

# ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## REPORT TO AND DECISION OF AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ON 30 JULY 2020

### PART A : REPORT

**SUBJECT:** Revised Strategic Risk Register 2020/21

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Stephen Pearse (on behalf of Governance & Risk Group)

**DATE:** July 2020

**EXTN:** 37561

**PORTFOLIO AREA:** Corporate Support

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Council's Strategic Risk Register has been reviewed and revised to reflect changes arising from the Covid-19 crisis, since its last update in February 2020

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Members of the Audit & Governance Committee are requested to note and approve the revised Strategic Risk Register

#### **1. BACKGROUND:**

##### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

The Council's Risk Management Strategy requires that the Strategic Risk Register (SRR) should be reviewed periodically and risks re-scored where necessary. The Audit & Governance Committee has Member oversight of the risk management arrangements within the Council.

The Strategic Risk Register was last considered by the Committee at its February 2020 meeting. Since that time, the global Covid-19 crisis has arisen, significantly impacting the Council, its operations / finances and many aspects of wider society. In light of this, the Governance & Risk Group has reviewed and updated the Register with input from the Corporate Management Team.

A new risk has been added for the coronavirus crisis – it was aimed to keep this at a fairly high level and not duplicate more detailed consideration by the Emergency Management Team (although it has to be recognised that at the time of review the situation was fluid with things changing from day-to-day). The Group decided that some brief comments be added to other risks but that they shouldn't each have their risk level raised as the new specific risk has been added.

##### **1.2 CYBERSECURITY**

Risk number 13 relates to Cybersecurity. In late 2018, the Local Government Association (LGA) asked councils to complete a 'stocktake' of their cyber security arrangements which they RAG rated against a framework approved by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC).

The response provided by ICT management resulted in a Red-Amber rating for the Council and based upon this the LGA allocated £18.5k of consultancy and other funding to the Council to assist in improving this (as part of a national scheme funded by the Cabinet Office).

Use of this has improved the Council's understanding of cyber risk and the Council's resilience and ability to respond to cyber incidents. This included consultant review of documentation, development of a specific cyber risk register and an incident response and recovery plan, additional technical / awareness training and the running of phishing tests. The success of these initiatives has resulted in a 2-tier improvement in the Council's rating to Amber-Green, which was reported to CMT at the end of 2019 and the Chief Executive has requested that this progress be advised to Members.

**2. PROPOSAL(S):**

It is proposed that the Committee notes and approves the revised Strategic Risk Register

**3. OPTIONS:**

To note and approve the revised Strategic Risk Register, or not

**4. CONSULTATION:**

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		✓
<b>5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Financial		✓
Legal		✓
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act		✓
Sustainability		✓
Asset Management/Property/Land		✓
Technology		✓

Other (please explain)		✓
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**6. IMPLICATIONS:**

**7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:**  
The Committee notes and approves the revised Strategic Risk Register

**8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**  
N/A