



**GA.32 13/14**

**Committee: Governance & Audit**

**21<sup>st</sup> November 2013**

**Subject: Strategic Risks (October 2013)**

Report by:

Interim Director: Jeanette McGarry

Contact Officer:

Alex Reeks  
Assistant Chief Executive  
01427 675175  
alex.reeks@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Purpose / Summary:

To present Members with the strategic risks facing the Council as at October 2013

**RECOMMENDATION(S): 1. To note and review the strategic risks as presented.**

**IMPLICATIONS**

**Legal: None**

**Financial: FIN/50/14 The key strategic financial risks are detailed within the register.**

**Staffing: None**

**Equality and Diversity including Human Rights: None**

**Risk Assessment: None**

**Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: None**

**Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**Call in and Urgency:**

**Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?**

*i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)*

**Yes**

**No**

**Key Decision:**

*A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications*

**Yes**

**No**

## **Executive Summary**

If the main body of your report is longer than 4 sides of A4 then you are required to complete an executive summary. Please summarise the entire content of the report, its purpose and the decisions you require on one side of A4.

## **1 Introduction**

1.1 Strategic Risks are considered as being those faced by the Council that if materialised would affect the delivery of corporate priorities.

## **2 Monitoring Arrangements**

2.1 The strategic risks are presented to Core Management Team (CMT) on a monthly basis for review.

2.2 CMT are requested to review the risks, control measures and future actions to ensure that they remain sufficiently robust to mitigate the identified risk.

2.3 Where corrective action is required and/or additional risks are identified, the strategic risk register is updated accordingly.

## **3 Risk Register**

3.1 The strategic risk register as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013 is presented below for Members to review.

## Strategic Risk Register

Strategic Risks November 2013

No	Risk Name	Control Measures	Risk Impact	Risk Likelihood	Control	Risk Owner	Future Actions	Date of Next Review
1	<b>Financial sustainability</b> in current financial climate resulting from further severe local government funding reductions, a shortfall in planned income or significant increases in operating costs. Impact on quality and level of service delivery and ability to influence and address social issues such as unemployment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five year budget strategy that looks at medium and long term planning to build greater resilience</li> <li>Stakeholder engagement to manage expectations and inform decisions on future savings and priorities for the council</li> <li>Wider approach to commercialisation.</li> </ol>	3	4	Treat	<b>Russell Stone</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of 'Finance Matters' programme to enhance officer awareness and capability, whilst also providing improved information to support the Council's wider aspirations and entrepreneurial vision.</li> <li>Medium term planning and development of options to meet financial challenges.</li> <li>Robust and proactive approach to financial management based on realistic deliverables</li> </ol> Do we have a date for completion and appraisal of the 'Finance Matters' programme?	<b>30/10/2013</b>
2	<b>Collaboration</b> - Failure to deliver through greater collaboration with parties such as county council, districts, South Humber, parishes and communities, leading to reduction in services and failure to address complex issues.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular meetings between politicians and managers with key partners to update and monitor joint actions</li> <li>Role of CMT to focus more on developing partnership delivery</li> </ol>	3	3	Treat	<b>Manjet Gill</b>	Lead Committee Officers identified. Lead members and officers agreed for corporate priorities.	<b>30/10/2013</b>
3	<b>Ability of the community</b> to adapt to the reduction in public sector funding and focus more on self help and helping each other, greater frustration, needs not met. Impact on health and ability to live independently in their homes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localism programme, funding and new officer roles, providing support and tools to help communities help themselves and others</li> <li>Councillors understanding how and where communities need development support and signposting them to this</li> </ol>	3	2	Treat	<b>Jo Riddell</b>	Inspiring Communities Event taking place in November. This event will help communities to access the Community Assets Fund and also allow sharing of best practice. 2. Challenge and Improve Committee are reviewing the success of the Localism programme. This will be completed by January 2013. The review is being carried out by Members and Officers. 3. Additional performance measures have been developed to record volunteer numbers and amount of external funding levered into the District.	<b>30/10/2013</b>
4	<b>Leadership capability</b> amongst members and managers to proactively drive and take difficult decisions that are needed to adapt to the new environment, ability to build a more resilient council, balancing a difficult budget. Levels of performance and impact on delivering outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councillors and managers jointly agree approach to how we work as part of the Budget and Corporate Plan workshops</li> <li>Managers work to new management standards and focus resources on delivering priority outcomes</li> <li>Leadership development training</li> </ol>	3	2	Treat	<b>Manjeet Gill</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leadership development training</li> <li>Commercial Training</li> <li>New competency framework in place for HoS and Directors</li> <li>3 Director model agreed</li> <li>Priority away day SMT</li> </ol> Do we have dates for these actions to be completed?	<b>30/10/2013</b>
5	<b>Customer satisfaction and expectations</b> do not realistically reflect a reduced workforce with budget cuts, frustration and expectations not met, Time dealing with complaints.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater focus on customer standards and greater consistency on customer service and communication across all services</li> <li>Focus on communicating achievements and work with communities and customers to deliver success</li> <li>Greater analysis and action on complaints</li> </ol>	2	4	Treat	<b>Alan Robinson</b>	The e-accessibility project will report to P & R in November on recommendations to meet customer needs for accessibility.	<b>30/10/2013</b>
6	<b>Governance</b> - The ability of the council to work to the principles of good corporate governance expected to deliver the Corporate Plan, use resources effectively and deliver outcomes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Management Standards</li> <li>Strengthen first and second lines of assurance</li> <li>Programme of Audits to monitor and learn</li> </ol>	5	4	Treat	<b>Jeanette McGarry</b>	Report on Governance has been presented to members of Governance and Audit and the SMART action plan is due to be presented to Governance and Audit Committee 21st November 13	<b>30/10/2013</b>
7	<b>Impact of the current economy</b> on the most vulnerable, including businesses and individuals leading to a decline in health. Well-being and standards, lack of community confidence and morale and pressure of services such as housing and benefits	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater targeted work on priority areas and neighbourhoods</li> <li>Develop ways to help youth unemployment and employability of young people</li> <li>Invest in development and growth of business</li> </ol>				<b>Mark Sturgess</b>	1. Develop a strategy for the local economy that identifies those areas which are of high importance in developing businesses and employment opportunities and have high impact once implemented. 2. Work with strategic partners in the GLLEP to access funding to support economic development within the district. 3. Work with communities to closely identify their needs, their capacity to take action themselves and work with them to identify sources of assistance to build community confidence and resilience.	<b>28/02/2014</b>

