

REPORT TO: Business Efficiency Board

DATE: 18 November 2015

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Community & Resources

PORTFOLIO: Resources

SUBJECT: Corporate Risk Register – Progress Commentary

WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To report on the progress of actions in the Corporate Risk Register for 2015/16.

2.0 RECOMMENDED: That

- 1) the progress on actions are noted;**
- 2) the Board reviews the robustness of the Corporate Risk Register and the adequacy of the associated risk management arrangements; and**
- 3) the Board make such recommendations to the Executive Board as is necessary and appropriate.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The report contains a progress commentary on the actions taken in relation to the corporate risks for this year.

3.2 The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to manage both internal and external risks as a key component of good corporate governance.

3.3 Risk is defined as being the threat that an event or action will adversely affect an organisation's ability to achieve its objectives and to successfully execute its strategies. Risk Management is defined as the process by which risks are identified, evaluated and controlled.

3.4 At Directorate level, arrangements are in place for the high-risk mitigation measures on the Directorate Risk Registers to be reviewed and updated at mid-year in line with Directorate Business Plans. Progress on these is reported to Management Team and Policy and the Performance Boards.

3.5 Directorate Risk Registers inform the Corporate Risk Register, which ensures that the council maximises its opportunities whilst minimising and controlling the associated risks in delivering the council's vision and services for Halton.

3.6 The Corporate Risk Register and subsequent progress updates have been completed in consultation with internal stakeholders.

3.7 The risks have been grouped in order of priority; in the first instance relating to 'Unmitigated Risk Scores' and then 'Mitigated Risk Scores'. As prioritised the headings together 'Mitigated Risk Scores' are as follows:

- i. **Budget Reductions** (16:12);
- ii. **Capacity and Resilience** (16:12);
- iii. **Safeguarding Children and Adults** (16:12);
- iv. **Community Expectations** (12:9);
- v. **Mersey Gateway** (12:4);
- vi. **Partnerships** (12:4);
- vii. **Architectural Landscapes** (12:3);
- viii. **Fraud** (9:9); and
- ix. **Funding and Income Generation** (9:4).

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Risk Management provides a framework through which the Council effectively manages the actual and potential opportunities and threats that may affect the achievement of its strategic priorities and operational objectives.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Failure to manage corporate risks could lead to a loss of reputation for the Authority, financial loss or service failure.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 The management of business risks is important in order to support "corporate effectiveness and business efficiency" (the sixth priority in the Corporate Plan).

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 Failure to review and monitor the performance of the Corporate Risk Management could result in service development opportunities being lost and existing service delivery being compromised.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Within the risk register there are a number of implications for Equality and Diversity issues, e.g. Budget Reductions and Capacity and Resilience. It is important that equality impact assessments continue to be undertaken in such circumstances.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

9.1 There are no relevant background documents.