



Report to:	AUDIT PANEL
Date:	Tuesday, 22 November 2022
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>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:	<p>The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Martin Nixon, Risk, Insurance and Information Governance Manager.</p> <p> Telephone: 0161 342 3883</p> <p> e-mail: martin.nixon@tameside.gov.uk</p>

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 15 November 2022.

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 September 2022 and November 2022.
- 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 Ranking of risks across the whole Corporate register has remained largely consistent with the position in September 2022. There are still Red risks in respect of Risk 1 (Medium Term Financial Plan) where Finance are working with Services to mitigate a forecast budget overspend, Risk 8 (Coronavirus impact) where the potential for an Autumn/Winter surge cannot be overlooked, and Risk 26 (Cost of Living Crisis) where the multiple impacts of rising budget costs, a possible downturn in Council revenue and increasing public service demand must be managed.

Risks 25 (Recruitment issues) and 26 (Cost of Living Crisis) are considered as having effect on all Council services. Therefore review comments have been prepared following consultation with all Service areas.

The scoring for Risk 3 (Adults – Failure to manage the local care home market) has been increased from 12 to 16 (Red) due to known concerns over the viability of some providers. The number of Red risks has increased to 9 across the whole register, in comparison to 8 in the last quarter. Current risk scores are displayed in the ‘heat map’ comparisons provided under item 3.5 below.

- 3.4 The key developments in the risk register following review in September 2022 and November 2022 are summarised below.

Risk	Comment	Risk Rating Sept 2022	Risk Rating Nov 2022
1	<p>Finance: Risk the Council is unable to deliver it's Medium Term Financial Plan</p> <p>Period 6 monthly monitoring has just been completed showing a £8.2m overspend. There is urgent and unrelenting work with Directorates to identify options for budget reductions. This position is currently projected to continue into 2023/24 requiring long term as well as short term budget reductions.</p>	25	25
3	<p>Adults: Failure to manage the local home care market and care home capacity available to deliver appropriate and timely care.</p> <p>The care market is currently under significant pressure. Providers are seriously considering both their financial viability and ability to attract staff following the loss of additional Covid funding which ceased on 31 March 2022.</p>	12	15
8	<p>Population Health: Negative impact of Coronavirus on health and wellbeing objectives.</p> <p>There is reduced prevalence of infection in the community and therefore reduced disruption. There remains a high indirect impact caused by previous waves of the pandemic. This is particularly the case in education, and the health and social care system, where lagged pressures continue. Impacts of possible autumn/winter escalations could include localised outbreaks in care homes), service & staffing disruption. An autumn booster vaccination programme is currently being implemented.</p>	15	15
25	<p>Delivery of services across the Council put at risk due to Inability to recruit the required workforce.</p> <p>Rolling recruitment campaigns are in place for key statutory functions. The Apprenticeship levy is being used where possible. A benchmarking exercise on key job roles is also underway to understand our competitive place in the market particularly for key professional roles.</p>	12	12
26	<p>The risk that the Cost of Living crisis causes budget management pressures, increases in demand for health and social care services, and a detrimental effect to Tameside poverty levels and health.</p> <p>Exchequer have not seen an immediate impact on collection rates, but this situation will continue to be monitored during winter months. There is also concern regarding public health impacts caused to those in fuel poverty.</p>	15	15

3.5 The corporate risk scores are summarised in the risk heat maps below:-

Heat Map 1 – September 2022 (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)			3	5	3
Unlikely	(2)			1	2	
Very Low	(1)				1	

Heat Map 2 – November 2022 (23 Risks)

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

This analysis shows that there are currently a total of 9 Red risks across the register. When compared to the 8 Red risks reported in September 2022.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 As set out on the front of the report.