8	<b>Finance Reform</b> - Impact of welfare reforms both financially and otherwise due to delays in legislation for universal credits and wider reform, affecting financial sustainability, impact on workforce and financial pressure on claimants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scenario planning and adoption of policies in waiting as pending legislation and its principles become clearer</li> <li>2. Undertake pilot of Universal Credit</li> <li>3. Steering group for welfare reform created and monitoring progress</li> </ol>	4	4	Treat	<b>Alan Robinson</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Financial modelling for the Future 31/3/14</li> <li>2. Run UK pilot ends 31/12/13. This work will be reviewed across the East Midlands and Nationally.</li> </ol>	<b>30/10/2013</b>
9	<b>Ability to deliver high performing services</b> in relation to the level of resources - failure to meet social needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Greater comparison of national benchmark and best practise</li> <li>2. Invest in service development and redesign in line with the Entrepreneurial Council model of localism, greater productivity and more income</li> <li>3. Strong performance management framework in place</li> </ol>	3	3	Treat	<b>Jeannette McGarry</b>	Business Improvement Team have undertaken service reviews this work will feed into the budget and service planning process. Income generation will be monitored by the S151 Officer and CMT will receive regular monitoring reports. Performance management approach is under review.	<b>30/10/2013</b>
10	<b>Workforce productivity, morale and motivation</b> at a time when they have to be resilient, adapt new skills and behaviours - impact on stress and health and safety.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. People and OD programme and service, provide leadership in tackling this area</li> <li>2. All managers provide leadership and modelling behaviours needed and support to workforce and councillors to help them adapt</li> <li>3. Effective communication arrangements in place</li> <li>4. Clear objectives set through appraisals</li> <li>5. Clear management standards to reduce any confusion</li> </ol>	4	3	Treat	<b>Manjeet Gill</b>	Cultural change programme will be implemented as part of corporate governance SMART actions.	<b>30/10/2013</b>
11	<b>Local development framework</b> - failure to deliver sustainable growth and preventing piecemeal development.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Core Strategy being realigned to national localism changes</li> <li>2. Delivery plans for key strategic sites</li> <li>3. Housing and Economic Strategies to deliver growth</li> </ol>	4	3	Treat	<b>Mark Sturgess</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engage partner organisations and neighbouring councils to jointly address this issue by marketing the area to national developers. Conference organised for 10 December 2013.</li> <li>2. The Central Lincolnshire Co-ordination and Delivery Group is working on an approach to ensuring the growth planning for central Lincolnshire is delivered.</li> <li>3. There are plans in place for the detailed delivery of the urban extensions around Gainsborough. Developed July 2013.</li> </ol>	<b>30/10/2013</b>