

Corporate Risk Management Summary

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

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1 Purpose of Report

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

2 Recommendations

The Fire Authority is asked to note the contents of this report.

3 Background

Ongoing monitoring of the Authority's corporate risk management work is a responsibility of Service Management Team and is also a delegated responsibility for 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

The public of Shropshire have a right to know that their Fire and Rescue Authority is taking appropriate measures to deal with risks that could potentially impact on its ability to deliver an effective emergency service. However, the public disclosure of certain risks, to which the Authority is exposed, could in itself present a risk to the Authority. For this reason, although an 'open session' version of this report will always be made available, where an assessment against the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A indicates it would be appropriate, any exempted information would be excluded. Exempt information would then be incorporated in a separate 'closed session' report.

Please note that, as there has been no change to the “exempt risk” since the last annual Fire Authority report on 18 July 2012, it has not been reproduced as a separate exempt paper. For further information please refer to previous papers.

‘Open reports’ will include all information about sensitive risks that is not likely to compromise the Authority (e.g. risk identification number, risk assessment results, risk owner etc), with only the sensitive information being exempt, e.g. the risk description and any control measures included.

This approach helps to ensure that the public has as much information as possible about the risk environment, in which the Authority is operating, whilst at the same time limiting any damage that could be caused through its inappropriate use.

5 Risk Management Process Review

On 1 November 2012, members of the Service Management Team, the Risk Management Group (RMG) and the Fire Authority Member Champion for Risk Management and Audit attended a corporate risk training session provided by Zurich Municipal. Internal Audit had identified that RMG would benefit from such training and to ensure value for money this was extended to members of the Service Management Team.

The outcome of the training was that the corporate risk management process throughout Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service was in need of review. This review, which was co-ordinated through RMG, included a refresh of the RMG Terms of Reference and the Risk Management Protocol.

RMG concluded at its risk management review meeting on 3 January 2013 that the Corporate Risk Register should be based upon inability to deliver services. To support this, future corporate risks should be assessed as falling into five categories: Policy, Physical (appliances and equipment), Finance, Information and People.

The Corporate Risk Register was reviewed and RMG determined which risks should continue to be managed corporately, which should be closed and which should be managed as a departmental risk.

In order to avoid repetition, departmental assurance statements, which inform the Annual Governance Statement Improvement Plan, should form the basis of departmental risk registers.

These changes were reported and agreed by the Strategy and Resources Committee in January.

6 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 2012

The annual Corporate Risk Management Summary was presented to the Fire Authority.

September 2012

Progress against the Annual Governance Statement Improvement Plan was reported to the Audit and Performance Management Committee.

RMG Internal Audit Monitoring paper was reported to the Audit and Performance Management Committee.

November 2012

A risk management training course took place for members of the Service Management Team, RMG and the Fire Authority Member Champion for Risk Management and Audit.

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

Progress against the Annual Governance Statement Improvement Plan was reported to the Audit and Performance Management Committee.

December 2012

Risk management processes were reviewed following risk management training.

January 2013

Changes to the risk management process recommended by RMG were reported to, and agreed by, the Strategy and Resources Committee.

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

February – April 2013

Departmental Statements of Assurance (including Departmental Risk Registers and Internal Audit findings) were distributed, reviewed and updated by Service Managers.

Internal Audit's assessment of the Authority's risk management process was upgraded from reasonable to good.

Progress against the Annual Governance Statement Improvement Plan was reported to the Audit and Performance Management Committee.

May 2013

RMG reviewed the Corporate Risk Register, considered all Departmental Statements of Assurance and reviewed Departmental Risk Registers.

June 2013

Progress against the Annual Governance Statement Improvement Plan was reported to the Audit and Performance Management Committee.

7 Overall Summary

There are currently seven risks on the corporate risk register, which are subject to regular review and reported to the Service Management Team monthly.

8 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

9 Legal Comment

There are no legal implications associated with this report.

10 Initial Impact Assessment

An Initial Impact Assessment has been completed.

11 Appendix

Corporate Risk Register

12 Background Papers

There are no background papers associated with this report.

Corporate Risk Register

ID	Categories of Risk	Raised by	Date Raised	Description	Notes / Action	Owner	Status
75	People	Risk Management Group	17/03/2009	Retained Duty System Staff - European Working Time Directive "opt-out" option	This will remain as a corporate "People" risk.	Louise McKenzie	Open
35	People	Performance Improvement Team	18/01/2006	Information exempt from publication by virtue of Local Governments Act 1972, Schedule 12A, paragraph 4.	This will remain as a corporate "People" risk.	John Redmond	Open
1	Information	Ged Edwards	01/04/2012	Provision of data and information	Re-categorised from previous generic IT risk	Steve Worrall	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 / Ged Edwards / John Harrison	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)	Lisa Vickers / Sally Edwards / Andrew Kelcey / Joanne Coadey / Andy Perry	Open
5	Policy	Ged Edwards	13/03/2013	Maintaining Business Continuity		Ged Edwards	Open