

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, procedure, toolkit, risk registers and a detailed Strategic Assessment of Risk underpinned by a suite of community risk assessments. The risk management framework takes cognisance of the National Risk Assessment and the Cleveland Local Resilience Community Risk Register.

- 3.5 The Corporate Risk Register (CRR) identifies 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. It 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 Following the previous meeting of the CFA Audit & Governance Committee, the service has carried out work to refresh risk narratives and control measures against risks listed on the Corporate Risk Register. This work provides the Committee with an up to date reflection of current activity.
- 4.3 Additionally, in September 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.
- 4.4 In summary, the changes to the Corporate Risk Register are:

Risk Score Revision (Increase): Financial Pressures

IF financial pressures continue due to the insufficient funding settlement or additional financial pressures THEN our ability to deliver critical services may be compromised.

The score of 5 (impact) x 3 (likelihood) = 15 (High), has been increased to a score of 5 (impact) x 5 (likelihood) = 25 (Very High)

Risk Score Revision (Increase): Cyber Attack

IF there is a cyber-attack THEN there may be significant disruption impacting on our ability to fulfil our statutory functions.

The score of 4 (impact) x 3 (likelihood) = 12 (High), has been increased to a score of 5 (impact) x 4 (likelihood) = 20 (Very High)

Risk Score Revision (Increase): Loss of Public Confidence

IF we suffer reputational damage from any source THEN there may be a loss of public confidence in our service. This risk could adversely affect the effectiveness and efficiency of the Authority/Brigade.

The score of 3 (impact) x 3 (likelihood) = 9 (Medium), has been increased to a score of 4 (impact) x 4 (likelihood) = 16 (High)

Risk Removal: Cleveland Fire Brigade Risk Management Service (CIC)

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.

Risk score prior to removal 2 (impact) x 1 (likelihood) = 2 (Very Low)

Risk Removal: Multi-Agency Coordination System

IF the ongoing issue with the Multi-Agency Coordination System is not resolved, THEN the risk to CFB will be loss of communication between the Control room and the incident ground, and the risk of missing a 999 emergency call.

Risk score prior to removal 5 (impact) x 5 (likelihood) = 25 (Very High)

Risk Addition: Airwave to ESN

IF the transition of all emergency services from Airwave to ESN is not completed by 31st Dec 2029, THEN the national Airwave contract will need to be extended to cover the revised end date, and costs could increase to an as-yet undetermined level placing a funding pressure on the Brigade.

Risk score 4 (impact) x 5 (likelihood) = 20 (Very High)

- 4.5 The Assistant Chief Fire Officer Strategic Planning, People 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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