

Report for: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting:	25 June 2024
Subject:	Corporate Risk Report
Cabinet Member:	Cllr Luke Taylor, Council Leader
Responsible Officer:	Steve Carr, Corporate Performance and Improvement Manager. Matthew Page, Corporate Manager for People, Performance & Waste.
Exempt:	N/A
Wards Affected:	All
Enclosures:	Appendix 1: Corporate Risk Matrix Appendix 2: Corporate Risk Register

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendation(s)

To provide Members with a quarterly update on the Corporate Risk Register.

Recommendation(s):

That Members review the Corporate Risk Register and feedback any areas of concern.

Section 2 – Report

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Corporate Risk Register (CRR) contains the strategic risks which are most likely to impact the corporate priorities of Mid Devon District Council. It is reviewed at least quarterly by Corporate Managers and the Leadership Team and updated as required. It is then presented to the Audit committee and to Cabinet. Risks are managed on the council's corporate performance and risk management system, SPAR.
- 1.2 The corporate risks are presented on a risk matrix (heat map), Appendix 1. Information on each risk is presented in a standard template, Appendix 2.

These risks have been determined by the Council's Leadership Team in consultation with Corporate Managers and other council officers.

2.0 Summary of Corporate Risk

2.1 There are currently 18 risks on the CRR (see Appendix 1 and 2). Risks are now presented with their target risk rating. This is the risk rating that is expected once all identified mitigating actions have been completed:

Risk Name		Risk Owner	Risk Rating (Target)
CR1a	Culm Garden Village – Loss of capacity funding	Adrian Welsh	25 (9)
CR1b	Culm Garden Village – Delay/ impact to project arising from infrastructure delays	Adrian Welsh	20 (15)
CR2	Cyber Security	Brian Trebilcock	20 (15)
CR3	Failure to meet Climate Change Commitments by 2030	Paul Deal	15 (9)
CR4	Homes for Ukraine Scheme	Simon Newcombe	9 (9)
CR5	Information Security	Lisa Lewis	12 (8)
CR7	Financial Sustainability	Paul Deal	16 (12)
CR8	Quality of Planning Committee Decisions	Angharad Williams	9 (3)
CR9	3 Rivers – Delivery of closedown plan	Paul Deal	3 (2)
CR9a	Reputational Impact of 3 Rivers	Stephen Walford	3 (2)
CR10	Cullompton Town Centre Relief Road	Adrian Welsh	25 (15)
CR11	Cost of Living Crisis	Dean Emery	16 (16)
CR12	Housing Crisis	Simon Newcombe	12 (9)
CR13	Operation of a Waste Management Service	Matthew Page	8 (8)
CR14	Workforce Shortage	Matthew Page	6 (4)
CR15	Corporate Property Fire Safety	Stephen Walford	9 (6)
CR16	Building Control Service viability	Andrew Howard	9 (2)
CR17	Severe Weather Emergency Recovery	Simon Newcombe	12 (9)

2.2 For each risk the following information is given in Appendix 2:

- Risk name
- Risk description
- Current risk severity and likelihood
- Current risk rating
- Risk Owner
- Risk Type
- Mitigating actions (including name, description, responsible officer, current effectiveness and when it was reviewed)
- Notes.

2.3 Since this report was last presented to committee in March 2024, the following significant changes have been made to the corporate risks being managed:

- CR5 Information Security: Risk rating increased from 8 to 12.
- CR8 Quality of Planning Committee Decisions: Risk rating decreased from 12 to 9.
- CR9 3 Rivers – Delivery of closedown plan: Risk rating decreased from 8 to 3.
- CR9a Reputational Impact of 3 Rivers: Risk rating decreased from 8 to 3.

2.4 At the start of May 2024 there was an announcement by DEFRA looking to potentially standardise all waste/ recycling services across the country. This is a developing risk to the Council given the potential financial implications of changes that could be required. Government is looking to introduce new legislation/ statutory guidance in this key area of local government service delivery.

2.5 One of these new measures could be the instruction of all councils to provide at least fortnightly waste collection. In all of the DEFRA webinars (where over 350 Council representatives attended), it was made clear that the move to fortnightly collection would be counterintuitive as councils had delivered cost savings, carbon reductions and higher levels of recycling.

2.6 Officers will reflect on whether these Government changes are legislated for. Enacting these decisions would have significant financial implications to the Council, impact our recycling rate, and progress to reducing carbon emissions.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However, risks which are not mitigated may have financial implications for the council. Equally, the treatment of risk may require resources to be (re)allocated. Having a robust approach to risk management will continue to help the council minimise future financial risks and implications. A number of the corporate risks being managed contain financial risk, such as CR7 Financial Sustainability.

Legal Implications

Risk management is an integral part of the Council's Corporate Governance arrangements and there is a statutory responsibility under the Account and Audit Regulations (2015) to put in place risk management arrangements.

Risk Assessment

Failure to take advantage of opportunities and mitigate risks could impact on the Council's ability to deliver its strategic objectives. Assessment of the effectiveness of the framework for identifying and managing risks and for demonstrating clear accountability is a key element of the Council's governance arrangements.

Impact on Climate Change

Corporate Risk 3 relates directly to the council meeting its climate change targets.

Equalities Impact Assessment

Having a council which is resilient to risk means that it is better positioned to support its communities. A number of corporate risks which relate to equalities are detailed on the Corporate Risk Register. This includes CR4 Homes for Ukraine; CR11 Cost of Living Crisis; and CR12 Housing Crisis. Actions to mitigate these risks will support the council meet its equality duties.

Relationship to Corporate Plan

Effective risk management is crucial to enable the council to mitigate risks to achieving Corporate Plan priorities.

Section 3 – Statutory Officer sign-off/mandatory checks

Statutory Officer: Andrew Jarrett

Agreed by or on behalf of the Section 151

Date: 12 June 2024

Statutory Officer: Maria De Leiburne

Agreed on behalf of the Monitoring Officer

Date: 12 June 2024

Chief Officer: Stephen Walford

Agreed by or on behalf of the Chief Executive/Corporate Director

Date: 12 June 2024

Performance and risk: Steve Carr

Agreed on behalf of the Corporate Performance & Improvement Manager

Date: 12/06/2024

Cabinet member notified: Yes

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Steve Carr, Corporate Performance and Improvement Manager

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Background papers: