

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

16 June 2010

Report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Council

1 RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Summary

This report informs Members of the latest review of the Council's Risk Management Strategy and requests that Cabinet recommends endorsement by Council.

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Members will be aware that the Council has had a Risk Management Strategy (RMS) in place for a number of years and that it forms an important part of the overall Risk Management process. In order to maintain the high profile of Risk Management within the Council and to ensure that the content of the RMS reflects any improvements/amendments that may have been introduced, the document is reviewed on an annual basis.
- 1.1.2 The RMS details the responsibilities throughout the authority for ensuring the sound management of risk. Once approved by the Council the RMS is signed by both the Leader and the Chief Executive before being published on the intranet and the Council website.
- 1.1.3 Members will also be aware, from a report to the Audit Committee on 22 June 2009, that following a review of the document amendments were introduced to assist in further embedding risk management within the authority. This included an enhanced reporting process whereby any risk entering the red zone is reported to Management Team and then to the Audit Committee. This change enabled the frequency of risk register reviews to be reduced to half-yearly from quarterly. This is the only change identified to the current strategy.
- 1.1.4 The next Audit Committee at which this issue will be discussed is not until 21 June 2010. The usual route for this document is for the Audit Committee to consider and then recommend acceptance by Cabinet for recommending endorsement by Council. Because of the timing of Cabinet and Audit Committee this usual route would delay the document.

1.1.5 There is only one minor amendment, which is shown in bold italics on the second page of the strategy that has been made to the RMS. An 'early' draft of the amended document is attached at **[Annex 1]** to this report. It is proposed that this Cabinet considers the document and recommends endorsement by Council subject to any subsequent changes identified by the Audit Committee being considered by Council.

1.2 Legal Implications

1.2.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

1.3 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

1.3.1 There are no additional costs attached to this report. The RMS could result in future savings and benefits arising from maintaining a sound risk management.

1.4 Risk Assessment

1.4.1 The need to have a sound RMS is set out in the Key Lines of Enquiry. In addition a failure to manage risks could lead to future avoidable costs falling on the Council.

1.5 Policy Considerations

1.5.1 Health and Safety, Asset Management, Business Continuity/Resilience

1.6 Recommendations

1.6.1 Members are asked to review the draft version of the RMS and RECOMMEND its endorsement to Council subject to any subsequent changes identified by the Audit Committee being considered by Council.

Background papers:

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Nil

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