

Decision maker:	Governance & Audit & Standards Committee
Subject:	Risk Register July 2014
Date of decision:	26 th September 2014
Report by:	Chief Internal Auditor
Wards affected	All
Key decision (over £250k)	N/A

1. Summary

- 1.1 Since the new Risk Policy has come into force there have been three reviews of significant risks; November 2013, March 2014 & July 2014,

2. Purpose of report

- 2.1 This report is to update Members of the Governance & Audit & Standards Committee on the current significant risks facing PCC and mitigating actions.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that Members of Governance & Audit & Standards Committee note the risks and mitigation.

4. Background

- 4.1 Based on their drivers and impacts, risks have been categorised into the following themes:

- Environmental
- Financial
- Legal & Compliance
- People & Processes
- Missed Opportunities

- 4.2 There are 43 High risks under these headings with the most significant risks being:

4.2.1 Environmental

- Lack of capacity cemeteries/ changing community needs
- Not reducing usage or costs of energy and limited energy coming into the city by 2018

4.2.2 Financial

- Impacts of budget cuts across the board leading to loss of skilled workers, loss of staff resource/ reduced capacity, tip over point due to insufficient capacity resulting in cessation of service/ service failure, unsustainable services & failure to adequately maintain assets.

- Services reporting at being at the point where further cuts could mean services would no longer be viable include emergency planning, HR and Legal & Performance (in particular legal services for child protection).
- A further issue is that continually driving down costs such as domiciliary care is reaching the point where it may no longer be sustainable as businesses may not be able to compete with other employers at low levels of pay.

4.2.3 Legal & Compliance

- Pressure of Government/ Legal requirements, both new and existing, which along with budget cuts leaves the Authority vulnerable to not meeting certain statutory obligations. Areas of particular vulnerability include emergency planning, adult social care, children's safeguarding, data archiving and provision of school places.

4.2.4 People and Processes

- Areas of vulnerability include inter agency communications especially around anti-social behaviour issues and not engaging with the third sector; working with resilience forums to ensure a guaranteed supply of fuel in emergency planning; schools not meeting attainment targets and project management not delivering.

4.3 A key part of good risk management includes challenge on the risks themselves and mitigation. The risk register was compiled from information supplied by Heads of Services and moving forward, the intention is to link risk and performance more closely. At the first review of quarterly service performance, the risks and actions to mitigate the risks were reviewed before going to SDB for further review by them and Strategic Directors individually with their relevant services.

4.4 The Risk Register (Appendix A) does not contain specific project risks which are managed by the relevant Project's Boards and Corporate Programme Board; neither does it contain specific litigation risks as these are reported to the Resources Portfolio Holder.

5. **Equality impact assessment (EIA)**

5.1 The contents of this report do not have any relevant equalities impact and therefore an equalities assessment is not required.

6. **Legal implications**

6.1 The approach proposed will provide an appropriate framework for the management of legal risk.

7. **Head of Finance & S151 Officer Comments**

7.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

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Signed by: Lyn Graham, Chief Internal Auditor

Appendices:

Appendix A Risk Register by Service

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Risk Management Policy	PolicyHub