



Classification	Item No.
Open	

Meeting:	Audit Committee
Meeting date:	15 March 2022
Title of report:	Risk Register
Report by:	Sam Evans Executive Director of Finance
Decision Type:	Non Key
Ward(s) to which report relates	All

Executive Summary:

Risk Management is a key part of Bury Council's Code of Corporate Governance and underpins its system of internal control.

The Audit Committee are tasked with the responsibility of reviewing and scrutinizing risks where the impact has the potential to disrupt achievement of the Council's priorities. This is achieved by regular review and their seeking assurance that appropriate controls are implemented to manage these risks.

This report provides an updated position with regards to the risks identified and assessed on the Council's Corporate Risk Register. These risks have been considered by the Executive Team as those with the potential to disrupt the Council's strategic objectives and service delivery.

The Corporate Risk Register was first presented to Audit Committee at the November 2021 meeting. This report provides an update on the work progressed to date and demonstrates that efforts are ongoing to embed a culture of good risk management across the Council.

A total of **18** risks have been identified as those of a genuine corporate nature and are summarised as follows:

- **18** risks are currently present on the Corporate Risk Register
- **15** risks are currently rated as Significant (risk score 15-25)
- **3** risks are currently rated as High (risk score 8-12).

Of these 18 risks:

- 1 has increased in score
- 4 have decreased in score
- 9 have remained static
- 2 have been newly introduced
- 2 have not been reviewed in the last reporting period.

Recommendation(s)

That:

The Audit Committee:

- Note the update provided;
- Receive the Corporate Risk Register at Appendix A;
- Review the Risk Matrix presented at Appendix B;
- Review the information presented;
- Determine whether the level of assurance provided against the risks is sufficient; and,
- Select two risks to receive a “Deep Dive” review to be presented at the next meeting of the Audit Committee.

Key Considerations

1. Background

The Corporate Risk Register was first presented to Audit Committee at the November 2021 meeting, following agreement that the Executive Team would produce a mechanism to manage the Council’s exposure to strategic risks. This report provides an update on the work progressed to date and demonstrates that efforts are ongoing to embed a culture of good risk management across the Council.

2. Key Considerations

The work progressed in the last quarter reflects progress toward providing the Audit Committee with adequate assurance of dynamic corporate risk management. The Corporate Risk Register represents a collation of risks identified and assessed as significant risks to Bury Council.

The following heat maps reflects the current and target risk profile in respect to those risks on the appended register:

Current

Impact	5			4	5	1
	4		1	1	3	1
	3					1
	2					1
	1					
		1	2	3	4	5
		Likelihood				

Target

Impact	5	1	3	1		
	4	2	5	2		
	3			1	1	
	2				1	
	1				1	
		1	2	3	4	5
		Likelihood				

Community impact/ Contribution to the Bury 2030 Strategy

Ensuring compliance with Financial Procedures and Policies

Equality Impact and considerations:

24. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) *eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;*
 - (b) *advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;*
 - (c) *foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.*
25. *The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.*
-

Assessment of Risk:

The following risks apply to the decision:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Failure to identify and own major risks that may prevent the Council from achieving one or more of its objectives.• Failure to ensure that the major risks are being managed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of risk management arrangements at Corporate level.• Review of the Council's risk management strategy and arrangements for the maintenance of risk registers.• Review the associated information management system and reporting arrangements.• Regular review of a Corporate Risk Register in alignment with the revised risk management strategy.

Consultation:

N/a

Legal Implications:

The Council constitution sets out that the Audit Committee is responsible for providing assurance on the council's audit, governance (including risk management and information governance) and financial processes in accordance with the functions scheme. Under the Account and Audit Regulations 2015, Authorities must undertake an effective internal audit to evaluate the effectiveness of their risk management, control and governance processes. Consideration must be given to the Public Internal Audit Standards (PIAS) and sector specific guidance.

Financial Implications:

Mitigating some of the risks may require financial resources and a number of risks are around organisational and services financial resilience and loss of income following the pandemic.

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Background papers:

- Corporate Risk Register at Appendix A;
- Risk Matrix at Appendix B.

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
BGI	Business Growth and Infrastructure department
CC	Corporate Core department
CYP	Children and Young People's department
DSPT	Data Security and Protection Toolkit
OCO	One Commissioning Organisation
FIN	Finance department
ICS	Integrated Care System
IGSG	Information Governance Steering Group

Risk Register Update

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report provides an updated position in respect to those risks that have been identified and assessed as significant risks to Bury Metropolitan Bury Council, collectively referred to as the Corporate Risk Register.
- 1.2. The report presents the risk position and status as at **February 2022**.

2. Background

- 2.1. Following revision to the Council's approach to Risk Management, the Executive Team were tasked with developing a risk register that would capture events and circumstances which had the potential to disrupt the Council's ability to meet its strategic and operational objectives.
- 2.2. These objectives have been identified as the four strategic outcomes of the Bury 2030 Community Strategy, and each risk included has been assigned to one of these outcomes:
 - Economic Growth and Inclusion
 - Delivering Together
 - Strength-based Approach
 - Local Neighborhoods.
- 2.3. The Corporate Risk Register (Appendix A) was first presented to Audit Committee at the November 2021 meeting. This repository captures the Council's key strategic risks agreed by the Executive Team and categorized as warranting regular scrutiny to help the Council minimise future financial risks and adverse implications. Additionally, it details the existing controls that provide some level of assurance and identifies planned actions being undertaken to mitigate these risks.
- 2.4. Assessment of each risk has been performed in accordance with the Risk Matrix, introduced within the Council's Risk Management Strategy, attached at Appendix B for ease.

