

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Malcolm Hanney, Cabinet Member for Resources	
DECISION DATE:	On or after 12th March 2011	
TITLE:	Risk Management Strategy	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE: E 2203
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1 – Risk Management Strategy Appendix 2 – Action Plan Appendix 3 – Risk Register Template Appendix 4 – Decision Making Guidance		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 This report presents the results of a periodic review of the Council's Risk Management Strategy.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet member is asked to agree that:

2.1 The attached Risk Management Strategy and its appendices are approved.

2.2 Delegated authority is given to the Divisional Director (Risk & Assurance) to amend the Strategy as required in relation to any subsequent changes to best practice or legislation with regard to Risk Management.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Whilst there are no direct financial implications from the Plan itself there are a large number of indirect impacts with regard to Risk Management actions within individual service areas. Resources for all these areas are however contained within existing budgets.

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

4.1 This strategy directly contributes to effective Value for Money within services as set out in the Corporate Plan and therefore indirectly contributes to all of the named corporate priorities.

5 THE REPORT

5.1 As part of ongoing review of key policies and procedures the Councils Risk Management Strategy was reviewed in line with best practice. This was to ensure that it reflected the latest organisational arrangements, best practice and any legislative requirements as set out in the Accounts and Audit Regulations.

5.2 The review included consultation with the Corporate Audit Committee as well as Senior Management and detailed discussions with the Primary Care Trust (Commissioner and Provider functions). Initially a joint strategy was proposed, however following central government reforms within the health service we have now aligned our strategies.

5.3 The purpose of the Risk Management Strategy is set out in its vision which is supported by six strategic risk management objectives –

- a) Provision and implementation of a comprehensive Risk Management framework;
- b) Regular monitoring, review and reporting on Corporate and Operational risks;
- c) Improved decision making (openness and transparency) including incorporation of sustainability impact assessments;
- d) Identification and evaluation of risks associated with key partners, contractors and community groups;
- e) Provision of effective risk management training for all relevant staff and Members;
- f) Improve efficiency and effectiveness of Risk Management support through the collaboration of systems and resources with key partners

5.4 The Strategy has an action plan to implement the objectives along with the latest guidance in relation to decision making and therefore is a live document and so will be monitored and updated on a regular basis.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 The report author has carried out a proportionate risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 The report author has carried out a proportionate equalities impact assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with corporate guidelines.

8 RATIONALE

8.1 The Risk Management Strategy is an integral part of the corporate governance framework for Local Government. This helps to support and underpin the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Council’s improvement priorities and directly contributes to improving service planning on an ongoing basis.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 No other options considered as this was a periodic review to update strategy and policy to latest best practice.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Corporate Audit Committee and Strategic and Divisional Directors and senior management teams during the review process both within the Council and PCT.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 Customer Focus; Human Resources; Property; Equality; Human Rights; Corporate; Health & Safety; Impact on Staff

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Council Solicitor) and Section 151 Officer (Strategic Director - Support Services) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	Jeff Wring (01225 477323)
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	