



---

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>13 DECEMBER 2012</b>
<b>REPORT OF THE:</b>	<b>HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES CLARE SLATER</b>
<b>TITLE OF REPORT:</b>	<b>RISK STRATEGY ANNUAL REVIEW</b>
<b>WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	<b>ALL</b>

---

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To present the annual review of the Risk Management Strategy to Members for consideration.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members note the content of the annual review of the Risk Management Strategy and the deletion of the action relating to the appointment of a Member Champion for Risk (ref CSR07).

### **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 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 approved by Members in December 2010 and reviewed in 2011. The Risk Strategy for the Council is attached at Annex A.

- 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 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. Following the demise of the Comprehensive Area Assessment inspection regime, the current interim arrangements for external audit are risk based and it is anticipated that any future external audit arrangements will continue to be so.

## **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 In accordance with the 2012-13 Audit Plan, a review of Risk Management was undertaken by Veritau.

The purpose of this review was to test the soundness of the systems associated with Risk Management to test the soundness of the Council's systems as follows:

- the Authority is equipped to facilitate Risk Management processes;
- the Risk Management process is established within the Authority at both Corporate and Service level;
- the Authority has established requirements for Key Partners with regard to Risk Management;
- Risk Management is an integral part of project management;
- Risk facing the Authority is reported through established channels at regular intervals.

8.2 Overall the controls in relation to risk management were considered to be sound with one minor issue which needs to be addressed in relation to the frequency with which reporting of risk management arrangements for significant partnerships takes place through the O and S committee.

8.3 The annual plan for Risk reporting to Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been fully delivered this year.

## **9.0 IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The following implications have been identified:

- a) Financial  
The role of supporting Risk Management within the Council is now being undertaken by members of the Transformation Team. This results in a financial saving to the Council and will facilitate improved integration of Risk management

into service planning, performance management, project management and management of significant partnerships.

- b) Legal  
None.
- c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)  
None.

**Clare Slater**  
**Head of Corporate Services**

**Author:** Clare Slater, Head of Corporate Services  
**Telephone No:** 01653 600666 ext 347  
**E-Mail Address:** [clare.slater@ryedale.gov.uk](mailto:clare.slater@ryedale.gov.uk)

**Background Papers:**

Council Plan 2009-13  
Annual Governance Statement  
Risk Registers:

- Corporate Risk Register
- Service Risk Registers
- Significant Partnerships Risk Register

Internal Audit of Risk Management Arrangements – August 2012

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

Covalent  
[www.ryedale.gov.uk](http://www.ryedale.gov.uk)