to an unwillingness or aversion to taking risks.
- 5.2 Considering and setting risk appetite enables the council to increase its rewards by optimising its risk taking and accepting calculated risks within an appropriate level of authority. A clearly defined risk appetite takes much of the guesswork out of putting limits on new business. Equally, it reduces the likelihood of unpleasant surprises. Risk appetite enhances the content of the risk registers by considering:
 - Capacity the actual physical resources available and physical capability of the organisation. The council's capacity must have limits; therefore, its capacity is finite and breaching those limits will cause RBWM problems it cannot deal with.

¹⁰ An individual officer, who is closely involved with the risk, can monitor the risk and has sufficient authority to initiate action if the risk becomes more serious.

- Tolerance the factors that the council can determine, can change and is prepared to bear. Risks falling within tolerances for quality and range of services can be accepted. Tolerance changes more frequently than capacity and should therefore be stress tested more often.
- 5.3 There are an overarching series of qualitative and quantitative risk appetite statements (appendix 3) which no unit or service area can exceed, based on the capacity and tolerance levels of the council.

6. CONFIDENCE LEVEL

- 6.1 A metric is ascribed to the level of conviction the risk assessor has in the assessment score. By showing a confidence level the risk assessor can mitigate the problem that the decision makers, members etc. may be expecting precise numerical calculations because (unless told otherwise by the risk assessor) the assessments get interpreted as completely accurate depictions of the risk.
- 6.2 Low confidence level (score between 0-25%)
 - Assessment is based on purely subjective opinion, is qualitative and not especially well documented because we don't have the data.
 - No scientific consensus exists on estimating approach.
 - Scores are, on balance, quite arbitrary and could be off by more than one measure (high vs high/medium vs medium vs. medium/low v low). It is no more probable that the reported score is correct than a lower or higher score is correct.
- 6.3 Medium Confidence Level (26% 60%)
 - Assessment is based on similar conditions observed previously and/or qualitative analysis. Qualitative analysis is based on unverified models and/or data.
 - Expert opinion might fall in here but should be treated with caution if that's all there is. Some documentation exists.
 - Literature relying on this estimating approach exists. We are confident that, if scores above are wrong, they are, on balance, only off by one ordinal.
- 6.4 High Confidence Level >60%
 - Assessment is based on testing, modelling or simulation, use of prototype or experiments.
 - Qualitative analysis is based on verified models. Quantitative assessment is based on an historical basis and/or data. Impact estimate is quantitative and well documented.
 - Scientific consensus exists on estimating approach. It is highly probable that the reported score is correct (this could, for example, mean within one standard deviation).

7. RISK MANAGEMENT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 Chief Executive

The Chief Executive takes overall responsibility for RBWM risk management performance and ensures that:

- decision-making is in line with RBWM policy and procedures for risk management;
- adequate resources are made available for the management of risk;
- there is an understanding of the risks facing RBWM.

7.2 Cabinet members

- take reasonable steps to consider the risks involved in their decisions;
- understand the key risks falling within their portfolio.

7.3 Audit and Governance Committee

- consider and approve the risk management strategy annually and communicate it to other elected members;
- receive an annual report on risk management and monitor the effective development and operation of corporate governance;
- receive six monthly reports on the effective management of risks facing RBWM;
- oversee a comprehensive, inclusive and risk management approach to the annual governance statement process.

7.4 Head of Finance

• ensures that a risk management policy and strategy is developed and reviewed annually to reflect the changing nature of the council;

• champions the process of risk management as good management practice and a valuable management tool.

7.5 Executive Directors and the Corporate Leadership Team

- challenges the contents of the corporate risk register to ensure that it reflects any significant new risks emerging and that monitoring systems are suitably robust;
- support and promote risk management throughout RBWM;
- ensure that, where appropriate, key decision reports include a section demonstrating that arrangements are in place to manage identified risks;
- ensure that risk is managed effectively in each service area within the agreed strategy;
- identify any service specific issues relating to risk management which have not been explicitly addressed in the strategy;
- disseminate the detail of the strategy and allocate responsibilities for implementation to service managers and staff;
- understand the risks facing the council.

