REPORT TO:	Audit and Governance Board
DATE:	26 June 2024
REPORTING OFFICER:	Corporate Director – Chief Executive's Delivery Unit
PORTFOLIO:	Corporate Services
SUBJECT:	Corporate Risk Register Review, May 2024
WARD(S)	Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To report on the review of the Corporate Risk Register for the 2024/25 financial year.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

1) the review of risks mitigating 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 a commentary on the corporate risks for this financial 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 Together with consultation with internal stakeholders, annual review and half yearly monitoring reports 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.

3.5 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.

3.6 The risks have been listed 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'.

3.7 In particular the risks have been reprioritised so that people, i.e. the community and staff, take priority. The headings and scores are:

   i. Delivery of Services to Vulnerable Adults (25:16) (25:20)

   ii. Safeguarding Adults (25:16)

   iii. Children's Services (25:16) (25:16)

   iv. Health & Wellbeing (9:4) (9:2) (9:6)

   v. Cyber Risk (25:20)

   vi. Data Protection (25:15)

   vii. Capacity and Resilience (20:16)(20:16)

   viii. Council Finances (25:20)(25:20)

   ix. Keeping Halton Community Safe (15:12)

   x. Changes to Government Arrangements (25:15)

   xi. Fraud (20:4) and

   xii. Funding and Income Generation (16:12)

   xiii. Risk to Electoral Process (15:10)

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 To provide a framework 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 Failure to manage risk effectively can lead to unplanned spend manifesting itself in a range of ways, particularly where unforeseen mitigation is required. Robust risk management is inherently linked to the overall management of the Councils finances.

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

6.1 **Priority 01: Improving Health, Promoting Wellbeing and Supporting Greater Independence**

6.2 The Corporate Risk Register has links to the delivery of all corporate priorities

6.3 **Priority 02: Building a Strong, Sustainable Local Economy**

The Corporate Risk Register has links to the delivery of all corporate priorities

6.4 **Priority 03: Supporting Children, Young People and Families**

The Corporate Risk Register has links to the delivery of all corporate priorities

6.5 **Priority 04: Tackling Inequality and Helping Those Who Are Most In Need**

The Corporate Risk Register has links to the delivery of all corporate priorities

6.6 **Priority 05: Working Towards a Greener Future**

The Corporate Risk Register has links to the delivery of all corporate priorities

6.7 **Priority 06: Valuing and Appreciating Halton and Our Community**

The Corporate Risk Register has links to the delivery of all corporate priorities

6.8 **Resilient and Reliable Organisation**

The management or corporate risk sits primarily within the Resilient and Reliable Organisation priority, however has links to the delivery of all corporate priorities.

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Failure to review, monitor and act upon the Corporate Risk Register could result in service development opportunities being lost and existing service delivery being compromised.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1   There is the possibility of the emergence of Equality & Diversity issues across the Council's service portfolio where risks emerge and need to be mitigated. These issues would be addressed on a case by case basis.

9.0   **CLIMATE CHANGE**

9.1   There are no climate change implications.

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

10.1   None under the meaning of the Act.