



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Name and date of Committee	AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 28 November 2024
Subject	STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Councillor Andy Graham, Leader of the Council Email: andy.graham@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Giles Hughes, Chief Executive. Email: giles.hughes@westoxon.gov.uk
Report author	Cheryl Sloan, Business Manager for Governance, Risk and Business Continuity Email: democratic.services@westoxon.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	The report brings to Members the current version of the Strategic Risk Register for information and assurance that risks to the Council are being managed and appropriate actions are being taken to mitigate risk.
Annexes	Annex A – Strategic Risk Register
Recommendation(s)	That the Audit and Governance Committee resolves to: I. Note the report.
Corporate priorities	All
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	No
Consultees/ Consultation	Senior Leadership Team – the Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Governance and Director of Place and Executive Members bi-monthly but moving to monthly from 1 December 2024

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The strategic risk register is presented to the Audit and Governance Committee ('the Committee') to provide assurance that risks to the Council are being managed and appropriate actions are being taken to mitigate risk.
- 1.2 Presentation of the risk register also provides an opportunity for members of the Committee to raise questions and highlight any risks which they feel should be referenced and mitigated.

2. RISK REGISTER

- 2.1 All updates to the commentary since 25 July 2024 Audit and Governance Committee are shown in red, along with a direction of travel column, which shows if the risk has either increased / red (got worse), decreased / green (reduced in risk) or stayed the same since the last time it was reported to the Committee.

- 2.2 Below is a summary of some of the key changes / updates:

ERI Cyber Attack. This risk was increased to reflect the recent Cyber Attack incident at Tewkesbury Council and a heightened risk awareness for potential cyber-attacks on our network. This risk has subsequently been reduced to previous levels following the closure of this incident.

ER4 Refugees / Asylum Seekers. This risk was increased following the recent unrest seen across the UK. During this time additional measures were put in place and Tactical Coordinating Groups stood up. This risk has subsequently been reduced.

SR1 Major Civil Emergency. This risk was increased in response to the impact on 365 cover due to the transition of services. A short- and long-term solution has now been agreed, including a S113 agreement between the three partner Councils, including West Oxfordshire District Council for the short-term, to provide time for each council to develop a locality based cover from 1/04/25.

SR2 Climate Emergency and Climate Adaptation. This risk has been renamed following a request from the Executive to include 'Climate Adaptation'.

SR4 5 Year Land Supply. This is a new risk as requested by the Audit and Governance Committee in July.

- 2.3 All other updates are shown in red, but do not impact on the risk scoring.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 5.1** This report relates to the Council's management of risk and identifies the current strategic risks, as such no separate risk assessment has been completed.

6. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 6.1** An equalities impact assessment is not required for this report.

7. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1** There are no climate or ecological emergency implications arising directly from this report.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.