

CORPORATE RISK REGISTER UPDATE 2 – 2024/25**Report of the Assistant Director for Finance (Interim S151 Officer)****1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The Corporate Risk Register (CRR) was last updated and distributed to CLT and Audit Committee in July 2024.

1.2 For existing risks, identified leads for each risk were asked to provide updates where required. This updated CRR reflects minor changes to the narrative on most risks. However, Audit Committee are particularly asked to note:

- **Risk 1- Change Management.** Minor changes to reflect updated governance arrangements.
- **Risk 2- Finance.** Figures have been updated to reflect the most recent forecasts and budgets. At Quarter 2, the Council is forecasting an outturn deficit of £3.718m made up of a £10.294m deficit in cash limit portfolios offset by a £6.576m non-cash limit surplus. Growing need for support and inflationary costs are posing significant financial challenge to the in-year financial position.
- **Risk 4- Demand** Minor changes highlighted and linked into Risk 2 – Finance.
- **Risk 5- Suppliers** Reflects the pressures on social care providers around international recruitment and de-registering of nursing care providers.
- **Risk 7- Adults** Minor changes and reflected the new risk around ICB reviews of S117 funded cases which will have an as yet unknown impact on demand and funding for Council services.
- **Risk 10- Safeguarding** Minor updates.
- **Risk 12- Climate** Minor updates to recent initiatives and opportunities.
- **Risk 15- Integrated Care System** Minor updates including on the financial position.

1.3 There is an emerging risk around the current DSG grant funding deficit level. Discussion are taking place with the Assistant Director for Finance (Interim S151 Officer) and Director of Education, Work and Skills to determine if this is a separate corporate level risk and the corporate risk register will be updated if necessary to reflect this.

1.4 The outcome of the recent Budget has been reviewed to consider the favourable and adverse impact on Council finances. Initial considerations include National Living and minimum wage increases on both the Council and suppliers (eg care home providers) and employer national insurance rises on both the Council and partners/suppliers. In addition, the overall Local Government settlement for 2025/26 and other reported funding streams such as SEND.

1.5 The HoIARI and the Risk Manager continue to work with Directorates to develop and embed risk management arrangements for services including the introduction

of an audit recommendations tracker initially to the Place Director/Directorate. Future Quarterly meetings are planned to discuss progress on all audits in this Directorate along with a discussion on specific directorate risks. The aim is to rollout this new process to all directorates from April 2025, following feedback.

2. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Audit Committee is asked to note the contents of the CRR Update report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none.

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact John Pearsall on telephone number Tel: 0161 474 4033 or alternatively email john.pearsall@stockport.gov.uk