

Open Report on behalf of Pete Moore, Executive Director Resources and Community Safety

Report to:	Audit Committee
Date:	31 January 2011
Subject:	Internal Audit Report: Strategic Risk Management

Summary:

This report informs the Committee of the findings from the internal audit of the Council's systems and processes in place for Strategic Risk Management.

Recommendation(s):

That the Committee considers the findings from the audit of Strategic Risk Management and notes the positive assurance opinion given.

Background

To assist the Committee in its role of overseeing the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements an audit of the systems and processes in place for Strategic Risk Management has been completed. Given that the Strategic Risk Management function sits within the wider department of Corporate Audit, to ensure independence the audit was completed by an external consultant.

Management Summary from Internal Audit Report

Assurance Opinion

Substantial Assurance

Our review confirms that the direction of travel is progressing positively; work is continuing to ensure the integration of Risk Management and determining the risk appetite of officers and members throughout the whole of the organisation. Roles, responsibilities and ownership for risk management have been assigned at operational and strategic levels; however some services still place reliance on the Strategic Risk Management Team effectively managing their risk management processes.

The council has a Risk Management Strategy in place which is due to be updated in the near future following a review of the Corporate Audit and Risk Management Service.

Corporate risks and associated actions are effectively managed and reviewed on a regular basis. Adequate reporting arrangements are in place in respect of the Corporate Risk Register.

A copy of the full audit report is contained in Appendix A.

Conclusion

The Committee will be pleased to note that the audit report provides an opinion of Substantial Assurance. The Management Response provided (see Appendix A - Page 3) acknowledges this positive outcome and confirms that work has already commenced on the agreed actions and priorities.

Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Corporate Audit & Risk Management Internal audit report: Strategic Risk Management

Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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