

East Herts Council Report

Audit and Governance Committee

Date of meeting: 29 May 2024

Report by: Executive Member for Financial Sustainability

Report title: Monitoring of 2023/24 quarter four corporate risk register

Ward(s) affected: All

Summary – This report provides the Committee with the corporate risk register which details how East Herts manages the key risks to the council.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR Audit and Governance Committee:

- A) The 2023/24 quarter four corporate risk register be reviewed, and officers advised of any suggested improvements to the format of the risk register.**

- B) The Committee notes the risk register and actions being taken to control and mitigate risk.**

1.0 Background

1.1 Leadership Team reviews the content of the corporate risk register quarterly and provides updates that are relayed within this monitoring report to Audit and Governance Committee.

1.2 The Corporate Risk Register is attached at Appendix A The format concentrates on key risks and is very focused on control and mitigation actions.

2.0 Risk register results for quarter four

2.1 Leadership Team has set a risk tolerance level. Risks above the tolerance levels are actively managed and regularly reviewed to ensure that contingency and mitigation action is being taken. Risks

below the tolerance line are managed by Heads of Service but these are often delegated. (Heads of Service are responsible for keeping all risks under review and taking action to reduce the impact of the risk on the council.)

		Likelihood			
		1	2	3	4
Impact	A				
	B			2	1, 6
	C		3, 7, 8	4	
	D		5		

2.3 Details of how we score the risk score can be found below. Please see appendix 1 for a comprehensive breakdown of each risk.

Likelihood	Score	Description	Likelihood of occurrence	Probability of occurrence	
	4	High	Monthly	The event is expected to occur or occurs regularly	
	3	Medium	Annually	The event will probably occur	
	2	Low	1 in 5 years	The event may occur	
	1	Very Low	Less frequently than 1 in 5 years	The event may occur in exceptional circumstances	

Impact	Score	Description	Financial	Reputation	Service / operation
	A	Critical	> £1m p.a.	Serious negative media	Catastrophic fall in service quality or long-term disruption to services
	B	Significant	£400,000 to £1m p.a.	Adverse national media	Major fall in service quality or serious disruption to services
	C	Marginal	£100,000 to £400,000 p.a.	Adverse local media	Significant fall in service quality
	D	Minor	< £100,000	Public concerns restricted to local complaints	Little impact to service quality

Table 2: Methodology of corporate risk scoring

2.4 The risk scores now reflect control and mitigation measures rather than the raw score shown previously so will appear lower because of control measures.

2.5 No risks have had a score increase or decrease since the last report to the Committee.

Community Safety

No

Data Protection

None specific but the topic features within the corporate risk register.

Equalities

None specific but the topic features within the corporate risk register.

Environmental Sustainability

None specific but climate change features within the corporate risk register.

Financial

None specific but risk management can provide protection of budgets from unexpected losses. Better governance can be demonstrated and the annual audit plan is risk based.

Health and Safety

None specific but risk management processes can provide a safer environment across the District and all services for the benefit of the public, staff and our contractors.

Human Resources

No

Human Rights

No

Legal

None specific but legal matters feature within the corporate risk register.

Specific Wards

No

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