7.6 Insurance and Risk Management Team

- develop the strategy and oversee its implementation across the council;
- share experience and good practice on risk and risk management;
- develop and recommend the strategy to the audit and governance committee, head of finance and the senior leadership team;
- provide a clear and concise system for reporting risks to elected members.

7.7 Internal Audit

- take the content of the key risk registers into account when setting the internal audit programme;
- undertake audits to assess the effectiveness of the risk mitigation measures;
- feedback audit opinions on a predetermined scale so they can be included in the risk register.

7.8 Heads of Service/Managers

- take primary responsibility for identifying and managing significant strategic and operational risks arising from their service activities;
- recommend the necessary training for employees on risk management;
- maintain a risk register for their service area and ensure that all employees are aware of the risk assessments appropriate to their activity;
- be responsible for production and testing of business continuity plans.

7.9 All staff

• identify emerging or changing risks in their job and feed this back to their line manager.

8. CORPORATE RISK FINANCING STRATEGY

- 8.1 RBWM uses its risk financing arrangements to protect it from the financial implications of unexpected accidental events. This helps in providing continuous services in the event of serious losses.
- 8.1 The level of cover bought will depend on the council's appetite for risk, based on its ability to self-fund claims and the strength of its risk management.
- 8.2 RBWM is exempt from most requirements regarding compulsory insurance¹¹. Nevertheless, most public sector organisations purchase external insurance. Without this, we will fund all such exposures from our own resources.
- 8.3 If RBWM were to insure without taking substantial excesses against most of the risks that it faces then this would incur significant annual premiums.
- 8.4 Having strong risk management arrangements across RBWM allows us to retain some risks either by deciding to self-insure these risks in their entirety or by purchasing insurance for losses that arise over a certain value.

8.5 **Objectives**

- Provide financial protection to the council's assets, services and employees.
- Maintain appropriate balance between external cover and internal risk retention.
- Ensure the internal insurance fund is maintained at an appropriate level.
- Ensure resilient claims handling arrangements and insurance fraud detection.
- Comply with any statutory requirements to have in place particular policies of insurance and associated inspection systems.

8.6 Achieved by

- Using claims modelling and other risk assessments to determine exposures.
- Monitoring changes in legislation, civil justice protocols and case law.
- Maintaining claims handling protocols in line with statutory requirements.
- Undertaking periodic actuarial fund reviews.

8.7 **Procurement of insurance**

- All insurance procurement complies with the relevant EU procurement rules.
- Hard copies of policies are retained indefinitely with more recent policy documentation stored soft copy.

¹¹ Under the Local Government Act 1972 the only insurable aspect of the council's operations it is obliged to make specific financial provision for is against the risk of financial fraud by staff.

9. APPENDICES

- 1. Impact and likelihood assessment scoring.
- 2. Risk classifications.
- 3. Qualitative and quantitative risk appetite statements.

