

Finance Risk Register - Gross 'High' (Red) Risks Extract - Appendix C

DATE LAST REVIEWED:												29/01/2019	
REF	DIVISION	RISK TITLE & DESCRIPTION (a line break - press alt & return - must be entered after the risk title)	RISK CAUSE & EFFECT	RISK CATEGORY	GROSS RISK RATING (See next tab for guidance)			EXISTING CONTROLS IN PLACE TO MITIGATE THE RISK	CURRENT RISK RATING (See next tab for guidance)			FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED	RISK OWNER
					LIKELIHOOD	IMPACT	RISK RATING		LIKELIHOOD	IMPACT	RISK RATING		
2	Finance	Financial Market Volatility Financial loss arising from the volatility of financial markets.	Cause(s): Market volatility, recession, banking failure Effect(s): We do not maximise our interest earnings on balances and could also suffer the following issues - Liquidity, Interest rate, Exchange rate, Inflation, Credit and counterparty, Refinancing, legal and regulatory risks	Financial - Operational	3	5	15	1. Regular strategy meetings 2. Use of external advisors 3. Internal Audit review of activities 4. Quarterly reporting to E&R PDS Committee (Members) 5. Adoption of CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 6. Regular meetings / discussions with external auditors 7. Treasury management strategy	2	4	8		Jo-Anne Chang-Rogers
4	Finance	Pension Fund The pension fund not having sufficient resources to meet all liabilities as they fall due	Cause(s): 1. Investment markets fail to perform in line with expectations 2. Market yields move at a variance with assumptions 3. Investment managers fail to achieve their targets over the longer term 4. Longevity horizon continues to expand 5. Deterioration in pattern of early retirements 6. Administering authority unaware of structural changes in an employer's membership e.g. large fall in employee members, large number of retirements 7. Mandatory pooling of investments (London CIV) may result in appointment of poorer performing investment managers. Effect(s): Financial	Financial - Operational	3	5	15	1. Use of external advice. 2. Financial: Monitoring of investment returns - analysis of valuation reports 3. Demographic: Longevity horizon monitored at triennial reviews - quarterly review of retirement levels 4. Regulatory: Monitor draft regulations and respond to consultations - actuarial advice on potential where appropriate 5. Internal audit review of activities, performance, controls etc. 6. Quarterly reports to Pensions Investment Sub-Committee 7. Funding Strategy Statement 8. Statement of Investment Principles 9. Communications Policy 10. Governance Policy 11. Triennial valuation by actuary 12. Strategic asset allocation review.	2	4	8		Director of Finance
5	Finance	Failure to deliver a sustainable Financial Strategy which meets with BBB priorities and failure of individual departments to meet budget	Cause(s): 1. As a consequence of significant Government funding reductions (austerity is expected to continue beyond 2019/20), need to reduce the Council's significant 'budget gap' of over £35m per annum by 2022/23. 2. Part of the devolution of funding, business rates will be devolved to Local Government from 2021 (75% of the total national business rate monies). The outcome of the Government's awaited Spending Review and Fair Funding Review will impact on the 2020/21 and future years budget and creates financial uncertainty. A future national recession could have a significant impact on income generated to fund key services within a more devolved model. 3. Failure to meet departmental budgets due to increased demand on key services resulting in overspends: (Housing (homelessness and cost of bed and breakfast); Social Care (welfare reform and ageing population); and Waste (growing number of households). 4. The risk of the Council not being able to carry out its statutory duties (e.g. pupil admissions, school improvement, child protection) as a consequence of funding reductions. 5. Dependency on external grants to fund services (schools and housing benefits are ring-fenced) - effect if grant reduces (Public Health services) or ceases. 6. The new national living wage will have cost implications to the Council over the next few years (e.g. care providers and carers). 7. As the local government core grant is fully phased out, local government will take on new funding responsibilities e.g. public health, housing benefit administration for pensioners. With ageing population there will be associated cost pressures. 8. Impact of welfare reforms and the phased roll out of Universal Credit. 9. Failure to identify and highlight frauds and weaknesses in the system of internal control (which invariably have a financial impact). Overall, fraud losses are mainly benefit related (Council Tax Support / Single Person Discount). Effect(s): - Increased overspends in particular services - Council unable to carry out its statutory duties due to services cuts - Reputational damage - Failure to achieve our Building a Better Bromley priorities.	Financial - Operational	5	5	25	Strategic Controls: 1. Regular update to forward forecast 2. Early identification of future savings required 3. Transformation options considered early in the four year forward planning period 4. Budget monitoring to include action from relevant Director to address overspends including action to address any full year additional cost 5. Mitigation of cost pressures including demographic changes 6. Directors to update commissioning strategies with strategic choices to address financial envelope Operational Controls: 1. Management of Risks document covering inflation, capping, financial projections etc. attached to budget reports 2. Departmental risk analysis 3. Reporting of financial forecast updates in year to provide an update of financial impact and action required 4. Obtain monthly trend / current data to assist in any early action required 5. Obtain regular updates / market intelligence 6. Reporting full year effect of budget variations 7. Analysis of government plans and changes	4	5	20	The council is undertaking a review to determine the core statutory minimum service requirements and exploring transformation opportunities to help meet the ongoing budget gap	Director of Finance

Remember to consider current Internal Audit priority one recommendations when identifying, assessing and scoring risks.