



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE  
AUTHORITY**

Item 21/53

MEETING	Finance & Audit Committee
DATE OF MEETING	8 December 2021
SUBJECT OF THE REPORT	Strategic Risk Register
STATUS OF REPORT	For open publication
PURPOSE OF REPORT	For review and note
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>This paper provides Members with the latest position of the Strategic Risk Register and associated controls.</p> <p>The Service's cyber security arrangements have undergone external scrutiny, against the Cyber Essentials Standard accreditation, throughout November 2021. A verbal update to confirm the results of this review will be provided to Members during the meeting, with Risk 301: Failure to protect the Service against cyber threats and attacks, updated following this.</p> <p>Furthermore, due to the new Omicron variant and potential pressures over the winter months, it is recommended that Risk 413: <i>Failure to appropriately respond to the protracted impacts of the coronavirus pandemic and associated challenges</i>, continues to remain a strategic risk.</p> <p>The Finance &amp; Audit Committee will next review the Strategic Risk Register at its meeting in March 2022.</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	Members are asked to: 1. Review and note the strategic risks and mitigations set out in Appendix A.
BACKGROUND PAPERS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Risk Matrix <a href="https://www.dwfire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/PRM-5SI-Risk-Appetite-Matrix-V3.0-1.doc">https://www.dwfire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/PRM-5SI-Risk-Appetite-Matrix-V3.0-1.doc</a></li> <li>2. Strategic Assessment of Risk <a href="https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/service-plans-and-policies/">https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/service-plans-and-policies/</a></li> <li>3. Community Safety Plan <a href="https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/community-safety-plan/">https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/who-we-are/community-safety-plan/</a></li> </ol>
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 15 September 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 During the Finance & Audit meeting in September 2021, Members agreed that the risk would remain at strategic level whilst the Service carried out its unlocking programme, which was aligned to the revised Government guidance.
  - 2.8.2 Whilst the unlocking programme has been successfully delivered, it is recommended that it remains a strategic risk due to the new Omicron variant and potential pressures over the winter period.

**2.9 Risk 301: *Failure to protect the Service against cyber threats and attacks***

2.9.1 The Service's cyber security arrangements have undergone external scrutiny, against the Cyber Essentials Standard accreditation, throughout November 2021.

2.9.2 The results of this independent review were not known at the time of writing this paper, therefore an update will be provided to Members during the Finance & Audit Committee meeting.

**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 March 2022.

December 2021