

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

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<p>REVISED RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - “A SENSE OF PROPORTION”</p>
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Summary

1. To seek comment from Scrutiny on Middlesbrough Council’s revised Risk Management Strategy - “A Sense of Proportion”.

Introduction

2. The revised Risk Management Strategy builds on the Council’s previous risk management strategy – “Chance or Choice” which was revised for the following reasons:
 - to take into account the review of “Chance or Choice” presented to CMT on 4th August 2005.
 - to build on the progress made since 2002, across the Council, with regards to risk management
 - to further embed good practice across the Council
 - in line with the original risk management strategy “Chance or Choice” which stated that regular reviews would be undertaken
 - in line with auditors’ expectations.

The revised Risk Management Strategy is attached as Appendix A.

Evidence / Discussion

3. Risk management should enhance the Council’s ability to deliver its strategic objectives in a cost effective way. The potential impact and likelihood of risks identified should inform decisions and help members and officers to take calculated

risks. The revised strategy aims to provide a balance between the need to effectively manage all risks facing the Council and the capacity of council officers to do this.

4. The aim of risk management within the Council is to “improve our ability to deliver our strategic priorities by managing our threats, enhancing our opportunities and creating an environment that adds value to ongoing operational activities.”
5. The Risk Management Strategy provides an overview of risk management within Middlesbrough Council including:
 - aim and objectives of risk management
 - definition of risk and risk management that that Council is using
 - roles and responsibilities of members, officers and relevant service areas
 - the risk management framework
 - the risk management process and how it links to the Council’s current performance management processes
 - monitoring arrangements and key indicators of success.
6. Further information and tools to assist in the implementation of the strategy are provided in a Risk Manual.

CONCLUSION

7. Middlesbrough Council has made significant progress in implementing a risk management culture across the Council. This revised strategy represents another step forward and Scrutiny are requested to comment on and support this strategy.
8. To assist in the implementation of this strategy risk management awareness training is being offered to all members and Scrutiny are requested to support this training initiative.

Report prepared by
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