

RISK MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Risk Management handbook updates and pulls together into one document the Council's current risk management framework guidance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To approve the Risk Management Handbook attached at Appendix 2, subject to the addition of a foreword written by the Chair of Audit and Accounts Committee and the Chair of the Strategic Risk group.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Audit and Accounts Committee is responsible for monitoring the effective development and operation of risk management and corporate governance in the council.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The role of the Audit and Accounts Committee is to provide independent assurance of the adequacy of the Council's risk management framework. The Committee is central to the provision of effective corporate governance, which depends in part on the existence of a robust framework and processes for managing risk.
- 4.2 To meet the targets in the Risk Management Action Plan, the Head of Audit and Risk Management has initiated a review of the Council's existing risk management documentation and this has resulted in the production of a new risk management handbook (see Appendix 2) which pulls together and updates all existing guidance.
- 4.3 The handbook incorporates the Council's strategy for risk management. It defines what is meant by risk management, outlines the roles and responsibilities of both Members and Officers and details the actions that the Council needs to take to further develop the risk management processes and enhance the overall assurance framework.

- 4.4 The handbook will be reviewed annually by the Head of Audit and Risk Management. The updating of the handbook will be overseen by the Strategic Risk Group.

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| OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED |
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5.1 N/A

This report has been approved by the following officers:

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| Legal officer | n/a |
| Financial officer | n/a |
| Human Resources officer | n/a |
| Service Director(s) | n/a |
| Other(s) | Strategic Risk Group |

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| For more information contact: | Richard Boneham, Head of Audit and Risk Management, 01332 643280 richard.boneham@derby.gov.uk |
| Background papers: | None |
| List of appendices: | Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Risk Management Handbook |

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| IMPLICATIONS |
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Financial

1.1 None directly arising.

Legal

2.1 None directly arising.

Personnel

3.1 None directly arising.

Equalities Impact

4.1 None directly arising.

Health and Safety

5.1 None directly arising.

Carbon commitment

6.1 None directly arising.

Value for money

7.1 None directly arising.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

8.1 The functions of the Committee have been established to support delivery of corporate objectives by enhancing scrutiny of various aspects of the Council's controls and governance arrangements.