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Shropshire and Wrekin Fire and Rescue Authority
25 June 2025

Corporate Risk Management Annual Report 2024/25

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact Simon Hardiman, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260201 or Karen Gowreesunker, Assistant Chief Fire Officer Service Support, on 01743 260267.

1 Executive Summary

This report informs Members of the corporate risk management work that has been undertaken during the previous twelve months.

2 Recommendations

The Fire Authority is asked to note this report.

3 Background

Ongoing monitoring of the Service's corporate risk management work is a responsibility of the Performance and Risk Group (PRG). and Risk Management Group (RMG). In turn the Standards, Audit and Performance Committee (SAP) receive regular corporate risk management reports.

However, risk management best practice guidance also indicates that the full Fire Authority should receive a summary report at least annually.

The Service's approach to the recording and management of corporate risk is currently under review. This included removing RMG and realigning risk reporting to other forums. The new approach to risk management was approved by the Service Management Team in early June 2025 whereby the new reporting process for the Authority will be aligned to new corporate risks. This report will be taken to the Authority's Standards, Audit and Performance (SAP) Committee in July 2025.

4 Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A Reporting Exemptions

There are exempt risks on the Corporate Risk Register. Details of these are provided in an exempt paper and will be covered in the closed session of the meeting.

5 Risk Management Progress

This section includes information about all events that have led to the current status with the Authority's corporate risk management system.

June 2024

The Fire Authority received the Corporate Risk Management Annual Report 2023/24.

July 2024

SAP agreed the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and Improvement Plan for inclusion in the 2023/24 Statement of Accounts. The Committee also received a corporate risk summary report.

Three new risks were added to the Exempt Corporate Risk Register.

September 2024

RMG reviewed the Corporate Risk Register, Departmental Risk Registers and Internal Audit Findings.

October 2024

SAP received an update on progress against the AGS Improvement Plan and a corporate risk summary report.

One risk relating to the Mobile Data Terminals was removed from the corporate risk register.

Two new risks relating to the Control Room Solution Integrated Communications Control System (CRS ICCS) and the Learning Management System (LMS) were added to the corporate risk register

November 2024

PRG reviewed the Corporate Risk Register.

December 2024

SAP received an update on progress against the AGS Improvement Plan and a corporate risk summary report.

Two risks relating to the Government White Paper on Fire Reform and HMICFRS Values & Culture Report and two exempt risks were closed on Corporate Risk Register.

January 2025

Service Managers and Members received risk management training from Zurich Insurance.

February 2025

SAP received the Auditors annual report 2023/24.

PRG reviewed the Corporate Risk Register.

Service Managers and Members received risk management training from Zurich Insurance.

April 2025

SAP received an update on progress against the AGS Improvement Plan and a corporate risk summary report.

Two risks relating to planned rolling power outages at stations and provisions of firefighter pensions support along with a further exempt risk were closed on the Corporate Risk Register.

May 2025

PRG reviewed the Corporate Risk Register.

Service Managers attended a Corporate Risk workshop to further review and refine the new suite of corporate risks and assign risk owners.

6 Overall Summary

There are currently twelve risks on the Corporate Risk Register. Five new risks were added during this reporting year.

7 Capacity

There are no capacity impacts arising from this report.

8 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

9 Legal Comment

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

10 HMICFRS Areas For Improvement, Cause of Concern, External Audit Recommendations

As set out in the background to this report, the HMICFRS inspection for the Service which took place in 2024, identified the management of corporate risk to be ineffective as part of the Best Use of Resources, Cause of Concern.

The cause of concern identified the need to achieve the following as part of the Service's improvement plan:

'The corporate risk register is actively used to mitigate and manage known risks.'.

The Service's approach to the recording, management and reporting of corporate risk is currently under review. A report will be taken to the Authority's Standards, Audit and Performance Committee in June 2025.

11 Community Safety

The effective management of corporate risk will ensure the Service and Authority is able to deliver services effectively to its communities.

12 Appendices

Appendix A
Summary of Corporate Risk Register

Exempt Appendix B
Paper 19 Exempt Section of Corporate Risk Register

13 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Summary of Corporate Risk Register Entries

Categories of Risk	Raised by	Date Raised	Description	Current Probability	Current Impact	Current Risk Rating	Direction of Travel	Owner
Information	Former Planning & Programme Manager	01/04/2012	The provision of accurate management information is dependent upon the adoption of high quality data management principles.	2	3	6	➔	Sally Edwards
Service Delivery	Joanne Coadey	11/03/2013	The Service has various contracts with suppliers of goods and services which if they were to fail or be impacted by poor performance could have a detrimental impact on the delivery of key service streams/functions. The Service also has a need for the timely delivery of goods to ensure the safety, legal compliance and availability of assets used to provide services to the community. These supply chains and costs are being disrupted by events outside the Service's control.	3	3	9	➔	Martin Guyler
Information	Sally Edwards	01/01/2012	To ensure the maximum availability of the C&C system as a mission critical function of the Service.	2	3	6	➔	Sally Edwards
Information	Sally Edwards	01/08/2012	Provide robust and resilient hardware and communications platforms to ensure availability of electronic systems to service delivery	2	2	4	➔	Sally Edwards
Finance	Joanne Coadey	23/09/2015	Reduction in government funding - insufficient income to cover Service revenue budget.	3	2	6	➔	Joanne Coadey

Categories of Risk	Raised by	Date Raised	Description	Current Probability	Current Impact	Current Risk Rating	Direction of Travel	Owner
Service Delivery	Former Fire Authority Member	19/07/2017	ICT is crucial for public service delivery, and this imposes a risk of disruption or damage to the reputation of SFRS in the event of a failure of its information technology systems.	2	3	6	➔	Sally Edwards
Service Delivery	Marc Millward	03/11/2023	Reduced availability of on-call appliances due to issues relation to recruitment and retention.	1	3	3	➔	Marc Millward
Service Delivery	Station Manager - Control	12/07/2024	Frequent unpredicted failures of the Control Room Solution Integrated Communications Control System (CRS ICCS) resulting in loss of service and inability to receive emergency calls in a timely and professional manner. This has the potential to cause delays in responding to emergencies and is a mission critical function of the service.	3	3	9	➔	Sally Edwards
People	Group Manager Training & Development	31/07/2024	Learning Management System (LMS) does not provide agile functionality to meet the demands of the Service requirements.	3	3	9	➔	Group Manager Training & Development

Key to Direction of Travel:

➔ shows that the general direction of the risk is unchanged

🡇 shows that the general direction of the risk is reducing

🡅 shows that the general direction of the risk is increasing.