

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**REPORT TO THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**10 NOVEMBER 2022**

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, PERFORMANCE AND CHANGE**

**CORPORATE RISK ASSESSMENT 2022-23**

**1. Purpose of report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Governance and Audit Committee with an updated Corporate Risk Assessment 2022-23.

**2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives / other corporate priorities**

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

1. **Smarter use of resources** – ensuring that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help to deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

**3. Background**

- 3.1 Good governance requires the Council to develop effective risk management processes, including an assessment of corporate risks.
- 3.2 The Governance and Audit Committee's Terms of Reference require the committee to review, scrutinise and issue reports and recommendations on the appropriateness of the Council's risk management, internal controls and corporate governance arrangements.
- 3.3 The Corporate Risk Assessment is considered and reviewed by the Corporate Management Board (CMB), Senior Management Team, and the Governance and Audit Committee, as part of the Council's quarterly Corporate Performance Assessment framework and is used to inform the Overview and Scrutiny Committees' Forward Work Programme and the budget process.
- 3.4 The 2022-23 Corporate Risk Assessment is aligned with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and Corporate Plan.

**4. Current situation/proposal**

- 4.1 The Corporate Risk Assessment, attached at **Appendix A**, has been reviewed in consultation with the Corporate Management Board. It identifies the main risks facing the Council, their link to the corporate well-being objectives under the Well-being of

Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the likely impact of these risks on Council services and the wider County Borough, and identifies what actions are being taken to manage the risks and who is responsible for the Council's response. The risk assessment is aligned with the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

There are currently 14 risks on the Corporate Risk Register. Every Risk has been reviewed and updated to reflect the changing landscape since the last Report.

One risk has moved from Medium Risk to Low, 3 have moved from Medium to High, and seven of the High Risks have had their scores increased.

	Score	Jun 2022	October 2022
Low	1-9	2	3
Medium	10-12	5	1
High	15-25	7	10

The amended risks are as follows

<b>Risk Number</b>	<b>Risk</b>	<b>Updates</b>
<b>COR 2019-01</b>	The council is unable to make robust medium to long term decisions requiring service change	Likelihood increased to 4, due to the current Budget pressures – score increased to 20
<b>COR 2019-02</b>	The council is unable to deliver transformation including projects and agreed financial savings	Narrative updated – no change to score
<b>CEX 2019-01</b>	The council is unable to identify and deliver infrastructure required in the medium to longer term	Likelihood increased to 4, due to increased costs on Capital projects
<b>SS-2019-01</b>	The council fails to safeguard vulnerable individuals e.g. children, adults in need of social care, homeless etc.	Likelihood increased to 4 due to problems attracting and retaining suitable staff
<b>COR 2019 - 03</b>	The council is unable to plan for and recover from major threats to service continuity such as civil emergencies, school failure, cyber attack and discontinuation of funding streams and major contract	Likelihood increased from 3 to 4 as a result of increased reliance on IT
<b>COR 2019-04</b>	The council is unable to attract, develop or retain a workforce with the necessary skills to meet the demands placed upon the authority and its services	Impact reassessed as a 5 due to the ongoing difficulty in recruiting staff
<b>COR 2019-05</b>	Important council services are compromised due to the failure of a key supplier	Impact score increased to 4 due to the ongoing problems faced by suppliers
<b>COR 2020-01</b>	The Council is in breach of the GDPR because Directorates do not take ownership of, or properly resource, their responsibilities under the Regulation (GDPR).	Reviewed and actions updated, but no change in score

<b>COR 2020-02</b>	Recovery/restoration of services - the restoration of some Council services will require new ways of working to be established and implemented to ensure Covid safe environments for staff and the public.	Likelihood reduced from 5 to 4 as services have embraced the new hybrid way of working, impact increased from 3 to 4, overall score changed from 15 to 16
<b>COR-2020-03</b>	Public Health – Covid 19	Score reduced from 15 to 8 to reflect the easing of the effects of the pandemic
<b>COM 2020-01</b>	Invigorating the economy and economic recovery - there will be a prolonged and deep economic recession following the Covid pandemic and the uncertainties of the impact of the UKs withdrawal from the European Union, compounded by local issues such as the closure of the Ford engine plant.	Risk reviewed, Consequences and Actions updated but no change to scores
<b>SS 2021-01</b>	The WCCIS (Welsh Community Care Information System) Social care system (national system) will fail to operate. This is an ICT system which holds all BCBC social care records and is supported by an external contractor.	Risk Reviewed, key actions updated
<b>COR-2022-01</b>	The hangover effects of the pandemic, coupled with heightened geo-political tensions emerging from invasion of Ukraine, is impacting global economy, financial systems, supply chains and energy security	The impact of Brexit and the war in Ukraine has resulted in the Impact score being increased from 3 to 5.
<b>COR 2022-02</b>	Post-election changes could have an impact on future programme continuity	Risk reviewed and actions updated

## **5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules**

5.1 There are no effects upon the policy framework and procedure rules arising from this report.

## **6. Equality Act 2010 implications**

The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales, the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services and functions. This is an information report, therefore it is not necessary to carry out an Equality Impact assessment in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

## **7. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 implications**

7.1 The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

## **8. Financial implications**

8.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with the Corporate Risk Assessment. Implementation actions will be progressed within approved budgets.

## **9. Recommendations**

9.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

- Consider the Corporate Risk Assessment 2022-23 (**Appendix A**)

**Carys Lord**  
**Chief Officer – Finance, Performance and Change**  
**10<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

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### **Background documents:**

None