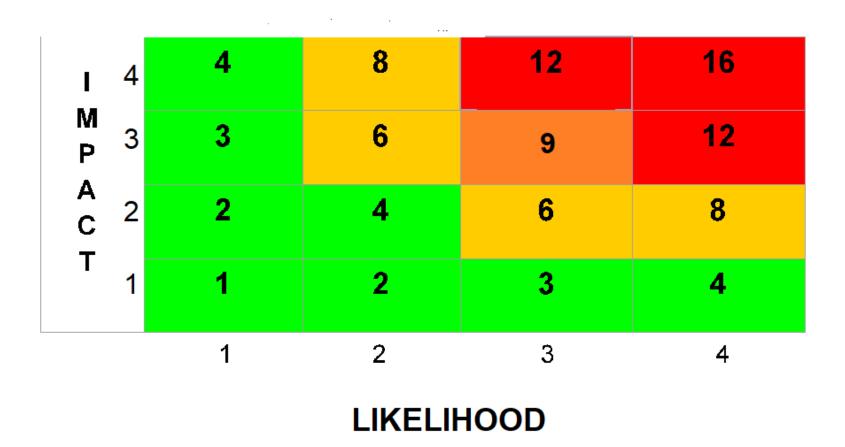
Appendix 1: Impact scoring

Factor	Score	Effect on level of service	Effect on quality of service	Embarrassment/reputa tion	Failure to provide statutory duties/meet legal obligations	Financial loss
Extreme	4	Massive loss of service, including several important areas of service and /or protracted period; service disruption 5+ days	Quality of service deteriorates by over 80% from accepted (ideally defined by PI's) operating parameters.	Adverse and persistent national media coverage; adverse central government response, involving (threat of) removal of delegated powers; officer(s) and/or members forced to resign	Litigation/ claims/fines from departmental £250k + corporate £500k +	Costing over £500,000 Up to 75% of budget
Major	3	Complete loss of an important service area for a short period; major effect to services in one or more areas for a period of weeks; service disruption 3-5 days	Quality of service deteriorates by between 25% to 60% from accepted (ideally defined by PI's) operating parameters.	Adverse publicity in professional/municipal press, affecting perception/standing in professional/local government community; adverse local publicity of a major and persistent nature; statutory prosecution of a serious nature.	Litigation/ claims/fines from departmental £50k to £125k corporate £100k to £250k	Costing between £50,000 and £500,000 Up to 50% of budget
Moderate	2	Moderate effect to an important service area for a short period; adverse effect to services in one or more areas for a period of weeks; service disruption 2-3 days	Quality of service deteriorates by between 10% to 25% from accepted (ideally defined by PI's) operating parameters.	Adverse local publicity /local public opinion aware; statutory prosecution of a non-serious nature	Litigation/ claims/fines from departmental £25k to £50k Corporate £50k to £100k	Costing between £5,000 and £50,000 Up to 25% of budget
Minor	1	Brief disruption of important service area; significant effect to non-crucial service area; service disruption 1 day	Quality of service deteriorates up to 10% away from accepted operating parameters.	Contained within section/unit or directorate; complaint from individual/small group, of arguable merit	Litigation/ claims/fines from departmental £12k to £25k corporate £25k to £50k	Costing less than £5,000 Up to 10% of budget

Appendix 1: Likelihood scoring

FACTOR	SCORE	THREATS - DESCRIPTION	INDICATORS
Very likely	4	More than 75% chance of occurrence.	Regular occurrence. Circumstances frequently encountered - daily/weekly/monthly.
Likely	3	40% - 75% chance of occurrence.	Likely to happen at some point within the next 1-2 years. Circumstances occasionally encountered (a few times a year).
Unlikely	2	10% - 40% chance of occurrence.	Only likely to happen 3 or more years.
Very unlikely	1	Less than 10% chance of occurrence.	Has happened rarely or never before.

Multiplying these likelihood and impact scores together gives a result assessed as either "high risk" (value 12 - 16), "high/medium risk" (value = 9), "medium risk" (value 6 - 8) or "low risk" (value 1 - 4) as can be depicted in the following diagram.



Appendix 2 - risk classifications

1 Business processes

Design, operation and application activities.

2 Assets

Infrastructure including hard assets e.g., roads, buildings, vehicles, along with other physical responsibilities such as trees, open spaces. Excludes IT.

3 Communications

The approach to and culture of communication, consultation, transparency and information-sharing, both within and outside the council.

4 Political and operating contexts

Perceived or potential conflicts between private and public interests, members and officers, national and local government or contractors and the council.

5 Financial management

The structures and processes that ensure sound management of financial resources and compliance with financial management policies and standards.

6 Governance, strategic direction and organisational transformation

Management skills and capacity, the approach to leadership and decision-making. The approach to significant structural or behavioural change.

7 Human resources management

Staff/management turnover; employment/work culture; recruitment, retention and staffing processes and practices; succession planning and talent management; employee development, training and capacity.