3. Corporate Risk Register

- 3.1 The Corporate Risk Register (Appendix A) captures risks identified as significant to delivery of the Council's key objectives, irrespective of their current scoring.
- 3.2 There are currently 18 risks on the Corporate Risk Register. Of these 18, 16 risks have been reviewed by the Risk Owner and assessed to: update the

progression of mitigating actions; consider the level of assurance provided by existing controls; and reevaluate both the likelihood and impact, in order to determine whether the risk score should be increased, decreased or remain static.

- 3.3 There are currently a total of 18 risks on the corporate risk register, of which 15 risks (83.3%) are rated as significant:

No. Risks	Low (1-3)	Moderate (4-6)	High (8-12)	Significant (15-25)
18	0	0	3	15

- 3.4 The table below identifies the number of risks by strategic objective and by risk score.

Department	No. Risks	Low (1-3)	Moderate (4-6)	High (8-12)	Significant (15-25)
Delivering Together	4	0	0	2	2
Economic Growth and Inclusion	7	0	0	0	7
Local Neighborhoods	3	0	0	0	3
Strength based approach	4	0	0	1	3
TOTAL	18	0	0	3	15

- 3.5 The following table presents the risks as split across Council directorates:

Department	No. Risks	Low (1-3)	Moderate (4-6)	High (8-12)	Significant (15-25)	Risks Not Scored
CC	8	0	0	2	6	0
CYP	2	0	0	0	2	0
FIN	2	0	0	0	2	0
OCO	2	0	0	1	1	0
OPS	4	0	0	0	4	0
TOTAL	18	0	0	3	15	0

- 3.6 In exercising their duty to scrutinize risks those risks presented, the Audit Committee are requested to consider the points below in relation to the information detailed for each risk:

- Does the Key Potential Impact accurately describe the real risk to the Council?
- Are the risk scores (Current and Target) reflective of the current position?
- Are the Current Controls still operating effectively?
- Do the Current Controls articulate how they contribute to managing the risk?
- Have or will the Planned Actions achieve or go towards mitigating

- the risk further?
- Horizon scanning – Is the Committee aware of any significant changes that could affect the risk in the future?

4 Trend Analysis

- 4.1 This section of the report reflects the current position of each risk following review by the Risk Owner:

Risks that have increased in score

- 4.2 During this reporting period **1** risk has increased in score:
- **CR3 Security and Resilience**

Risks that have decreased in score

- 4.3 During this reporting period **4** risks have decreased in score:
- **CR4 Digital Transformation**
 - **CR8 Elections**
 - **CR11 Asset Management (Operational Health & Safety)**
 - **CR13 Regulatory Compliance**

Risks that have remained static

- 4.4 During this reporting period **9** risks have remained static:
- **CR1 Financial Sustainability**
 - **CR2 COVID-19 Impact** (partial review)
 - **CR5 Increasing demand pressures** (partial review)
 - **CR6 Climate Change**
 - **CR7 ICS Implementation**
 - **CR9 Workforce Skills and Capability**
 - **CR10 EU Exit Impacts**
 - **CR14 Staff Safety and Wellbeing** – previously Workforce Planning (Corporate Health & Safety)
 - **CR15 Regeneration and Development**

Risks that have not been reviewed

- 4.5 During this reporting period **2** risks have not been reviewed by their assigned Risk Owners:
- **CR12 Children's Social Care Services**
 - **CR16 Special Education Needs and Disabilities**

Risks that have reached their target level

- 4.6 During this reporting period **0** risks have reached their target level.

New risks

4.7 During this reporting period **2** new risks have been added to the Corporate Risk Register:

- **CR17 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment**
- **CR18 PSN Accreditation.**

4.8 Planned actions to address the risks

Mitigating actions have been identified and are on track to deliver against 16 of the risks, however the current position of the 2 risks awaiting review is unknown.

4.9 Heat Maps

The following heat maps reflects the current and target risk profile in respect to those risks on the corporate risk register:

Current

Impact	5			4	5	1
	4		1	1	3	1
	3					1
	2					1
	1					
		1	2	3	4	5
		Likelihood				

Target

Impact	5	1	3	1		
	4	2	5	2		
	3			1	1	
	2				1	
	1				1	
		1	2	3	4	5
		Likelihood				

5 Deep Dives

5.1 At the November meeting of the Audit Committee, the following “Deep Dive” reports were requested, providing further detail to the narrative presented on the “Red Risk Register”:

- **CC/1**- Council liability for the death of an employee or member of the public.
- **OPS/17** - Shortage of staff, particularly LGV Class II drivers required to drive RCVs, sweepers and tippers, also Vehicle Workshop staff from Manager to Mechanics. In addition, national shortage of HGV drivers and high market rate.

- 5.2 The purpose of the Deep Dive is to promote discussion and closer scrutiny of specific risks selected by the Committee, to ensure appropriate controls are implemented and rationale adequately explained.
- 5.3 In this regard, the Audit Committee are requested to select 2 risks from the 18 captured on the Corporate Risk Register, for Deep Dive analysis at their subsequent meeting.

6 Next Steps

- 6.1 Work is ongoing to embed a culture of robust risk management across the Council. In preparation for the 2022/23 financial year, a full review of the Corporate Risk Register will be undertaken by Risk Owners to establish a refreshed Register for the next reporting period.
- 6.2 At the following meeting, the Audit Committee will be presented with both a Closing Corporate Risk Register for 2021/22 and the Opening Corporate Risk Register for 2022/23.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 The Audit Committee is asked to:
- Note the update provided;
 - Receive the Corporate Risk Register at Appendix A;
 - Review the Risk Matrix presented at Appendix B;
 - Review the information presented;
 - Determine whether the level of assurance provided against the risks is sufficient; and,
 - Select two risks to receive a “Deep Dive” review to be presented at the next meeting of the Audit Committee.