

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

DATE: 26 APRIL 2016

REPORT OF: MS DENISE LE GAL, CABINET MEMBER FOR BUSINESS SERVICES AND RESIDENT EXPERIENCE

LEAD OFFICER: SHEILA LITTLE, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

SUBJECT: LEADERSHIP RISK REGISTER



SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

The Surrey County Council Leadership risk register is presented to Cabinet each quarter and this report presents the Leadership risk register as at 31 March 2016.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Cabinet note the content of the Surrey County Council Leadership risk register (Annex 1) and endorse the control actions put in place by the Statutory Responsibilities Network.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

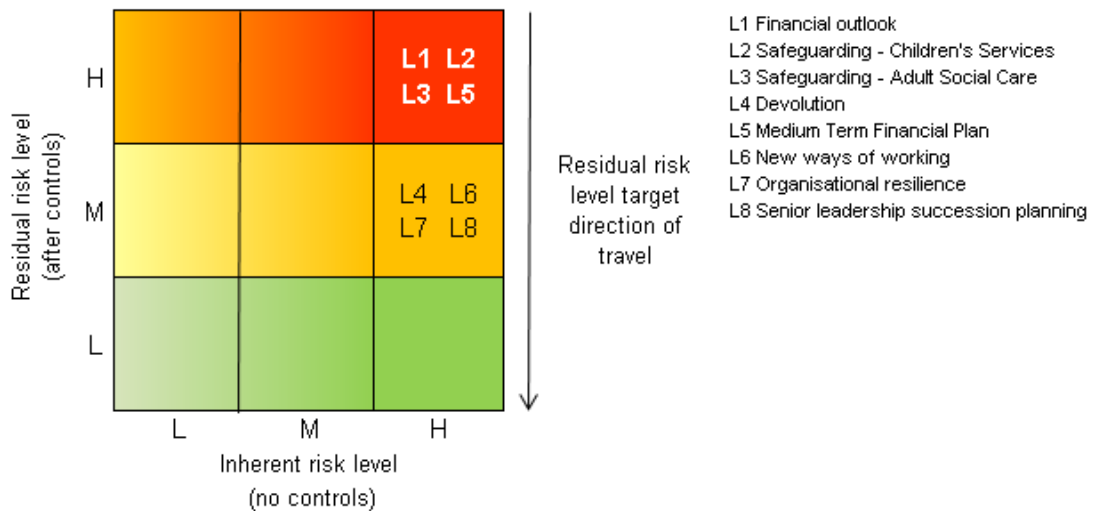
To enable the Cabinet to keep Surrey County Council's strategic risks under review and to ensure that appropriate action is being taken to mitigate risks to a tolerable level in the most effective way.

LEADERSHIP RISK REGISTER:

1. The Surrey County Council Leadership risk register (Annex 1) is owned by the Chief Executive and captures Surrey County Council's key strategic risks. The risk register focuses specifically on the strategic risks that have the potential to significantly destabilise the organisation.
2. The role of the Cabinet is to assure itself that Surrey County Council's strategic risks are captured on the risk register and that appropriate actions are being taken to effectively mitigate the risks to a tolerable level.
3. The Leadership risk register is reviewed monthly by the Statutory Responsibilities Network, bi-monthly by the Strategic Risk Forum and the Audit and Governance Committee at each meeting.
4. Additional processes and wording changes have been made to the following risks since the risk register was last presented to the Cabinet:
 - Financial outlook (L1) – addition of reference to the EU referendum;
 - Safeguarding – Children's Services (L2) – reference to the improvement notice and reshaping of Assistant Director roles; and
 - Medium Term Financial Plan (L5) – addition of reference to the Public Value Transformation Board.

Residual risk level

- The Surrey County Council Leadership risk register includes both the inherent and residual risk levels for each risk. Inherent risk is the level of risk before any control activities are applied. The residual risk level takes into account the controls that are already in place or are being put in place, detailed on the risk register as both 'processes in place' and 'controls.'
- There are now eight risks on the Surrey County Council Leadership risk register, all of which have a high inherent risk level, as illustrated in the table below. Despite mitigating actions, four of these risks continue to have a high residual risk level (L1,L2,L3,L5) and four continue to have a medium residual risk level (L4,L6,L7,L8): showing the significant level of risk that the council is facing despite the processes and controls being put in place to manage the risks.



CONSULTATION:

- The Surrey County Council Leadership risk register has been reviewed by a number of senior officer groups and the Audit and Governance Committee.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

- Effective management of risks and financial controls supports the council to meet its objectives and enable value for money.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

- There are no direct financial implications relating to the Surrey County Council Leadership risk register.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

- The Section 151 Officer is well sighted of current and emerging risks through being chair of the Strategic Risk Forum, a member of the Statutory Responsibilities Network and a direct report to the Chief Executive Officer.

Her attendance at key strategic meetings provides further insight and ensures an integrated risk approach.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

11. There are no direct legal implications relating to the Surrey County Council Leadership risk register.

Equalities and Diversity

12. There are no direct equalities implications but any actions taken need to be consistent with the council's policies and procedures.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

13. The Surrey County Council Leadership risk register will be presented to the Cabinet on a quarterly basis.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

Strategic Risk Forum, Statutory Responsibilities Network, Chief Executive and direct reports, Audit and Governance Committee, Cabinet

Annexes:

Annex 1 – Leadership risk register

Sources/background papers:

None

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