

April 12th, 2024

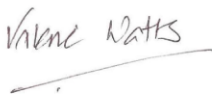
Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend a Meeting of the

Mid and East Antrim Audit & Scrutiny Committee

to be held on **Tuesday, 16th April 2024 at 6:30 pm** in **Council Chamber, The Braid, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena.**

Yours sincerely



Valerie Watts
Interim Chief Executive, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

Agenda

1 NOTICE OF MEETING

2 APOLOGIES

3 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/DECISION

4.1 Corporate Risk Register Briefing Report (part 1) - circulated

📎 *Corporate Risk Register Briefing Report.pdf*

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5 ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

6 TABLED QUESTIONS

Closed Committee - In accordance with Council policy, representatives of the Press will not be in attendance for this section of the Meeting.

7 ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION/DECISION - CLOSED COMMITTEE

7.1 Corporate Risk Register (part 2) - circulated

📎 *Corporate Risk Register 10 04 2024.pdf*

Not included

7.2 Audit Strategy 2023 - 2024 - circulated

📎 *Audit Strategy 2023 - 2024 cover letter.pdf*

Not included

📎 *Audit Strategy 2023 - 2024.pdf*

Not included

8 ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL - CLOSED COMMITTEE

9 TABLED QUESTIONS - CLOSED COMMITTEE

9.1 Tabled Question in the Name of Cllr A Barr (additional item 12.04.24)

📎 *Cllr A Barr Question 11.04.24.pdf*

Not included

Council/Committee:	Audit and Scrutiny Committee
Date:	16 April 2024
Report Title:	Corporate Risk Register Briefing Report
Publication Status:	Open
Author:	Laureen Donnan, Interim Director of Corporate Services
Approver:	Laureen Donnan, Interim Director of Corporate Services

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide Audit and Scrutiny Committee Members with the Corporate Risk Register. Under Section 7 of Council's Risk Management Policy Elected Members are asked to review the Corporate Risk Register.

2. Background

- 2.1. Under Section 7 of Council's Risk Management Policy the Audit and Scrutiny Committee must undertake an annual review of the Corporate Risk Register.
- 2.2. In August 2023 a report was brought to Committee setting out the new corporate risks as agreed by the Senior Management Team. These risk titles were approved by the Audit and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2.3. These risks reflected the Interim Chiefs Executives presentation to Council on 24 July 2023 where key Council improvements were highlighted, and these were considered within the updated corporate risk register.
- 2.4. Since then, the corporate risk register has been considered by SMT quarterly and it is now time for the Committee to consider and review.

3. Key Issues for Consideration

- 3.1. Later at Agenda Item 7.1 under closed business Officers will discuss the new Corporate Risk Register. There are six risks in total. Each risk has been assigned a risk category, scored, and has had new controls and actions added. The original detail of these were agreed by SMT on 5th July 2023 and have been reviewed and updated quarterly since then. They were updated most recently on 10.4.24.
- 3.2. Of the six risks agreed and approved in the past year, three were a continuation of previously agreed risks that were updated. This included:

- Capability and Capacity to deliver the Capital Plan
- Challenge of Successfully delivering the City Deal investment to Mid and East Antrim, and
- Inadequate Long Term Waste Disposal Strategy

Three new strategic risks were then included by SMT, these are:

- Maintaining robust budgetary and financial planning and management
 - Attract and retain talent and people management capacity and competence
 - Resistance to transformational change, lack of coherence and investment in embedding change.
- 3.3. SMT continue to have in place key actions for each of the risk areas and work has continued to strengthen the mitigations around these areas, providing additional assurance to Members.
- 3.4. Members are asked to note that any actions in the report titled 'Corporate Risk Register Part II' that are highlighted yellow have been identified by SMT as immediate and ongoing.
- 3.5. Members are asked to note that any actions in the report titled 'Corporate Risk Register Part II' that are highlighted blue have been completed and are being considered as potential controls. These will be updated by the responsible officers following Audit and Scrutiny Committee.

4. Further work needed

- 4.1. Whilst the risk register is maintained and reviewed regularly it is good practice to review the approach to risk and the risk policy. Identification of risk and the monitoring and mitigation of risk should be an active management tool that is prevalent at all levels of management in the organisation with relevant training and skills development in place.
- 4.2. For this reason, we have been engaging with our internal audit partners, discussing options for a review of our current arrangements and identification of any improvements that we need to make. This would be outside of the current internal audit arrangements/contract and the committee will be updated once this is finalized.

5. General Considerations / Implications

- 5.1. Financial implications
There are a number of financial implications for the successful delivery and management of the Corporate Risk Register, given the significant

strategic importance of the areas identified such as the Capital Plan, and City Deal. The controls associated with these risk areas includes robust budgetary planning and appropriate approvals and governance to ensure there would be minimal financial implications due to good planning.

5.2. Alignment with Corporate Priorities and Link to Corporate Plan

Each risk was linked on the risk system to objectives directly related to the Corporate Plan's delivery. This will allow SMT to see clearly when they review the progress of any risk, the performance of the objectives directly linked to it, and the Corporate Plan. This will in turn inform decisions on how the risk is managed and reviewed, creating a joined-up approach to corporate risks being directly connected to the key performance indicators and the successful delivery of the Corporate Plan.

6. Proposed Way Forward

- 6.1. As per Section 7 of the Risk Management Policy the Corporate Risk Register had its annual review at the August Audit and Scrutiny Committee. This review point is brought to Members for consideration and approval.
- 6.2. Continued discussion with Deloitte's, our internal audit partner will continue and develop a management session on risk which will be shared with audit and scrutiny committee in the coming months.

7. Recommendation or Decision

- 7.1. Elected Members are asked to note this briefing report on the Corporate Risk Register.

8. Appendices / Links

Agenda Item 7.1 Corporate Risk Register