<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Risk Management Review</th>
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<td><strong>Report of:</strong></td>
<td>Strategic Director Finance &amp; Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Open</strong></td>
<td>For Information</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wards Affected:</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Key Decision:</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
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<td><strong>Report Author:</strong></td>
<td>Contact Details:</td>
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<td><strong>Accountable Director:</strong></td>
<td>Jonathan Bunt, Strategic Director Finance &amp; Investment</td>
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**Summary:**

Strategic leadership of corporate risk management sets the tone for the whole risk management framework. This supports the expectation that effective management of risk becomes “part of the day job” underpinning day to day decision making, service delivery and ultimately delivery of outcomes and benefits for the community.

This report provides a summary of the current position of Corporate Risks

**Recommendation(s):**

PAASC is recommended to note the summary position.

**Reason(s):**

Risk offers both significant potential positive and negative impacts on delivery and reputation, thus PAASC plays an essential role in assisting in the strategic leadership of corporate risk management, helping to set the tone for the whole risk management framework and assisting in the managing of a well run organisation.
1. Background

1.1 Risk offers both significant potential positive and negative impacts on delivery and reputation, thus PAASC provides strategic leadership of corporate risk management, setting the tone for the whole risk management framework.

1.2 Risk management is not a panacea to problems in its own right, but a sound management technique that is an essential part of any successful organisation. Emphasis needs to be on the significant benefits from operating good risk management rather than the process itself.

1.3 It follows that a key organisational challenge facing the Council is embedding risk as part of the organisation’s decision making process both in day to day operational situations and at the strategic level.

- A summary of the current position of Corporate Risks

- There are a total of 26 Corporate Risks, the same as at the last report to PAASC.

- There are 17 retained risks. This means that they are risks that have reached the level of mitigation (risk appetite) where the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) are comfortable that the risk is being managed as far as is financially effective.

- There are 4 red risks, 21 amber risks and 1 green risk.

- The red risks are

  - **CR1 Death of a Child** - The service continues to experience caseload pressures and the risk inherent within such high workloads is being closely monitored by senior managers and the lead member.

  - **CR10 Information Assurance** - A recent drive on Managing Information has seen 97% of staff complete the required training. Despite the raised profile of this risk, given the increased pressures on services, this still remains a high risk due to the consequences of a breech.

  - **CR23 Asset Management** - Officers hold specific responsibility for Legionella and asbestos management and their respective registers. Financial constraints are an increasing risk in the current climate, and every effort is being made to protect core activities to mitigate this risk.

  - **CR31 Inability to Provide School Places** – The commitment to the long term aim of providing excellent schools at both primary and secondary levels means that the ongoing growth of demand for school places, lack of clarification from DfE on funding and the hardening of construction costs results in this remaining a high risk.
2. **Review of Risk Management**

2.1 The Group Manager for Risk & Insurance has responsibility for Risk Management at Thurrock Council alongside that role at Barking & Dagenham as well as managing Insurance Services for both authorities.

2.2 Acknowledging the challenges faced by both organisations from continuing budgetary pressures and the changes required of the organisations to meet these challenges, a complete review of the Corporate risk registers will be undertaken to ensure current relevance of the risks already on the register and to capture new and emerging risks that come from the changes to be made, such as those arising out of Ambition 2020.

2.3 This will take place over the coming quarters. Progress and any new risks, along with their Action Plans, will be incorporated into the normal reports to PAASC.

3. **Financial Implications**

   *Implications completed by: Jonathan Bunt, Strategic Director Finance and Investment*

3.1 The Risk & Insurance team is fully funded and there are no additional financial implications arising directly from this report. Robust risk management can prevent financial loss to the Authority.

4. **Legal Implications**

   *Implications completed by: Dr. Paul Feild Senior Governance Lawyer*

4.1 To reiterate the main body text of this report, risk management is a key role for the organisation across the board for Members, Chief Officers and the teams. In particular, local authorities have a specific leadership role to be prepared and able to take action under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

4.2 Furthermore, if a risk is identified and reasonable measures are not taken to mitigate its likelihood of occurrence and if it is unpreventable, such as for example a major natural disaster like the Thames flooding or say that a tree on the highway was dangerously leaning over, then there could be legal liability for negligence and reputational damage in not having taken steps to reduce the risk of occurrence and magnitude of an event so as to minimise actual loss and potential claims for compensation. To carry out risk assessments is therefore a core activity for management.

5. **Customer Impact**

   None

6. **Recommendations**

   6.1 **PAASC is asked to:**

   - Note the summary position of the Corporate Risks
7. The following documents were used in the preparation of this report

7.1 None

8. Appendices

8.1 Appendix A - Summary Corporate Risk Dashboard