



**REPORT of
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY, PERFORMANCE & GOVERNANCE**

to
AUDIT COMMITTEE
4 APRIL 2019

QUARTERLY REVIEW OF CORPORATE RISK

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This Committee has a key role in providing independent assurance to the Council on the adequacy of the risk management framework. The Risk Management Policy requires this Committee to undertake a quarterly review of the Corporate Risk Register as assurance that the corporate risks are being managed effectively.
- 1.2 This report provides an update on the position as at the end of Quarter 3 (31 December 2018) on the corporate risks included within the Corporate Risk Register 2018/19.
- 1.3 It is acknowledged that this report is being submitted a considerable time after the end of Q3, but due to the timescales required to collate the updates and review with the Corporate Leadership Team the report could not be produced to meet the report deadlines for the Committee's previous meeting on 7th February 2019.
- 1.4 Historically this has been the case and unavoidable with the timings of the Committee meetings with the Q3 report for previous years being submitted to Committee at the end of March.
- 1.5 The 2019/20 meetings schedule has been reviewed to ensure that more timely risk reports are submitted.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) Members review the information as set out in this report and Appendix 1 and their views and comments are sought;
- (ii) In undertaking this review Members are assured that corporate risk is being managed effectively.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 **APPENDIX 1** to this report provides further information on the individual risks including comments by the risk owners outlining the rationale for the current scoring and, where applicable, any movement in the risk scores.

3.2 In its role of ensuring that the corporate risks are being managed effectively, the views of this Committee are sought on the current position, any movement in the risks scores and the comments provided by the risk owners.

3.3 Members are reminded that the risk assessment and scoring framework, contained within the new Risk Management Policy agreed by this Committee in March and adopted by Council in May, should be considered and applied when reviewing the corporate risks and scores.

4. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

4.1 The risks included on the Corporate Risk Register have been identified as those which could prevent MDC from achieving the corporate goals stated in the Corporate Plan (2015-19) as updated and approved by Council in February 2018. By identifying these, assessing the current controls in place and determining what further actions need to be taken to mitigate the risks as much as possible, the Council's desired outcomes should be achieved.

5. IMPLICATIONS

(i) **Impact on Customers** – None.

(ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.

(iii) **Impact on Risk** - Management of risk is fundamental to the sound operation of the Council. Failure to manage risk could have a significant impact on the Council's ability to correctly define its policies and strategies or deliver against its objectives.

The implementation and operation of the risk management framework will minimise risks and thus mitigate any potential strategic, operational, reputational or regulatory consequences.

Failure to manage risk would also mean that the Council might face censure by its external auditors or the potential for legal proceedings in the event of breaches of the Health and Safety at Work Act or similar legislation.

(iv) **Impact on Resources (financial and human)** - All risk management activity is undertaken within existing and planned budgets.

(v) **Impact on the Environment** – None.

Background Papers: None

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