

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. 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 August 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:**

No new / emerging risks identified.

- **Changes to existing Risks:**

PO3: Fire and Rescue Reform

Reduce risk from 12 (High) to 8 (Medium)

Rationale: The draft white paper 'Reforming Our Fire and Rescue Services' issued in 2022 for consultation has provided a clearer vision of the proposals for the Fire and Rescue Service. A gap and impact analysis of the proposals in the white paper has commenced so that we fully understand the implications of the proposals.

Momentum for the formal approval of the white paper has not been as fast as expected and the white paper remains in draft.

The risk associated with the White Paper remains but the removal of the uncertainty of the proposals and lack of momentum on its approval and introduction has reduced the level of risk from 12 (High) to 8 (Medium). When the white paper moves from draft form to approved legislation the risk level will be reviewed.

SO1: Increased Vulnerability

Reduce risk from 12 (High) to 8 (Medium)

Rationale: The Brigade community risk assessment shows us that there are high levels of vulnerabilities within our communities which have a proven direct correlation to the risk of fire incidents occurring and resultant demand for the Brigade's services.

Due to increasing levels of health inequalities, increasing fuel stress and the cost of living crisis it was anticipated that there could be an increase in levels of life risk incidents occurring for the Brigade to deal with thus the risk was increased to high risk during 2022.

Our intelligence framework has demonstrated that the anticipated increase in life risk incidents has not materialised to the extent that we expected and thus it is proposed that the risk is reduced from high risk to medium risk as current levels of demand is being absorbed and dealt with in core service delivery.

○ **Risks to be Deleted from CRR**

No risks are proposed to be removed 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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