Implementation Executive

1 April 2008

Programme Update: Risk Management and Business Continuity

DURHAM
COUNTY
COUNCIL

Report of Stuart Crowe, County Treasurer

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1.   Purpose of Report

To update Members on the progress being made in assessing and managing risks within the LGR Programme.

2.   Background

A process is in place to enable consistent management of risks across the LGR Programme. This process includes:

- The procedure for identifying and assessing risks;

- Criteria used when assessing the risk, to maintain consistency;

- The approach to reporting risk within the Programme; and

- Clear defined roles and responsibilities for risk management.

3.   Progress

The process has been used to commence the identification and assessment of risks across the programme, both at a Programme Board level, and where appropriate, at individual workstream level. It will also be applied to identify and assess high-level cross-cutting strategic risks.

To date, the majority of Programme Boards and workstreams have commenced their risk identification and assessment, and are currently confirming what actions, if any, can be taken to effectively manage the risks. This should be completed by early April.

To help Programme Boards and workstreams in this, a risk appetite i.e. the overall level of risk that the Programme is prepared to live with, has been agreed. This will enable better use of resources in tackling risks.

4.   Business Continuity

A specific workstream is in place to cover both business continuity and emergency planning. Detailed analysis of risk is still ongoing, but clearly, areas of risk will cover effectively responding to critical incidents during the transition period, and updating business continuity plans in a reasonable time period after the new service functions are established.

5.   Recommendation

Members are requested to note this report.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Local Government Reorganisation (Does the decision impact upon a future Unitary Council?)

This item concerns the LGR programme and provides a brief update on progress. All of the other implications below are key components of the LGR programme, and therefore risk managing the Programme will be a positive response to managing these implications.

Finance

None

Staffing

None

Equality and Diversity

None

Accommodation

None

Crime and disorder

None

Sustainability

None

Human rights

None

Localities and Rurality

None

Young people

None

Consultation

None

Health

None