

**REPORT TO:** Audit and Governance Board

**DATE:** 29 September 2021

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Enterprise Community & Resources

**PORTFOLIO:** Corporate Services

**SUBJECT:** Corporate Risk Register Biannual Update 2021/22

**WARD(S)** Borough-wide

**1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To report on the biannual update of the Corporate Risk Register for 2021/22.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

- 1) the progress of actions is noted; and**
- 2) the Board reviews the robustness of the Corporate Risk Register and the adequacy of the associated risk management arrangements.**

**3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 The report contains an annual review on the corporate risks for this year.

3.2 The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to manage both internal and external risks as a key component of good corporate governance.

3.3 Risk is defined as being the threat that an event or action will adversely affect an organisation's ability to achieve its objectives and to successfully execute its strategies. Risk Management is defined as the process by which risks are identified, evaluated and controlled.

3.4 At Directorate level arrangements are in place for the high-risk mitigation measures on the Directorate Risk Registers to be reviewed and updated annually in line with Directorate Business Plans. Progress on these is reported to Management Team and Policy and Performance Boards.

- 3.5 Together with consultation with internal stakeholders, Directorate Risk Registers are central to any reviews and updates of the Corporate Risk Register. This ensures that the council maximises its opportunities whilst minimising and controlling the associated risks in delivering the council's vision and services for Halton.
- 3.6 The Risk Control Measures have been reviewed and updated in line with current changes within the Authority and as proposed by managers and internal stakeholders.
- 3.7 The risks have been grouped in order and the scores relate to 'Unmitigated Risk Scores' and then to 'Mitigated Risk Scores'. As a result once the mitigation measures have been implemented, it reduces the scores and highlights the remaining 'Residual Risk Scores'.
- 3.8 In particular the risks have been reprioritised so that people, i.e. the community and staff, take priority. The headings and scores in order are:
- i. Coronavirus (COVID-19) (25:20)
  - ii. Delivery of Services to Vulnerable Adults (25:20)
  - iii. Safeguarding Children and Adults (25:16)
  - iv. Health & Wellbeing (20:16)
  - v. Education (20:16)
  - vi. Cyber Risk (25:20)
  - vii. Data Security (25:15)
  - viii. Capacity and Resilience (20:16)
  - ix. Council Finances (25:20)
  - x. Keeping Halton Community Safe (15:12)
  - xi. Changes to Government Arrangements (25:15)
  - xii. Mersey Gateway (15:10)
  - xiii. Community Expectations (20:16)
  - xiv. Partnerships (9:4)
  - xv. Fraud (12:6)
  - xvi. Funding and Income Generation (16:12) and (20:16)

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 To provide a framework through which effectively manages the actual and potential opportunities and threats that may affect the achievement of the Council's strategic priorities and operational objectives.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no financial implications.

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 Corporate Effectiveness and Business Efficiency

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Failure to review and monitor the performance of the Corporate Risk Management could result in service development opportunities being lost and existing service delivery being compromised.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 Within the risk register there are a number of implications for Equality and Diversity issues, e.g. Budget Reductions and Capacity and Resilience.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.