



Report to: **Executive**

Date: **14 October 2008**

Report of: **Executive Member for Improvement**

Subject: **Corporate Risk Review 2008-09**

Ward: **All**

1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To provide Executive with a draft review, re-profile and update of the Council's Corporate and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) risks for consideration as part of the Corporate Risk Review 2008-09 (CRR).

2.0 Consultation

2.1 Consultation has been undertaken with the following in the preparation for the 2008-09 Corporate Risk review:-

- All Executive Members;
- Management Team;
- Risk Management Strategy Steering Group (RMSSG);
- Governance & Risk Manager;
- Heads of Service;
- Project Managers and other risk authors.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Corporate Risk Review is a key element of the Council's corporate governance arrangements in providing the assurance that the Council are effectively managing its risks. It also complies with the Council's adopted Risk Management Strategy and Policy.

The Audit Committee is awaiting a progress report on the Corporate Risk Review in order to gain assurance that the Council's key risks are being effectively managed, monitored and reviewed.

The purpose of the review is to carry out a re-assessment of the District Council of Easington's current corporate risks and to take account of any current changes and emerging risk areas.



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4.0 Position Statement and Option Appraisal

4.1 The Governance and Risk Manager has collated all the Council's risks identified by Heads of Service in their Service Plans and other risk authors within Service Units as well as considering current issues that could have an adverse impact on the Council or the area. A draft summary of the 2008-09 risks has been produced and re-prioritised through Management Team and the Risk Management Strategy Steering Group and categorised into three separate risk assessments:-

- (i) Corporate risks, those which have corporate implications and affect the Council as a whole;
- (ii) LGR risks, those risks to the existing District Council arising from local government re-organisation in County Durham;
- (iii) Service Plan risks, those remaining risks that are service plan specific.

4.2 The re-profiled Corporate and LGR risks are included in **Appendix 1 and 2** for Executive to review, consider and re-profile, as required.

Those risks identified as service specific and not of a significant corporate nature will be dealt with in accordance with the Council's adopted risk strategy outside of the Corporate Risk Review.

The previously identified key risks that have now been effectively managed out of the corporate risk register have been re-profiled and are included for reference and record purposes only.

4.3 It should be noted that, while the LGR risks are contained within their own risk assessment, the emphasis of these risks is on how LGR will potentially affect the District of Easington and the District Council up until 31st March 2009 and does not act as a risk assessment for the new Unitary Authority.

4.4 Once Executive have reviewed and re-profiled the Council's risks, this will be the basis of the Council's 2008-09 Corporate Risk Register.

An update will be provided to Audit Committee on 16th October 2008.

4.5 The Council's risks and management action plans will be recorded onto the Council's approved Risk Management software, "Risk Register".

5.0 Implications

5.1 Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications.

5.2 Legal Implications

The consideration of the Council's significant business risks are a requirement set out in the Audit Commission's Key Lines of Enquiry for Use of Resources, specifically Parts 4.1 and 4.3.



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5.3 Policy Implications

The review is part of the Council's Annual Governance arrangements and complies with the Council's adopted Risk Management Policy and Strategy. The Audit Committee is awaiting a progress report on the corporate risk review so it can gain assurance that the Council is effectively managing its risks.

5.4 Local Government Re-organisation Implications

The risks have been profiled and updated to take account of Easington's position under LGR and a pragmatic and proportionate approach has been applied to take account of the implications arising from LGR.

On a separate basis, the Council is actively represented by the Governance and Risk Manager on an LGR workstream that is dealing with the assimilation of all corporate risks across all the LGR Councils in preparation for vesting day.

5.5 Risk Implications

The completion of the Corporate Risk Review 2008-09 will ensure that the Council's key risks have been updated and that the necessary management actions have also been reviewed and updated.

5.6 Communications Implications

There are no direct communications issues, other than publication of the updated risks on the Council's Intranet and notification to Lead Officers and Executive Portfolio holders of the risks and actions for which they are responsible.

5.7 Corporate Implications

By their very nature the risks represent the Council's Key Corporate Risks 2008-09 and the corporate implications are self evident.

6.0 Recommendations

Executive is asked to consider, review, re-profile and approve the Council's Corporate and Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) risks as part of the Corporate Risk Review 2008-09,

Background Papers referred to
Corporate Risk Review 2006-07
Service Plan Risks 2007-08-09
District Audit correspondence & reports
LGR Transitional plan
GRL Risk files