8 Information technology

Capacity and sustainability of information technology and both the infrastructure and utilisation of technological applications.

9 Knowledge and information management

Collection and management of knowledge, including intellectual property, operational information, records and data.

10 Legal

Management of RBWM's legislative, advisory and litigation activities, including the development and renewal of, and compliance with, laws, regulations and policies.

11 Demographic and social factors

The direct needs of residents, visitors and the general public.

Appendix 3 – Qualitative and quantitative risk appetite statements.

Risk definitions

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
Avoidance of risk and uncertainty is a key organisational objective.	Preference is for ultra safe business delivery options that have a low level of inherent risk and only have a potential for limited reward.	Preference is for safe delivery options that have a low degree of inherent risk and likely to only have limited potential for reward in most circumstances.	Willing to consider all potential delivery options and choose the one most likely to result in successful delivery while also providing an acceptable level of reward.	Eager to be innovative and to choose options offering potentially higher business rewards despite greater inherent risks.

Authorisation definitions

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
Insignificant consequences	Moderate consequences	Medium consequences	Potential major consequence	Potential catastrophic consequences
requiring line manager (or	requiring HOS approval	acceptable by director.	acceptable only with chief officer	unacceptable without highest possible
even staff) approval			authorisation.	level approval

Monitoring arrangement

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
Accept	Low level monitoring	High level monitoring	Remedial action and/or senior	Urgent remedial action or senior
			monitoring	monitoring

Risk appetite statements 1 – 3 are quantitative assessments, 4 – 8 are qualitative assessments each acknowledging a willingness and capacity to take on risk.

1. Maximum tolerance for losses

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
Costing <£10K. It is likely to	Costing £10K - £50K. It is likely	Costing £50K - £250K. It has	Costing £250K - £500K. The	Costing >£500K, <£5M. The exposure
cost about this much to	to cost about this much to	often cost around this sum to	exposure is demonstrably around	is demonstrably around this sum in
manage an occurrence of this	manage an occurrence of this	manage this risk in similar	this sum in order to manage an	order to manage an occurrence of this
risk.	risk.	projects or programmes.	occurrence of this risk.	risk.
Little stakeholder concern and can usually be managed in the directorate concerned with	Pockets of some stakeholder concern and can usually be managed in the directorate	Moderate stakeholder concern.	Reasonably high interest by stakeholders in the level of loss.	Very significant interest by stakeholders in the level of loss.
normal reporting to head of	concerned with normal	Some impact to service	Notable impact to service delivery in	Major impact on service delivery in
finance.	reporting to head of finance.	delivery in other areas due to the financial impact of this	other areas due to the financial impact of this occurrence.	other areas due to financial impact of this occurrence.
Little impact on service	Little impact on service delivery	occurrence.		
delivery in other areas due to	in other areas due to the		The head of finance is to be alerted	The head of finance is to be alerted
the financial impact of this	financial impact of this		when a risk reaches this impact.	when a risk reaches this impact.
occurrence.	occurrence.			

2. Headroom after impact on capital funding strategy

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
£10M upwards	Between £5M - £10M	Between £2M - £5M	Between £1M and £2M	<£1M, >500K

3. Minimum cash balance

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
At least £5M	Between £2.5M and £5M	Between £1M and £2.5M	Between £500K and £1M	No lower than £500K

4. Regulatory risk

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
In the event any statute is	Relatively low profile statutory	Well established statutory	Important statutory requirement	Fundamental statutory requirement
breached, it carries little	requirement may not be	requirement may not be	may not be delivered with	may not be delivered satisfactorily
damaging financial or	delivered adequately	delivered adequately	potentially serious implications.	with potentially very serious
reputational impact i.e. fines				implications.
<£10K concerning a localised	Fines >£10K up to £25K if	Fines £25K - £50K if council	Fines £50K - £250K if council found	
technical matter.	council found in breach of	found in breach of relevant	in breach of relevant Act	Fines over £250K if council found in
	relevant Act	Act		breach of relevant Act.
Avoid anything that could be			Challenge will be problematic but	
challenged, even	Want to be very sure we'd win	Limited tolerance for sticking	we are likely to win it and the gain	Chances of losing are high and
unsuccessfully.	any challenge.	our neck out. We want to be	will outweigh the adverse	consequences serious. However, a
		reasonably sure we would	consequences.	win would be seen as a great coup.
		win any challenge.		

