

Status of Report: Public

Meeting: Corporate Governance Committee

Date: 15th March 2023

Subject: Organisational Risk Register

Report by: The Chief Fire and Rescue Officer

Author: Stuart Brewer, Corporate Risk and Resilience Manager

For: Information

Purpose

1. The purpose of the report is to inform the Corporate Governance Committee (CGC) of the progress made in the identification, documentation and management of organisational risk through the Organisational Risk Register (ORR).

Recommendation

2. The Committee is asked to note the content of the report and the Organisational Risk Register (attached as an Appendix to the report).

Executive Summary

3. The ORR details risks that have been subject to an assessment using a Risk Assessment Template, a Project Risk Assessment, or have been identified as relevant by the Health and Safety Department. It contains high level detail of the risks faced by the Service and the control measures applied to mitigate the likelihood and/or consequence of the risk.
4. The ORR consists of three parts:
 - a. Corporate Risk Register (CRR) – hazards posing a potential for significant risk to day to day running of the Service;
 - b. Project Risk Register (PRR) – highest level risks affecting the delivery of Service projects; and
 - c. Health, Safety Risk – highest level risk identified by the Health and Safety Department through its own process and procedure.
5. The Organisational Risk Guidance has been updated to improve the speed and capacity of the process to capture and assess emerging risk.
6. The Organisational Risk Register has been reformatted and remains unchanged from last report.

7. The overall level of assessed risk has increased slightly with two risks now falling within the Corporate area of management responsibility.
8. Currently there are no risks identified by the Programme Management Board that meet the threshold for inclusion in Chapter 2 of the ORR. The Health and Safety chapter of the Register has had some updating of wording to reflect work undertaken; although it remains substantially unchanged. Details of the changes made are contained in paragraphs 12 – 15 below.

Background

9. The ORR is a live document. Regular review is essential to ensure it remains current and accurate, reflecting risks and the control measures applied to mitigate them. The current ORR was validated by the Senior Management Team (SMT) in February 2023. The revised Register can be found at the Appendix to this report.
10. The ORR does not cover areas of risk to the Service where the hazard can be adequately managed within existing risk management processes such as health and safety reporting or debriefs. This helps to prevent duplication of effort.
11. The underpinning detail that supports the Corporate Risk Register (CRR) is recorded on Risk Assessment Templates (RATs). These are created by Risk Owners and are subject to regular review.
12. The overall level of risk has increased slightly. This is mainly as a result of additional risk to the organisation arising from issues relating to the current mobilising system. Changes of note include:
 - a. 15/04 – “Failure of the mobilising system” has been re-assessed by the SMT with a resulting increase to an assessed level of risk of VERY HIGH and a subsequent elevation of the risk management level to CORPORATE.
 - b. 20/04 – “Inability to receive 999 calls” has been re-assessed by the SMT with a resulting increase to an assessed level of risk of VERY HIGH and a subsequent elevation of the risk management level to CORPORATE.
 - c. 18/01 – “We fail to achieve compliance with UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018” has seen both likelihood and consequence increase as a result of the need to refresh staff training on GDPR issues. This has resulted in the overall risk assessment increasing to HIGH from MEDIUM, and the risk has changed location on the Risk Matrix.
 - d. 15/07 – “Staff absence due to pandemic disease” has been reviewed and remains steady. The general move within society to accept Covid 19 issues as business as usual has been reflected within the Service assessment.

13. There are currently no project risks that meet the criteria for inclusion in Chapter 2.
14. Health and Safety risk information detailed in the Register has been updated to reflect the ongoing work to ensure and improve firefighter safety.

Report Implications/Impact

15. Legal (including crime and disorder)

Anticipating and responding to emerging risks will assist the Service in meeting its legal obligations.

16. Financial (including value for money, benefits and efficiencies)

The financial expenditure needed to mitigate risk will vary according to the control measures applied to them. Adopting best value principles ensures expenditure does not outweigh the benefits. Early identification and mitigation of risks has been shown to reduce potential costs, through avoidance of risk or reduction in impact where risks come to fruition.

17. Risk (including corporate and operational, health and safety and any impact on the continuity of service delivery)

The effective management of risk enables the Service to deliver all of its Strategy Outcomes. Failure to manage risk appropriately may result in criticism in future audits/peer reviews.

18. Staff, Service Users and Stakeholders (including the Equality Impact Assessment)

Risk owners should ensure that timely reviews of their risks are carried out and the Risk Assessment Template (RAT) updated accordingly. This will assist in embedding the risk management process into mainstream activities.

19. Environmental

None.

20. Impact upon Our Plan Objectives

Effective management of risk will assist in early identification and treatment of hazards that threaten our ability to deliver all of our objectives.

Background Papers

Report to the Corporate Governance Committee 14th September 2022 - Organisational Risk Register

<https://leics-fire.gov.uk/your-fire-service/decision-making/cfa-meetings/>

Appendix

Appendix– Organisational Risk Register

Officers to Contact

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