

Corporate Risk Management Annual Report 2015/16

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

For further information about this report please contact:

John Redmond, Chief Fire Officer, on 01743 260278;

Ged Edwards, Planning, Performance and Communications Manager, 01743
260208; or

Councillor Dr Jean Jones, Risk Management and Audit Champion, 01952 882650.

1 Purpose of Report

This report informs Members about 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 and agree the recommendation from its Audit and Performance Management Committee that the Fire Authority receives corporate risk management reports every six months.

3 Background

Ongoing monitoring of the Service's corporate risk management work is a responsibility of the Service Management Team and Risk Management Group. In turn the Audit and Performance Management Committee will now receive regular corporate risk management reports and details of any relevant risks will be included in financial reports to the Strategy and Resources Committee.

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

4 Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A Reporting Exemptions

There was an exempt risk on the Corporate Risk Register, which the Risk Management Group has now agreed should be taken off the Register and monitored at departmental level. Details of this risk are provided in exempt paper 20 and will be covered in the closed session of the meeting.

5 Risk Management Review

Following Members' feedback from the risk management training, held in March, it was felt that the Audit and Performance Management Committee, as the scrutiny committee, should now receive the corporate risk management summary report. This report has previously been presented to the Strategy and Resources Committee, on the basis that, as the committee responsible for making recommendations on strategic direction and the budget, it also needs to have awareness of the risks faced by the Fire Authority.

However, in order to avoid the same report being presented to both committees, officers propose to incorporate information on corporate risk within appropriate financial reports to the Strategy and Resources Committee. This will assist in focussing attention on pertinent risks, when considering strategic direction and recommending a budget to the Fire Authority. The summary risk management report will now be presented to the Audit and Performance Management Committee, together with other internal control reports.

These changes to the committee's terms of reference are covered in Paper 9b Committee Membership and Constitution.

6 Risk Management Reporting to the Fire Authority

During the risk management training Members also discussed increasing the frequency of risk management reporting to the Fire Authority, which is currently an annual report.

At its meeting on 21 April 2016, the Audit and Performance Management Committee considered this issue and recommended that the Fire Authority receive a summary report every six months.

7 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.

July 2015

The Audit and Performance Management Committee agreed the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and Improvement Plan for inclusion in the 2014/15 Statement of Accounts.

The Strategy and Resources Committee received a corporate risk summary report.

The corporate risk that identified improvements and updates were needed to the process and system for providing fire-ground risk information was updated to highlight the resourcing issues experienced by the developers at SEED. It was noted that these would affect the timescales for delivery of a solution. As an interim measure the updates would be applied on all appliances by in-house staff.

September 2015

The Risk Management Group reviewed the Corporate Risk Register, Departmental Statements of Assurance, Departmental Risk Registers and Internal Audit Findings.

A business continuity exercise to test Fire Control fall back to Telford Central following the virtualisation of the Command and Control System was carried out.

A new risk was added to the Corporate Risk Register relating to Compliance with Public Services Network (PSN) / Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme (ESMCP).

December 2015

The Audit and Performance Management Committee received an update on progress against the Annual Governance Statement Improvement Plan and an Internal Audit progress monitoring report.

January 2016

The Risk Management Group reviewed the Corporate Risk Register, Departmental Statements of Assurance, Departmental Risk Registers and Internal Audit Findings.

February 2016

Officers planned the content of the training course for Members and middle managers with Zurich Insurance.

The Strategy and Resources Committee received a corporate risk summary report.

March 2016

Members received corporate risk management training from Zurich Insurance.

Middle Managers received departmental risk management training from Zurich Insurance.

Internal Audit carried out its annual review of the Service's Risk Management and Business Continuity process and classified them as 'Good'.

A new risk was added to the Corporate Risk Register relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Strategy and Resources Committee agreed to recommend to the Fire Authority a change to its terms of reference relating to the format of corporate risk management reporting.

April 2016

The Audit and Performance Management Committee received an update on progress against the Annual Governance Statement Improvement Plan and a corporate risk summary report.

Following a ruling by the European Union the risk relating to the Fire Industry Association Challenge has been closed on the Corporate Risk Register.

May 2016

The Risk Management Group reviewed the Corporate Risk Register, Departmental Statements of Assurance, Departmental Risk Registers and Internal Audit Findings.

The following risks were taken off the Corporate Risk Register and will be monitored through departmental risk registers:

- Improve and update the process and system for providing fire-ground risk information; and
- Information exempt from publication by virtue of Local Governments Act 1972, Schedule 12A, paragraphs 3 and 4.

Over the last twelve months the Corporate Risk Register has been reviewed by the Service Management Team at each of its monthly meetings.

8 Overall Summary

There are currently nine risks on the Corporate Risk Register, which include two new risks added during this reporting year. Three risks have been removed from the Register.

9 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

10 Legal Comment

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

11 Risk Monitoring

When considering this work stream officers have reviewed Brigade Order 3 Part 2 Risk Management Protocol and have determined that there are no direct risk implications, as this is purely a risk management summary update.

12 Appendices

Appendix A

Non –Exempt Corporate Risk Register

Appendix B

Exempt Section of Corporate Risk Register

13 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Non-Exempt Corporate Risk Register

ID	Categories of Risk	Raised by	Date Raised	Description	Notes / Action	Owner	Status
1	Information	Ged Edwards	01/04/2012	Provision of data and information	Re-Categorised from previous generic IT risk	Ged Edwards	Open
2	Information	Sally Edwards	01/01/2012	Security and resilience of the Command and Control System	Re-Categorised from previous generic IT risk	Sally Edwards	Open
3	Information	Sally Edwards	01/08/2012	Security and resilience of the IT network infrastructure	Re-Categorised from previous generic IT risk	Sally Edwards	Open
4	Finance	Internal Audit	21/12/2011	Failure of Primary Contractors / Supplier	Supersedes previous risk 82 (Purchasing and Procurement)	SMT Members	Open
5	Policy	Ged Edwards	13/03/2013	Maintaining Business Continuity		Ged Edwards	Open
6	Policy	Risk Management Group	27/8/2013	Local Authority Controlled Company		Andy Johnson	Open
7	People	Risk Management Group	17/03/2009	Retained Duty Staff - European Working Time Directive "opt-out" option		Louise McKenzie	Open

ID	Categories of Risk	Raised by	Date Raised	Description	Notes / Action	Owner	Status
8	Information	Rod Hammerton	30/9/2015	Introduction of Public Services Network / Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme		Sally Edwards	Open
9	Policy	John Redmond/Fire Authority Members	17/3/2016	Changes to the remit of Police and Crime Commissioner's		John Redmond	Open