5. Reputation risk

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
A low level of interest in a	Front page news in local press.	Some national publicity or	Some national publicity or media	Widespread criticism originating from
particular council activity.		media criticism for no more	criticism lasting no more than a	all quarters of the press / the general
	No particular national interest	than two/three days.	week.	public.
A sideline in specialist press.	beyond sidelines.			
		Sustained criticism over 1-2	Sustained criticism over 3-4 months	It will take more than 6 months to
Localised criticism.	Managed situation with	months amongst local	amongst local press/public and/or	restore credibility amongst
	managing director/leader	press/public and/or specialist	specialist press.	stakeholders.
Managed situation with	briefed.	press.		
director/head of service			Could take up to three months to	Reputation is massively damaged and
briefed.		Could take up to a month to	restore credibility.	confidence lost towards senior
		restore credibility.		officers and elected members.
			Reputation tarnished in longer term.	
			Senior officers criticised for actions	
			undertaken by the council.	

6. Council services

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
Has low level impact on the	Moderate impact on the	Has a medium level impact	Impacts one key element of the	Has a high level impact on the ability
council's ability to deliver key	delivery of any key service.	on the council's ability to	council's strategic plan.	of the council to deliver more than
services.		deliver key services.		one key element of the council's
	Recoverable but will be delays		Takes over a week but less than a	strategic plan.
May affect an aspect of	of up to 2-3 days in returning to	Recoverable but will be	fortnight to recover and return to	
performance management but	normal.	delays of up to a week in	pre-risk occurrence state.	Over a fortnight to return to normal.
overall target likely to remain		returning to normal.		_
unaffected. 1 day disruption.				

7. Operational risks in the execution of business plans

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
The uncontrolled impact would	The uncontrolled and/or	Would have a major	Would have a major uncontrolled	Significant council wide impact.
be no more than moderate at	controlled impact would be no	uncontrolled impact at the	impact at the directorate level and	
operating unit level. It would be	more than moderate at	directorate level that may	with clear reasons that would likely	Major failing in the delivery of a key
controllable to a lower	operating unit level. It would be	possibly lead to a wider	lead to a wider council impact.	project or initiative.
assessment status and not	controllable and not affect the	council impact.		
affect the wider council	wider council.		Key milestones to major project or	Would meet criteria for key
		Key milestones to major	initiative slip.	operational risk.
	Small delays to major project.	project or initiative slip.		

8. Risk related decision making, especially in relation to new business opportunities

low appetite	low/medium appetite	medium appetite	medium/high appetite	high appetite
Many such opportunities	Reasonably common area of	New area of business with a	Only one or two examples of similar	Completely new business area never
undertaken at local levels.	business but without a vast	small number of precedents.	work undertaken in the local	assumed by any public sector
Clear precedents exist with	number of competitors e.g. <10.		authority environment.	organisation.
apparent transparent benefits.		Moderate adjustments to		
	Council required to make minor	address new ways of	Significant modifications to address	Benefits cannot be based on previous
Little or no change to council's	adjustments to address new	working.	new ways of working.	experience because there isn't any.
existing business structure.	ways of working.	-		
		Some moderate staffing level	Considerable changes to staffing	Appetite to take decisions that are
	Tolerance for risk taking limited	changes.	levels/methods.	likely to bring scrutiny of the council
	to those events where there is	-		but where potential benefits are huge.

Minimal tolerance for any	no chance of any significant	Appetite to take decisions with the	
decisions which could lead to	repercussions for the council	potential to expose the council to	Desire to break the mould and
scrutiny of the council		additional scrutiny.	challenge current practices.