

To the Chair and Members of the Audit Committee

Risk Management Framework Review 2013

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Audit Committee has a role “to monitor the effective development and operation of risk management in the council”. The purpose of this report is to present the draft Risk Management Framework as part of the consultation process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Members are asked to comment on the content of this report.

BACKGROUND

3. The Council’s approach to Risk Management has been reviewed and significantly improved to reflect the results of a Risk Management Health Check undertaken by Zurich and the knowledge gained from officers within the Corporate Policy and Performance Team becoming qualified Management of Risk Practitioners.

KEY IMPROVEMENT

4. The revised approach is based around three key documents that make up the Risk Management Framework (Appendix A). The **Risk Management Policy** is a high level policy to communicate how risk management will be implemented throughout the Council to support the realisation of its strategic objectives. The **Risk Management Process Guide** describes the series of steps and their respective associated activities necessary to implement risk management. The **Risk Management Toolkit** is a collection of templates and information to enable the risk management framework to be effectively implemented.
5. Key improvement include:
 - A more transparent and focused approach;
 - Aligned to Management of Risk principles;
 - Stronger links to governance initiatives across the council;
 - More prescriptive approach that can be easily replicated;
 - More detail about the risk management approach and how to implement it;
 - Clearer levels of responsibility;

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OBJECTIVES

6. The embedding of robust risk management arrangements within the Council incorporating the management of strategic risks creates an environment in which we can successfully meet our objectives to deliver Doncaster's priorities and the Mayoral Priorities Outcome Framework.

RISKS & ASSUMPTIONS

7. Consideration of the effective development and operation of risk management within the Council is an important governance and performance management process which helps to reduce risks that could prevent or delay delivery of objectives. The Risk Management Framework is intergral to the devivery of good governance.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

8. Any specific implications will be reported separately and in the context of any initiative proposed to be taken in relation to the management of risk.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. Should any specific initiatives be required, in response to the management of risks, any cost implications will be reported and addressed as and when they arise.

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