

# CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

## Governance and Constitution Committee

---

**Date of Meeting:** 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010  
**Report of:** Head of Internal Audit and Compliance  
**Subject/Title:** Managing Risks

---

### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the management of the Strategic Risks for the Council, following the report to this Committee of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

### **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the Committee note the identified Strategic Risks for the Council and the actions in place to mitigate these.

### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 Risk Management is a fundamental element of Corporate Governance and a key contributor to ensuring a strong internal control environment. It is an integral part of the management of the Authority in supporting delivery of its objectives and outcomes. This report aims to provide assurance that the identified strategic risks are being effectively assessed and managed, with clear action plans in place to mitigate these risks.

### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All

### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 N/A

### **6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change - Health**

- 6.1 Risk Management is integral to the overall management of the authority and, therefore, considerations regarding key policy implications and their effective implementation are considered within departmental risk registers and, where necessary, as part of the strategic risk register.

**7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

7.1 None

**8.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)**

8.1 None

**9.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

9.1 No specific legal implications

**10.0 Risk Management**

10.1 This report relates to overall risk management.

**11.0 Background**

11.1 Since the previous report to this Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> November, outlining the Risk Management Framework for the Council, the Strategic Risk Register has been updated and clear actions identified for mitigation of these risks. These were discussed and agreed at a meeting of the Corporate Risk Management Group on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 and at a meeting of the Corporate Management Team on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2009.

11.2 A copy of the updated Strategic Risk Register is attached (**Appendix 1**), together with a summary of the mitigating actions for each risk, and a 'score' to quantify each risk. The score is a combination of the likelihood of the risk occurring and the impact, should it occur. The scores identified on Appendix 1 are the 'net' scores, i.e. the risks with the current controls in place. **Appendix 2** outlines the scoring matrix.

11.3 **Appendix 3** provides further details of a number of the risks, as examples of the way in which each risk is profiled. For each risk there is a fuller explanation of the risk, how it links to strategic priorities and objectives, the consequences should it materialise, and the controls and mitigating actions in place.

11.4 Training

The Corporate Risk Management Group received training in Risk Management at its most recent meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December, and training is planned during January and February for Cabinet and the Corporate Management Team. In addition, a training session is planned for this Committee following this meeting.

### 11.5 Reporting

Progress on actions to mitigate and manage the strategic risks will continue to be reported quarterly to this Committee, Corporate Management Team and Cabinet, as previously agreed.

### 11.6 Performance Management

In order to fully integrate risk management into planning and performance management, regular discussions have taken and continue to take place with the Performance Management Team and plans are in place to link the risk management process to the performance management system which is being developed. Risk management continues to be an integral part of Service Planning and it will be a key element within the current development of the Corporate Plan for 2010/11.

## 12.0 **Overview of Year One and Term One Issues**

### 12.1 N/A

## 13.0 **Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Vivienne Quayle  
Designation: Head of Internal Audit and Compliance  
Tel No: 01270 539684

Email: [Vivienne.quayle@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Vivienne.quayle@cheshireeast.gov.uk)