



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Item 21/27

MEETING	Finance & Audit Committee
DATE OF MEETING	28 July 2021
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Strategic Risk Register
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For consideration and approval
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>This paper provides Members with the latest position of the Strategic Risk Register and associated controls.</p> <p>The Service is proposing the reduction of Risk 413: <i>Failure to appropriately respond to the protracted impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic and associated challenges</i>, due to the progression of the national situation and the delivery of the Service's internal roadmap to unlocking, which is aligned to the Governments programme.</p> <p>Whilst there continues to be positive progress in relation to Risk 301: <i>Failure to protect the Service against cyber threats and attacks</i>, it is proposed that this remains on the strategic risk register until the Service has achieved the Cyber Essentials accreditation. It is envisaged that this will now be achieved in December 2021.</p> <p>The Finance & Audit Committee will next review the Strategic Risk Register at its quarter 2 meeting in September 2021.</p>
RISK ASSESSMENT	Failure to identify, monitor and manage risks may undermine the corporate reputation of the Authority and potentially heighten risk exposure.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	None for the purposes of this report

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	None for the purposes of this report
RECOMMENDATION	<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the strategic risks and mitigations set out in Appendix A. 2. Approved the reduction of risk 413 and its removal from the strategic risk register.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Risk Matrix https://www.dwfire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/PRM-5SI-Risk-Appetite-Matrix-V3.0-1.doc 2. Strategic Assessment of Risk https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/service-plans-and-policies/ 3. Community Safety Plan https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/community-safety-plan/
APPENDIX	Appendix A – Strategic Risk Register
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 As part of its terms of reference, the Finance & Audit Committee is required to review the Authority's strategic risks on a quarterly basis.
- 1.2 These were last reviewed and approved by the Committee on the 3 March 2021.

2. Strategic risks

- 2.1 Risks are managed within the planning, performance and risk management system, Sytle, and monitored at all levels throughout the Service.
- 2.2 All risks are scored using the agreed risk appetite matrix, and those identified as scoring 15 and above are classified at strategic level.
- 2.3 The strategic risks are reviewed by the Service monthly by the Strategic Leadership Team, where progress against controls is discussed and monitored.
- 2.4 Appendix A - Strategic Risk Register, provides Members with details of the strategic risks, their current and targeted risk ratings and the controls planned to reduce and mitigate the risk to the targeted level.
- 2.5 All risk mitigations are monitored through the Service performance reporting protocols.
- 2.6 Commentary against the progress of the controls is provided within the quarterly performance reports presented to Members.
- 2.7 Supplementary commentary against the strategic risks is provided on an exception basis, where an issue requires escalation and reporting.
- 2.8 **Risk 413:** *Failure to appropriately respond to the protracted impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic and associated challenges.*
 - 2.8.1 The Service, along with both Local Resilience Forums, have moved out of major incident status and are progressing with the recovery stages in line with the Governments roadmap.
 - 2.8.2 Internally, the Service has developed a roadmap, aligned to that of the Government, to ensure an appropriate response and ease of unlocking across the Service. This approach includes full risk assessments, a clear communications and engagement programme with staff and the progression of smarter working arrangements to ensure that learning from the pandemic, in terms of new ways of working, are suitably implemented and embedded.

- 2.8.3 As part of the Service's requirement under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004) and to ensure the Service continues to support its communities, the Service, as part of its business-as-usual arrangements, continues to be actively involved with partners in both the Dorset and Wiltshire & Swindon Local Resilience Forums.
- 2.8.4 Due to the Service's internal arrangements and the progression of the national approach it is recommended that this risk is reduced and removed from the strategic risk register. It will however continue to be managed as a high department risk and reviewed at least monthly to ensure continued progression of the mitigations.
- 2.9 **Risk 301:** *Failure to protect the Service against cyber threats and attacks.*
- 2.9.1 The Service continues to progress positively with its mitigations and systems to protect the Service from cyber activity. The pandemic and advancement of cyber challenges have delayed the Service in achieving the Cyber Essentials accreditation, however, this is now planned for December 2021.

3. Summary and key points

- 3.1 Officers will continue to review these risks on a monthly basis and a progress report will be brought to the Finance & Audit Committee at its next meeting in September 2021.

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