

## 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.

#### 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 vision of the Authority. 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 community risk assessments. The risk management framework also takes cognisance of the National Risk Assessment and the Cleveland Local Resilience Community Risk Register.

- 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 February 2025 a review of the Corporate Risk Register was undertaken by the Executive Leadership Team. As part of this process, information from the Cleveland Local Resilience Forum and the 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;

#### **CHANGE OF SCORING MATRIX**

Previous publications of the Corporate Risk Register have utilised a 4x4 scoring matrix. Scoring has been changed to now utilise a 5x5 matrix, to align with the approach used in the National Risk Register.

#### **REVIEW OF ALL EXISTING RISKS**

Whilst scores were recalculated for all existing risks, an opportunity was taken to review the wording of risk descriptions to ensure that risks are articulated as clearly as possible. This has resulted in some changes of wording to risk descriptions to make them more specific.

#### **NEW RISKS**

At the point of review four new risks were added to the register:

- IF there is a failure to effectively recruit, train and retain on-call Firefighters THEN this will affect appliance availability, negatively impacting on community safety. (Score 20 out of 25, Very High Risk)
- IF Cleveland Fire Brigade Risk Management Service CIC do not operate in a way which aligns with the Brigade's values THEN there is a risk of financial and reputational impact. (Score 16 out of 25, High Risk)

- IF implementation of the new Community Safety System is not successful THEN there may be an impact on staff confidence and continuing risks associated with the current system. (Score 6 out of 25, Medium Risk)
- IF there is an event that compromises Firefighter safety THEN this may result in death or serious injury. (Score 5 out of 25, Medium Risk)

4.5 As this is the first publication the Corporate Risk Register since changes to scoring were implemented, the risk register does not include an 'Original Risk' comparison. This will be included in all future publications of the risk register to demonstrate direction of travel against all risks, as well as a 'Warming Up' and 'Cooling Down' indication, to enable the CFA to see how risks are progressing over time.

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.

**PETER RICKARD**  
**CHIEF FIRE OFFICER**

**KRISTINE WARD**  
**ACFO STRATEGIC PLANNING & RESOURCES**

**SIMON WEASTELL**  
**ACFO COMMUNITY PROTECTION**