

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

DATE: **WEDNESDAY, 29 JANUARY 2014**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SUBJECT: **RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

1.00 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.01 To provide members with an update on the improved risk management approach as part of streamlining and integrating the business planning arrangements.
- 1.02 To provide an overview of the key risks of the Improvement priorities of the Council.

2.00 **BACKGROUND**

- 2.01 Audit Committee received a report in September 2013 which outlined the changes in risk management approaches following the adoption of the Council's Improvement Plan.
- 2.02 The Council adopted the Improvement Plan for 2013/14 on 25 June 2013. The adoption of the plan and its priorities provided the Council with the opportunity to realign the strategic risks to these priorities and sub priorities.
- 2.03 A change in strategic planning provided an opportunity to align business processes. In particular, the alignment of two separate documents: i) the Improvement Plan and ii) the Strategic Assessment of Risks and Challenges (SARC), which although there was some symmetry, it was not transparent.
- 2.04 The September report also referred to the method by which strategic risk was being captured i.e. as SARC compared to the industry good practice which was being used for our operational risks. During the preparation of the 2013/14 Improvement Plan the relevant risks were considered and described for each sub priority. Subsequent to this the good practice 'operational risk' template was completed for each risk.

3.00 **CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.01 All Overview and Scrutiny committees have received their first 'round' of quarterly reporting against the Improvement Plan. This has

included a template for each risk capturing:

- the nature of each risk
- the gross, nett and target RAG score for each risk
- current actions already in place to mitigate the risk
- further activity to mitigate the risk

An example of the best practice template as applied to one of our Improvement sub priorities is attached as Appendix 1. This is the template for the sub priority of Access to Council Services within the “Modern and Efficient Council” Improvement priority.

3.02 All risks are monitored regularly and will be reported to Overview and Scrutiny Committees quarterly as part of the Improvement Plan monitoring reports. Future reports will also capture the ‘trend’ of the risk i.e. whether it is increasing or decreasing.

3.03 A summary of all of the risks captured in the Improvement Plan is attached at Appendix 2. An analysis of the current ‘nett’ status of the 86 risks associated with our eight Improvement priorities shows:

- 25 risks assessed as Green
- 44 risks assessed as Amber
- 17 risks assessed as Red

3.04 Details of all risks are provided in the Improvement Plan monitoring reports presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Audit Committee endorse the improved risk management approach as part of streamlining and integrating the business planning arrangements.

4.02 Audit Committee note the summary of strategic risks as related to the Improvement priorities of the Council.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None directly arising from this report; although some specific risks may have financial implications.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None directly arising from this report; although some specific risks may have poverty implications.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None directly arising from this report; although some specific risks

may have environmental implications.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None directly arising from this report; although some specific risks may have equalities implications.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None directly arising from this report; although some specific risks may have personnel implications

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Overview and Scrutiny Committees will be considering the risks and their mitigations as part of the quarterly monitoring of the Improvement Plan.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Improvement Priority leads and CMT have considered the risks in relation to the improvement Plan.

12.00 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Improvement sub priority: Access to Council Services

Appendix 2: Summary of Improvement Plan priority risks as at September 2013

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- i) Improvement Plan 2013/14
- ii) Monitoring reports of Improvement Plan as presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committees – November 2013

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