

Meeting of:	GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	17 JULY 2025
Report Title:	CORPORATE RISK ASSESSMENT
Report Owner / Corporate Director:	CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, HOUSING & CHANGE
Responsible Officer:	CARYS LORD CHIEF OFFICER – FINANCE, HOUSING AND CHANGE
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no impact on the policy framework or procedure rules.
Executive Summary:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corporate Risk Assessment is reviewed by the Governance and Audit Committee as part of the Council’s quarterly Corporate Performance Assessment framework. • The Corporate Risk Assessment has been considered and reviewed in consultation with Corporate Management Board. • All risks have been updated to reflect the current corporate risks being managed by the Authority.

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.

2. Background

- 2.1 Good governance requires the Council to develop effective risk management processes, including an assessment of corporate risks. The Terms of Reference of this committee require it to review, scrutinise and issue reports and recommendations on the appropriateness of the Council’s risk management, internal controls and corporate governance arrangements.
- 2.2 The Corporate Risk Assessment is considered and reviewed by the Corporate Management Board (CMB) 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.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 The Corporate Risk Assessment at **Appendix A** is aligned with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and Corporate Plan and has been reviewed in consultation with the Corporate Management Board. The document identifies the main risks facing the Council together with the likely impact of these risks on Council Services and the wider County Borough. It also identifies what actions are being taken to manage the risks and who is responsible for the Council's response.
- 3.2 There are 11 corporate risks identified on the register. The revised Assessment attached at **Appendix A** does not change the number, however all the risks and narratives have been reviewed. It is proposed that the following changes are considered and approved.

Risk Number	Identified Risk	Proposed Change from May 2024
COR – 2019 - 01	The Council is unable to deliver a balanced budget and sustain services into the medium term	The narrative has been updated to reflect the current financial position going forward and some proposed changes in the budget setting process for 2026-27.
COR - 2019 - 02	The council is unable to deliver transformation and major service change, including projects and agreed financial savings	The narrative has been updated to reflect the additional funding made available to support transformation going forward
CEX – 2019 - 01	The council is unable to identify and deliver infrastructure improvements required in the medium to longer term due to the cessation of external grants, the increased cost of borrowing and the increased costs of construction and building works	The narrative has been updated to reflect the additional funding made available to support capital works in the future
EDFS - 2024 - 01	There is an increase in the financial fragility of schools in the Borough	The narrative has been updated to reflect the current position with regards to school finances
COR – 2024 - 01	There is a threat to business continuity if the Council is unable to procure and implement major ICT systems which support critical services such as a replacement system for Care Director (WCCIS) and the Capita One system for education.	The risk score has been increased to reflect the tight timelines for the implementation of the new social care system

- 3.3 All of the risks on the Corporate Risk Assessment are in the High category.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 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 conduct an Equality Impact assessment in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts because of this report.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 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 because of this report.

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 6.1 There are no climate change or nature implications as a result of this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 There are no Safeguarding or Corporate Parent implications as a result of this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with the Corporate Risk Assessment.

9. Recommendation

- 9.1 It is recommended that:
- the Committee consider the Corporate Risk Assessment (Appendix A); and
 - the Committee agrees to the changes proposed in paragraph 3.2.

Background documents

None