

Council name	COTSWOLD DISTRICT COUNCIL
Name and date of Committee	AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE – 21 NOVEMBER 2024
Subject	STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER
Wards affected	All
Accountable member	Cllr Joe Harris, Leader of the Council Email: joe.harris@cotswold.gov.uk
Accountable officer	Robert Weaver, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Email: robert.weaver@cotswold.gov.uk
Report author	Cheryl Sloan, Business Services Manager, Governance, Risk & Business Continuity Email: Democratic@Cotswold.gov.uk
Summary/Purpose	This report brings to members the current version of the Strategic Risk Register for information and assurance that risks to the Council are being managed and appropriate actions are being taken to mitigate risk.
Annexes	Annex A – Strategic Risk Register
Recommendation(s)	That the Audit and Governance Committee resolve to: 1. Note the strategic risk register
Corporate priorities	• All
Key Decision	No
Exempt	No
Consultees/ Consultation	NA



1. BACKGROUND

- **1.1** The strategic risk register is presented to the Audit and Governance Committee to provide assurance that risks to the Council are being managed and appropriate actions are being taken to mitigate risk.
- **1.2** Presentation of the risk register also provides an opportunity for members of the Audit and Governance Committee to raise questions and highlight any risks which they feel should be referenced and mitigated.

2. RISK REGISTER

- 2.1 All updates to the commentary since the last internal review of the Risk Register are shown in red, along with a direction of travel column, which shows if the risk has either increased (got worse), decreased (reduced in risk) or stayed the same since it was last reviewed.
- 2.2 A detailed review of the Risk Register was completed by Senior Leadership Team to consolidate the Council's Risk Register to ensure it clearly defined the Strategic Risks to the Council. The Strategic Risk Register will be included as a standing item on the quarterly extended management team (EMT) agenda to ensure strategic risks are formally considered and reviewed. Operational risks are reviewed by service areas and any material movement in risk is escalated accordingly.
- **2.3** This review updates the consolidated Risk Register. The following changes in direction of travel can be noted in the Strategic Risk Register:
 - CDC IR8 Staff Resources. This risk has been increased to reflect the number of
 critical vacancies in the new Council structure following the transfer of services on
 1 November 2024. The roles are currently out to external recruitment, and once
 appointed, this risk can be reduced.
 - CDC ER1 Cyber Attack / Data Breach / Data Loss. This risk was increased in response to the recent Tewkesbury Cyber-attack. This has since been reduced back down to normal risk levels as the response to this attack has been closed.



- **2.4** A new risk has been added to the Risk Register (CDC MPR2). This identifies the risk around externally funded projects and any conditions that apply to the funding. For example, if there are criteria around eligible expenditure, deadlines for expenditure and reporting, matched funding requirements, or other restrictions. If the Council is not able to fully comply with any funding conditions, this may result in the Council incurring expenditure which it is not able to be covered by the grant funding.
- **2.5** There are no other changes, with the exception of updates which are shown in red text.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1 None

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. RISK ASSESSMENT

6.1 This report relates to the Council's management of risk and identifies the current strategic risks, as such no separate risk assessment has been completed.

7. EQUALITIES IMPACT

7.1 An equalities impact assessment is included with this report.

8. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no climate or ecological emergency implications arising directly from this report.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS



9.1 The following documents have been identified by the author of the report in accordance with section 100D.5(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 and are listed in accordance with section 100 D.1(a) for inspection by members of the public:

Previous version of the Cotswold District Council Strategic Risk Register presented to the Audit and Governance Committee

<u>Agenda Item 08 - Annex C - Risk and Opportunity Management Strategy November 21.pdf</u>

9.2 These documents will be available for inspection online at www.cotswold.gov.uk or by contacting democratic services democratic@cotswold.gov.uk for a period of up to 4 years from the date of the meeting.