

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:**           **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**DATE:**               **WEDNESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2013**

**REPORT BY:**       **HEAD OF FINANCE**

**SUBJECT:**           **RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT**

**1.00**   **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01    To present the Internal Audit report on Risk Management to the committee.

**2.00**   **BACKGROUND**

2.01    Each year Internal Audit is required to give an opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of Risk Management in the Annual Report. That report, presented to the committee in June, confirmed the adequacy and effectiveness and stated that the council is making progress in embedding risk management but that there was a need to refresh the way risk is reported.

2.02    That opinion was based on the findings of our review of risk management. The final report has now been issued. It is brought to the committee because of its importance in the annual audit opinion and because of the role of the committee in respect of risk management. The report is attached, Appendix A.

2.03    The length of time spent in agreeing and finalising the report has meant that management were able to use the findings in their updates of the Improvement Plan and Risk Management Strategy. These are presented to this meeting.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01    In 2011/12 an advisory report on the key components of risk management identified that risk assessment and risk mitigation were the areas that needed development within Flintshire. This review concentrated on those areas to evaluate the extent to which Risk Management identifies and evaluates risks faced by the council and establishes effective mitigation actions.

3.02    The review concludes that the Risk Management Strategy had been updated to cover all key components of risk management. However the SARC had a number of weaknesses as a corporate risk register. It recommended that the format of the SARC should be refreshed and that Council objectives should be noted against strategic risks.

3.03 The review also identified partnership working and project working as areas where risk management could be improved.

3.04 All recommendations were agreed by management, with early implementation dates for the significant recommendations.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 Members are requested to note the report.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 None as a direct result of this report.

#### **6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 None as a direct result of this report.

#### **7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None as a direct result of this report.

#### **8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 None as a direct result of this report.

#### **9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 None as a direct result of this report.

#### **10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 None as a direct result of this report.

#### **11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 None as a direct result of this report.

#### **12.00 APPENDICES**

Risk Management internal audit report

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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