

# **BOROUGH COUNCIL**

# Report to the Executive for Decision 15 April 2013

Portfolio: Policy, Strategy and Finance

Subject: Corporate Risk Register 2012/13

**Report of:** Director of Regulatory and Democratic Services

**Strategy/Policy:** Risk Management Policy

Corporate

**Objective:** A dynamic, prudent and progressive council

#### Purpose:

To bring to members' attention the new Corporate Risk Register that has been developed for the Council.

# **Executive summary:**

A new Corporate Risk Register attached as Appendix A, has now been produced in accordance with the new risk management framework adopted by the Council in 2012.

#### Recommendation:

That the Executive notes the content of the new Corporate Risk Register and the approach being taken for managing these risks.

#### Reason:

Risk Management is an intrinsic part of Corporate Governance and the Council should have a sound risk management framework in place, which is embedded across the Council for the management of its key risks.

# **Cost of proposals:**

None, other than those for specific risks on the register which would be the subject of individual reports to the Committee.

Appendix A: FBC Corporate Risk Register 2012/13

Background papers: None



# **Executive Briefing Paper**

**Date:** 15 April 2013

Subject: Corporate Risk Register 2012/13

Briefing by: Director of Regulatory and Democratic Services

Portfolio: Policy, Strategy and Finance

#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. As part of its corporate governance arrangements the Council should have a sound risk management framework in place which is embedded across the Council.
- 2. The Council's risk management framework was last revised in 2009. This was particularly designed to meet the requirements of the Audit Commission's "Use of Resources" judgement of local councils. On the removal of this assessment regime in 2010 the Council took the opportunity to undertake a fundamental review of our framework to tailor it more to our local requirements with the objective of making the whole process as simple as possible and embedded as part of our day to day work.
- 3. Progress on developing the new framework has been reported to the Audit and Governance Committee and culminated in a new Risk Management Policy being adopted in September 2012.
- 4. Under the new Policy the Council will only maintain one formal risk register, the Corporate Risk Register, which will be presented annually to the Executive. The first version of the new register has now been compiled for 2012/13 and this report presents it for members' information.

# **HOW THE REGISTER WAS PRODUCED**

5. An integral part of the new approach is the maintenance of a new "Central Risk Directory" which has been developed from the Council's Corporate Priority improvements, top Corporate Projects, the Governance framework and the key risks identified by the Council's Heads of Service. These are grouped together under generic risk themes so that the links between similar risks or projects are highlighted and any duplication removed.

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- 6. These "second tier" risks have been assigned a lead Head of Service who has carried out a risk assessment using a standard template which concludes with a "residual" risk category from the scale of High, Medium and Low. Reliance has been placed on the Council's project management process to provide feedback on the status of the risks associated with the delivery of projects. Both sets of information have then been used to inform the Corporate Risk Register.
- 7. The Corporate Risk Register consists of the 32 generic risk themes that make up the top level of the Central Risk Directory. These are mapped to the Council's priorities, where applicable (19 risks). Each of the risks has been assigned a member of the Chief Executive's Management Team to act as the Risk Manager for the risk, and they have now also completed the risk assessments using a similar standard template.

# THE CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

8. The resultant Corporate Risk Register is attached as Appendix A which has been formally considered in its entirety by the Chief Executive's Management Team and Audit and Governance Committee.

#### MONITORING THE RISKS

- 9. The second tier risks on the central risk directory are being managed by the lead officers and progress is monitored in one to one discussions with their Director; similarly the corporate risks will be monitored in one to one discussions between the Director and the Chief Executive Officer. Where there are issues these will be escalated to the Chief Executive's Management Team and if necessary reported to the Executive on an individual basis.
- 10. The full list of risks and assessments will be reported to the Chief Executive's Management Team and the Audit and Governance Committee twice a year, and the Executive Committee annually. This will highlight any significant changes in the risk profile that has occurred.

#### RISK ASSESSMENT

11. There are no significant risk considerations in relation to this report.

# **CONCLUSION**

12. The Council now has a fully revised Corporate Risk Register in place, attached as Appendix A, which meets the requirements of the new Risk Management Policy adopted in 2012/13.

#### **Reference Papers:**

Report by the Director of Regulatory and Democratic Services to the Audit and Governance Committee on 24 September 2012 on the Risk Management Policy