

**MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**3 MARCH 2008**

**REPORT OF CHIEF OFFICER MANAGEMENT TEAM**

**Report prepared by Brian Parsons**

**1. STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER UPDATE**

1.1 Issue for Decision

1.1.1 To note the amendments to the Council's Strategic Risk Register.

1.2 Recommendation of Chief Officer Management Team

1.2.1 That the Audit Committee note the revised Strategic Risk Register

1.3 Reasons for Recommendation

1.3.1 The Council has maintained a Strategic Risk Register for a number of years and the Register is subject to periodic review and updating.

1.3.2 The Strategic Risk Register contains the risks to the Council's medium and long term objectives. The risks therefore have a direct relationship with the Council's Strategic Plan.

1.3.3 The basis for the current register emanates from a major review of the register in 2006, which sought to focus the register more specifically on the key areas. This meant that the number of risks was reduced but the prominence of each risk shown in the register was raised. The current register contains risks not only to the Council but also to the borough itself.

1.3.4 The longer term nature of the risks means that in most cases they are unlikely to change dramatically in the short term. However, the likelihood and impact may change and the actions taken to manage the risk should continue and develop over a period as the issues associated with the risk appear.

1.3.5 The Council has successfully used consultants from Zurich Municipal for a number of years to assist in the development of its risk management arrangements. Zurich Municipal has assisted in the recent review and the update of the Strategic Risk Register.

1.3.6 The revised Strategic Risk Register is shown at Appendix A.

1.3.7 Members will note that appropriate Senior Managers take responsibility for managing risks that are appropriate to their area of responsibility. The Action Plans are completed by those managers.

1.3.8 Appendix B shows the movements in the various risks since March 2007 and the current Strategic Risk Action Plans.

1.4 Alternative Action and why not Recommended

1.4.1 It is essential that the risks to the successful delivery of the Council's strategic objective are identified and properly managed. The Strategic Risk Register provides a means of achieving this; no alternative action could be recommended.

1.5 Impact on Corporate Objectives

1.5.1 The Strategic Risk Register exists to allow impacts on corporate objectives to be monitored and managed.

1.6 Risk Management

1.6.1 Risk management is integral to the decision, which provides an ongoing process for the management of the Council's strategic risks.

1.7 Other Implications

1.7.1

1.	Financial	X
2.	Staffing	X
3.	Legal	X
4.	Social Inclusion	X
5.	Environmental/Sustainable Development	X
6.	Community Safety	X
7.	Human Rights Act	
8.	Procurement	

1.7.2 The Strategic Risk Register has implications for virtually all of the Council's corporate objectives and policies.

1.8 Background Documents

1.8.1 Previous versions of the Strategic Risk Register.

**NO REPORT WILL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT THIS BOX BEING COMPLETED**

Is this a Key Decision?      Yes                          No   

If yes, when did it appear in the Forward Plan? \_\_\_\_\_

Is this an Urgent Key Decision?    Yes                          No   

Reason for Urgency

[State why the decision is urgent and cannot wait until the next issue of the forward plan.]