

Report to:	AUDIT PANEL
Date:	9 November 2021
Reporting Officer:	Kathy Roe – Director of Finance Martin Nixon – Risk, Insurance and Information Governance Manager
Subject:	CORPORATE RISK REGISTER REVIEW
Report Summary:	To present the Corporate Risk Register detailed at Appendix 1 for comment and approval.
Recommendations:	Members consider and approve the Corporate Risk Register attached at Appendix 1 .
Corporate Plan:	Managing risks will enable the Council to deliver services safely and in an informed manner to achieve the best possible outcomes for residents.
Policy Implications:	Effective risk management supports the achievement of Council objectives and demonstrates a commitment to high standards of corporate governance.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	Effective risk management assists in safeguarding assets, ensuring the best use of resources and the effective delivery of services. It also helps to keep insurance premiums and compensation payments to a minimum.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	<p>The Council has a statutory responsibility to have in place arrangements for managing risks, as stated in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (amended 2016):</p> <p>‘A relevant authority must ensure that it has a sound system of internal control which includes effective arrangements for the management of risk’.</p> <p>Regularly reviewing the Council’s arrangements for risk and updating them as needed ensures that the Council is managing its statutory responsibility.</p> <p>Risk management can relate to legal aspects of the council’s business, however, the content of this report does not have any specific legal implications. Legal risks to the organisation are incorporated in the Service plans risk registers.</p> <p>This report is aimed at addressing the requirement that the Council achieves its strategic aims and operates its business, under general principles of good governance and that it identifies risks which threaten its ability to be legally compliant and operate within the confines of the legislative framework.</p>
Risk Management:	Failure to manage risks will impact on service delivery, the achievement of objectives and the Council’s Medium Term Financial Plan.

Access to Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Martin Nixon, Risk, Insurance and Information Governance Manager.



Telephone: 0161 342 3883



e-mail: martin.nixon@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The report presents the revised and updated Corporate Risk Register for comment, challenge and approval. The report was presented to the Senior Leadership Team on 2 November 2021 and was updated in response to any comments received.

2. WHAT IS RISK MANAGEMENT?

- 2.1 Risk Management is the process of identifying risks, evaluating their likelihood and potential impact and determining the most effective methods of controlling them or responding to them. It is a means of maximising opportunities and minimising the costs and disruption to the organisation caused by undesired events.
- 2.2 Corporate Risks are potential barriers to the Council achieving its priorities and have the potential to disrupt large parts of our service.

3. CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

- 3.1 The Corporate Risk Register is attached at **Appendix 1**. It details the risk scores evaluated both in June 2021 and October 2021.
- 3.2 Risk owners (responsible Assistant Directors or Service Unit Managers) have assisted the Risk, Insurance and Information Governance Manager to review the Corporate Risks they have responsibility for. Review comments have been added to the risk register under Appendix 1 alongside each risk.
- 3.3 Service delivery and Council working practices have returned to some normality following the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions during the UK roadmap out of lockdown in early 2021. Risk scores across the Corporate register have reduced further following the increases experienced during the 2020 lockdown, as demonstrated by the 'heat map' comparisons provided under item 3.6.
- 3.4 The key developments in the risk register following review in October are summarised below.

Risk	Comment	Risk Rating June 2021	Risk Rating Oct 2021
1	Risk the Council is unable to deliver it's Medium Term Financial Plan The position remains very challenging and requires an unrelenting focus on actioning savings and achieving value for money in all Service areas.	20	15
4	The property portfolio rationalisation necessary for the delivery of appropriate council wide services is not delivered The integrated asset management plan is in place and key members of the Strategic Asset team have started their employment.	12	9
6	Failure to ensure effective services in Children's which are highly regarded by regulators, and that robust improvement plans are in place.	16	16

Risk	Comment	Risk Rating June 2021	Risk Rating Oct 2021
	Tameside receives the lowest level of SEND funding in Greater Manchester. This resource gap is causing a significant pressure.		
8	Negative impact of Coronavirus on health and wellbeing objectives. Measures to contain the transmission of the virus continue. Tameside continues to be an area of enduring Covid-19 transmission with high rates continuing.	25	25
18	Failure to ensure there are sufficient high quality school places. High quality collaborative work with school leaders is supporting plans to increase places in specialist and secondary provision.	16	12
21	Failure to prevent or detect acts of significant fraud or corruption. Fraud figures in general across the Council are fairly low as controls are in place across services to reduce the likelihood of fraud. External Fraud in relation to Grants and other benefits paid has increased recently however.	12	9

3.5 This analysis shows that there are currently a total of 7 Red risks across the register. When compared to the 19 Red risks reported in May 2020 it can be seen that we are approaching the pre-Covid level of 4 Red risks in October 2019.

3.6 The Corporate risk scores are summarised in the risk heat maps below:-
Heat Map 1 – June 2021 (23 Risks)

		Impact level				
		Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Medium (3)	Major (4)	Major Disaster (5)
Likelihood						
Almost Certain (5)						1
Very likely (4)			4	6	1	
Likely (3)			2	2	2	
Unlikely (2)			1	3		
Very Low (1)				1		

Heat Map 2 – October 2021 (23 Risks)

		Impact level				
		Insignificant (1)	Minor (2)	Medium (3)	Major (4)	Major Disaster (5)
Likelihood						
Almost Certain (5)						1
Very likely (4)			3	4		
Likely (3)			4	3	2	
Unlikely (2)			1	3	1	
Very Low (1)				1		

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 As set out on the front of the report.