

REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

REPORT OF THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

**For Information**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To review the Cleveland Fire Authority's Corporate Risk Register as attached at Appendix 1.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Members note Cleveland Fire Authority's Corporate Risk Register, as attached at Appendix 1.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Cleveland Fire Authority has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness, thereby implementing the principles and responsibilities of effective corporate governance arrangements.
- 3.2 In discharging these responsibilities, the Authority is responsible for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control including robust arrangements for the identification, assessment and management of risk.
- 3.3 The system of internal control is designed to manage risk efficiently, effectively and economically to an acceptable and reasonable level and thus contribute in the achievement of the Authorities vision. The risk management process is designed to identify, assess and evaluate the risks and allow actions to be implemented that will reduce the likelihood of the risk occurring or if the risk does occur to minimise its impact.
- 3.4 The Authority has approved a risk management framework consisting of a policy, a detailed procedure, a risk management toolkit, a suite of risk registers and a detailed Community Risk Profile underpinned by a suite of risk assessments. This

framework was approved by Members in 2018 and then communicated to all managers and staff.

- 3.5 The Corporate Risk Register (CRR) is the tool used to identify the strategic threats and risks to the achievement of the Authority's vision. It evaluates the risk and summarises the control measures identified to reduce these risks. The CRR therefore informs the strategic and financial planning processes of the Brigade.
- 3.6 The Authority's current Corporate Risk Register is maintained dynamically, however on a regular basis there is a full review of the register which further strengthens the Authority's governance arrangements.

4 CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

- 4.1 The approved Corporate Risk Register is regularly reviewed to ensure it reflects the current situation regarding existing and potential risks the Brigade could face.
- 4.2 In September 2022 a review of the Corporate Risk Register was undertaken by the Active Risk Team, a forum that is made up of the Brigade's Heads of Service followed by a review of the Corporate Risk Register and the wider environment by the Executive Leadership Team. As part of this review information from the Cleveland Local Resilience Forum and the newly published National Risk Assessment has been taken into consideration.
- 4.3 The outcome of the review has resulted in a number of changes to the Corporate Risk Register.
- 4.4 In summary the changes to the Corporate Risk Register are;
- **New and Emerging Risks:**
 - No new / emerging risks identified

- **Changes to existing Risks:**

It is recommended that the following risk is reworded

E01: Financial Pressures and Service Sustainability

Unknown outcomes relating to future Comprehensive Spending and Fair Funding Reviews; capping on council tax increases; business rate retention scheme; and unfunded inflationary and pay awards in addition to financial pressures associated with the impact of COVID-19 (unplanned expenditure; and loss of council tax and

business rates income) may negatively impact the planning and sustainability of future community safety services.

Rationale: Extend the working of the risk to incorporate the current issues of partially funded pay awards and inflationary increases on non-pay budgets.

- **Risks to be Deleted from CRR**

- L01: Grenfell Tower Inquiry**

- Outcomes and publicity from the on-going high profile Public Inquiry into the Grenfell Tower Fire on 14th June 2017 may impact on the reputation and public confidence of Cleveland Fire Brigade thereby preventing the Brigade in discharging its duties efficiently and effectively.

Rationale: The improvement plan arising from the Grenfell Tower enquiry is established and currently fully resourced. Its implementation is robustly and effectively managed with progress update reports provided to ELT on a quarterly basis. No issues have been raised within these update reports and thus it is recommended that the risks associated with the Grenfell Tower improvement plan are now managed through the relevant Directorate Risk Registers.

- **Risk Mitigating Actions:**

Additional actions to mitigate the likelihood and / or impact of the identified risks have been identified and incorporated into the body of the Corporate Risk Register.

4.5 These changes have been incorporated into the body of the Corporate Risk Register attached as **Appendix 1**.

4.6 The Assistant Chief Fire Officer Strategic Planning and Resources will ensure that the Corporate Risk Register is monitored through the approved risk management arrangements. Specifically this involves submitting the CRR for information to the Audit and Governance Committee on a regular basis and that the Committee will report to the Authority any matters it deems to be of a significant nature.

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