

Barrow Borough Council
Audit and Governance Committee
30 September 2020
Risk Management

Report from: Director of Resources
Report Author: Director of Resources
Wards: None

1.0 Summary and Conclusions

- 1.1 The risks identified at the Audit and Governance Committee held on 29 July 2021 have been developed for inclusion in the Council's Risk Register.
- 1.2 The Senior Management Team has agreed the risk details.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1.1 It is recommended that the Audit and Governance Committee note the additional risks.**

3.0 Background and Proposals

- 3.1 The Council's risk register is submitted to the Senior Management Team on a quarterly basis to ensure it is up to date.
- 3.2 The risks highlighted by this Committee have been considered and agreed as additions. The format of the Risk Register enables a risk score to be assigned if no action were implemented (the inherent impact), and a mitigated impact which reflects the existing control and mitigation – in essence this is a judgment of how much the risk can be managed.
- 3.3 The Risk Management Policy is set by the Executive Committee and includes the risk matrix used to determine the risk severity.
- 3.4 The risk matrix is set out in the table below. A score of 1-3 is considered low risk; 4-7 is medium risk; 8-12 is high risk; and 15 or higher is very high risk.

Risk	1. Insignificant impact	2. Minor impact	3. Moderate impact	4. Significant impact	5. Major impact
1. Almost never likely to happen	1	2	3	4	5
2. Unlikely to happen	2	4	6	8	10
3. Uncertain if it will happen	3	6	9	12	15
4. Likely to happen	4	8	12	16	20
5. Almost always likely to happen	5	10	15	20	25

3.5 Risk: Climate Change adversely impacts the Borough and its surroundings.

Inherent impact	<p>With no action: the risk will occur and will have a major impact.</p> <p>5 x 5 = 25</p>
Potential consequences	<p>The natural flora, fauna, habitats and features of the area deteriorate or are lost. Greenhouse gas emissions are not reduced leaving the Earth's temperature to rise faster than is natural. Extreme weather events such as floods and wildfires increase in potential. Clean energy opportunities are not promoted. Waste is not reduced, and reuse is not maximised.</p>
Existing control/mitigation	<p>Climate emergency declared on 16 July 2019 and made a commitment to reduce carbon emissions. The Climate Change Working Group created a 5 year Climate Change Policy which was agreed at full council on 16 June 2020. That policy sets out the ambition for the Borough to be net zero carbon no later than 2037. The Low Carbon Barrow project will deliver carbon savings and establish a framework for continuous and future developments.</p>
Mitigated impact	<p>With mitigation it is uncertain that the risk will occur (this is not just a localised issue), but the impact will be moderate compared to taking no action.</p> <p>3 x 3 = 9</p>
Lead officer	Public Protection Manager

3.6 Risk: Local Government Reorganisation adversely impacts public services for the Borough.

Inherent impact	<p>With no action: the risk is likely to occur and will have a significant impact.</p> <p>4 x 4 = 16</p>
Potential consequences	<p>There is no locality focus and services are not tailored to the customer's needs. Service delivery is impacted by the process of reorganisation. Current services are reduced or removed. Investment and development in the Borough is reduced or at risk. The gaps identified in public health equality are not addressed.</p>
Existing control/mitigation	<p>The reorganisation will be managed as a project through arrangements agreed between the 7 authorities. A structure to provide governance and an action/implementation plan will be established and workstreams with lead officers set up as a matter of urgency. The workstreams will use existing Cumbria-wide working groups and the outputs required will flow from the action/implementation plan. Budgets will be established together with a financial protocol. The actions will take 7 authorities on the journey to 2 authorities whilst ensuring service continuity is maintained in the best possible way before and after unitisation. Communication and engagement are identified as a key workstream – for customers, stakeholders and especially for employees. Service reforms and transitions/savings will be achieved within the new authorities – there is too high a risk in significant changes pre-unitisation.</p>
Mitigated impact	<p>With mitigation it is unlikely that the risk will occur and the impact will be moderate compared to taking no action.</p> <p>2 x 3 = 6</p>
Lead officer	Chief Executive

4.0 Consultation

4.1 Consultation is not relevant to the recommendation.

5.0 Alternative Options

5.1 There are no alternative options as the report is presented for noting.

6.0 Contribution to Council Plan Priorities

6.1 In order to be able to deliver Council Plan Priorities the organisation must be aware of the risks facing service and strategic delivery in order to manage and mitigate those.

7.0 Implications

Financial, Resources and Procurement

7.1.1 There are no financial, resource or procurement implications arising from this report.

Legal

7.1.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equality and Diversity

7.2 Have you completed an Equality Impact Analysis? No, this report is for information.

Contact Officers

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