

REPORT TO: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: 27 JULY 2017

REPORT OF THE: RESOURCES AND ENABLING SERVICES LEAD OFFICER

**PETER JOHNSON** 

TITLE OF REPORT: RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY REVIEW

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To provide Members with a revised Risk Management Strategy.

#### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that:
  - a. That the report is received;
  - b. That the revised Risk Management Strategy 2017-2022 is approved.

### 3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

3.1 Risk identification and management is an integral element of organisational management to secure the achievement of the Council's corporate objectives. Risk Management should also form a key part of any budget making decisions, other decisions made by Committee and the management of service delivery, projects and partnerships.

## 4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

4.1 The strategy defines both the process behind risk management and the appetite of the Council to risk.

## **REPORT**

## 5.0 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

- 5.1 The Risk Management Strategy was last reviewed by Members in 2016.
- 5.2 The primary objectives of the strategy are to:-
  - Further develop risk management and raise its profile across the Council.
  - Integrate risk management further into the organisational culture of service planning, project planning and managing performance.

- Further embed risk management through the ownership and management of risk as part of all decision-making processes, both at officer and member level.
- Manage risk in accordance with best practice.
- Create effective processes that will allow the council to produce risk management assurance statements annually.

#### 6.0 POLICY CONTEXT

6.1 Risk management is essential to ensuring the delivery of the Council Plan and also maintaining effective governance arrangements. The arrangements for external audit are risk based.

## 7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Risk Management Strategy is developed and managed by the Council's Management Team. All service areas are therefore involved in its development through the Corporate Planning Framework.

#### 8.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 8.1 The risk management arrangements for the Council were reviewed by Veritau in 2016/17. The purpose of this review was to follow up on the agreed actions from the previous years report and to determine the direction of travel with regards risk management in light of the ongoing transformation of the Council and explore how this could be used as a vehicle for change and further improvement within the existing risk management process.
- 8.2 The audit report included a twelve point action plan. Seven of the actions have been addressed and it is anticipated that the remainder of the actions will be addressed within the revised timescale (September 2017).
- 8.3 The main changes to the strategy are designed to give clarity on:
  - the councils appetite for risk, as a basis for understanding the level of mitigation required when dealing with the different categories of risk highlighted in the strategy; and
  - Risk Culture and how this will be addressed within the organisation.

### 9.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The following implications have been identified:
  - a) Financial None.
  - b) Legal None.
  - Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)
    None.

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# **Background Papers:**

Council Plan Annual Governance Statement Risk Management Follow Up Audit 2016-17

# **Background Papers are available for inspection at:**

Covalent

www.ryedale.gov.uk