

Risk Management – Education Attainment

Audit Committee

Date: 13th September 2017

Author: Head of Internal Audit

Wards: None

Locality Affected: None

Parishes Affected: None

1. Purpose and Reasons

1.1 Audit Committee's terms of reference include the following statement in relation to risk management:

1.2 *The role of the Audit Committee in relation to risk management covers three major areas:*

- *Assurance over the governance of risk, including overseeing the authority's risk management policy and strategy*
- *Keeping up-to-date with the risk profile and the effectiveness of risk management actions by reviewing arrangements to co-ordinate and lead risk management and following up risks identified by auditors and inspectors to ensure they are integrated into the risk management process.*
- *Monitoring the effectiveness of risk management arrangements and supporting the development and embedding of good practice in risk management.*

1.3 In order to help meet these requirements Members are presented with a half yearly update on the corporate risk register by the Corporate Planning Lead. It was also agreed that the Chair of Audit Committee would, in consultation with other Committee Members, the Head of Internal Audit and the Corporate Planning Lead, select areas from the corporate risk register for further discussion. In the past Members have received reports on:

- Emergency planning and business continuity
- Child sexual exploitation
- Information technology

1.4 At the June 2017 meeting of Audit Committee Members requested that the Head of Education provide an update on work being carried out to improve education attainment within Swindon.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the contents of the report be noted.

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3. Detail

Background

- 3.1 Audit Committee are presented with regular update reports regarding risk management activity within the Council along with the latest corporate risk register.
- 3.2 The corporate risk register reflects current and emerging strategic risks from across the organisation. Mitigating actions are actively monitored for implementation and effectiveness as part of this process.
- 3.3 It was agreed that the Chair of Audit Committee will select, in conjunction with other Committee Members and the Head of Internal Audit and Corporate Risk Manager, future risks to be covered. Members of Audit Committee selected Education Attainment as the corporate risk to be discussed at the September meeting.

Education Attainment

- 3.4 The Head of Education will attend Audit Committee to give Members a presentation on the current issues/risks within his area and what action is being taken to address these.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 Not Applicable

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Internal Audit is a statutory requirement of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The Internal Audit service also provides assurance to the Board Director: Resources regarding the requirements of Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 Not applicable.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 Not applicable.

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- 5.5 Education Attainment is appropriately recorded on the Risk Register for the services.

6. Consultees

- 6.1 The Corporate Director: Resources (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.1 None

8. Appendices

- 8.1 None