

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 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. 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 January 2023 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 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;

- **New and Emerging Risks:**

The following new / emerging risks identified

Public Perception: Recent publicity and associated outcomes relating to other Fire and Rescue Services and potential industrial action may impact on the reputation and public confidence of Cleveland Fire Brigade thus preventing the Brigade in discharging its duties efficiently and effectively.

Rationale: The Brigade prides itself on having a good reputation with the public which assists us in delivering our services in an effective manner. During 2022 a number of independent reports were published that do not portray the fire and rescue service in a good light with a further spotlight report on the Values and Culture of Fire and Rescue Services is being produced by the HMICFRS. These reports come on the back of a number of other similar reports in previous years which may have cumulative impact of adversely impacting the perception of the public on the Brigade and thus negatively impact the ability of the Brigade to deliver its services in an effective and efficient manner.

Social Unrest and Public Disorder: Current widespread industrial action may lead to social unrest and increases in public disorder which may prevent the Brigade in discharging its duties efficiently, effectively and safely.

Rationale: Public disorder, although rare, has occurred in the past and can take many forms. It is unpredictable and can be influenced by a variety of factors including community tensions. The current widespread industrial action being experienced nationally may increase the risk of such incidents of public disorder which may result in increasing demand on the Brigade's services whilst also increasing the risk of violence to staff against the Brigade personnel.

Power Disruption: Potential disruptions in power supplies may result in increasing numbers of life risk Emergency Response incidents and impact the ability of the Brigade to discharge its duties efficiently and effectively.

Rationale: Due to national issues on the security of gas supplies the government has plans (The Electricity Supply Emergency Code) in place to conserve energy this winter through electricity blackouts that can range from three-hours a day, up to a 24 hour periods. In such situations there is an increased risk of life risk emergency response incidents occurring and also a risk of the ability of the Brigade to respond to such incidents in an efficient and effective manner.

- **Changes to existing Risks:**

No Risks are proposed to be altered

- **Risks to be Deleted from CRR**

No Risks are proposed to be deleted from the Corporate Risk Register

- **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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