

## **AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

### **11 MARCH 2022**

## **RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT**

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### **Recommendations**

- 1. The Chief Internal Auditor recommends that the Risk Management report be noted.**

### **Background**

2. Risk management is an essential part of delivering good governance and supports the Council's strategic ambitions. Effective and efficient risk governance and oversight provide assurance that the Council's business activities are enhanced by opportunities, and not adversely impacted by threats that could have been foreseen.
3. We have been working with the Corporate Risk Management Group (CRMG) to embed the revised risk management approach, which categorizes risks across 10 key areas. CRMG leads have worked with operational staff to score all risks across these themes enabling more consistent monitoring. This approach is supported by the implementation of the Pentana risk management software.

### **Risk Management**

4. The second phase of our risk management plan is now complete with 19 risk registers uploaded onto Pentana Risk, which encompasses 28 service areas. Risk managers have been supported to review, select, and assess the relevant risks for their areas. This enables evidenced based risks to be reviewed at either a Directorate or corporate level and allows for assessment across our 10 risk objectives.
5. The consistent design of the risk management framework allows for the introduction of key controls to mitigate multiple risks and identify areas where the individual management teams could introduce or strengthen controls.

### **Risk Position Update**

6. As at 23 February 2022 there are 1,322 risks recorded on Pentana Risk for WCC with an additional 79 for WCF. This is currently the combined number of risks from 19 risk registers across 28 service areas for the 10 corporate objectives.

7. We are now in a position to make a robust assessment of risk across the Council and plan to undertake a quality assurance review during the last quarter to strengthen this position further.

### **Key Themes**

10. The key themes remain focused both on recruitment and the environment, particularly in light of current circumstances. These are being closely monitored to ensure all appropriate controls and mitigations are in place, and we are undertaking detailed work with HR colleagues to investigate these in detail for the Workforce related risks.

11. In addition we are introducing a fraud focus to the risk registers to enable a consistent approach to the project and support our aspiration to build a stronger anti-fraud culture.

### **Contact Points**

#### Specific Contact Points for this report

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### **Supporting Information**

Appendix – Risk profile

### **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Chief Internal Auditor) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report: