



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE
AUTHORITY**

Item 9

MEETING	Shadow Policy and Resources Committee
DATE OF MEETING	14 January 2016
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Dorset & Wiltshire Strategic Risk Register
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For information and approval
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	This paper provides Members with the draft strategic risk register for the new Authority and provides detail of the work programme undertaken to enable the development of the final draft document.
RISK ASSESSMENT	Failure to successfully identify, monitor and manage risks may undermine the corporate reputation and risks for the new Authority.
COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	None for the purposes of this report.
BUDGET IMPLICATIONS	None for the purposes of this report.
RECOMMENDATIONS	It is recommended that the Shadow Policy and Resources Committee approve the draft strategic risk register for presentation and adoption at the Shadow Authority meeting on the 12 February 2016.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	None for the purposes of this report.
APPENDICES	Appendix A – Risk Matrix Appendix B – Draft Strategic Risk Register
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Introduction

- 1.1 From the 1st April 2016 the Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority will have ownership of the strategic risks. The new Authority and its Service will need to ensure that appropriate risk management arrangements are in place to mitigate threats and to ensure good governance arrangements are operating.
- 1.2 This includes the identification and management of strategic risks, those most likely to cause the largest amount of impact and disruption to the Service and or its communities.
- 1.3 Understanding the risks faced by the Service will inform decision making; and defining the strategic risks will ensure that they are managed at the appropriate level. Successfully managing risk will help:
 - Ensure the Service achieves its vision and priorities
 - Ensure that risks to the Service are minimised or reduced
 - Provide assurance on the continuing effectiveness of the Service
 - Protect the Service and stakeholders from negative events
 - Improve decision making
 - Assist managers and Members to improve the Service
 - Protect the corporate image and reputation
 - Ensure legal compliance

Development of the strategic risk register

- 1.4 To understand and identify the strategic risks a programme of work was commissioned by the Joint Leadership Team to support the creation of the draft strategic risk register.
- 1.5 This programme of work was designed to ensure that a thorough and robust strategic risk register is established, taking account of the existing Authority's current strategic risks along with on-going combination risks and new emerging risks resulting from intelligence from key stakeholders.
- 1.6 To support the development of the draft strategic risk register and to ensure alignment to the community risk registers, lead officers from both Local Resilience Forums (LRF) for Dorset and Wiltshire & Swindon and DCLG were involved at an early stage.
- 1.7 DCLG also agreed to support the process, with Alison Tyer, Resilience Advisor for Wiltshire & Swindon LRF, reviewing and validating the approach and providing guidance on national risks and emerging risks for a larger Fire and Rescue Service.
- 1.8 Working with the LRF and DCLG ensured clear identification and understanding of LRF risks and provided assurance of the current mitigation measures. Support was also given with identifying new potential threats and issues within both local communities and nationally.

- 1.9 The work programme also included communications with Fire and Rescue Services who have been through similar mergers. Contact was made with both the Scottish Fire Service and Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service, with a view to understanding their 'day one' risks, current strategic risks and to review any lessons learnt.
- 1.10 Officers also worked with their respective insurance brokers, to review the current trends in insurance claims as well as emerging issues throughout the Fire and Rescue Service and wider for larger organisations.
- 1.11 To ensure a consistent approach to risk management a common risk matrix was agreed (Appendix A). Risks above a rating of 15 or above have been deemed to be appropriate for strategic attention and management.
- 1.12 The draft strategic risk register (Appendix B) has been reviewed and validated by the Joint Leadership Team in readiness for its presentation to Members. In addition, the full programme of work to develop the strategic risk register, including the risk matrix was reviewed and endorsed by the Southwest Audit Partnership (SWAP).

Monitoring of the Strategic Risk Register

- 1.13 The risks within the strategic risk register, along with any new emerging strategic risks will be reviewed on a monthly basis and managed by the Strategic Leadership Team.
- 1.14 The strategic risk register will be reported to the Finance and Audit Committee, who will monitor and make recommendations to the Fire Authority when necessary.
- 1.15 On an annual basis, the strategic risks will be reported to the Fire Authority as part of the Annual Governance Statement.

Conclusions and next steps

- 1.16 Members are asked to review and validate the contents of the draft strategic risk register, set out in Appendix B. The day one strategic risk register will be finalised and delivered at Shadow Authority meeting on the 12 February 2016 for adoption.