

**Bolsover District Council****Audit Committee****14<sup>th</sup> December 2015****Draft Risk Management Strategy (Including Partnership Working Strategy)****Report of the Executive Director Operations**

This report is public

**Purpose of the Report**

- To enable Members of the Audit Committee to consider the proposed Risk Management and Partnership Working Strategy and to raise any issues which they consider to be appropriate.

**1 Report Details**

1.1 The Audit Committee plays a key role in the governance arrangements of any local authority. As part of its role at Bolsover District Council it has a clear responsibility in the Council's Constitution for ensuring that the Council has appropriate risk management arrangements in place. One key element of effective financial Governance is that the Council has appropriate arrangements in place in respect of Risk Management and Partnership working including:

- A clear policy statement setting out the Council's approach to Risk Management and Partnership working. This policy statement needs to be reflected in the wider culture of the Council.
- Take steps to promote effective management of both Risk and Partnership arrangements.
- Ensure that appropriate reporting arrangements are in place

1.2 The Council currently has in place a Risk Management and Partnership Working policy in place. This document seeks to update that policy to reflect changes in good practice and it is to be launched as a Joint Strategy across the two Councils within the Strategic Alliance. As part of the consultation route it will be considered by Senior Management Team, and by the Strategic Alliance Joint Committee before being approved by Executive (BDC) and Cabinet (NEDDC). The launch will be supported by awareness sessions for both Officers and Elected Members, while the consultation process around the Strategy will serve to improve awareness throughout both Council's. As part of this Consultation process the Audit Committee is requested to consider the draft Risk Management and Partnership Working Strategy attached at Appendix 1 and to make any comments that it considers appropriate.

**2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation**

2.1 To enable that the Audit Committee to consider the draft Risk Management and Partnership Working Strategy attached at Appendix 1 and to make any comments that it considers appropriate.

**3 Consultation and Equality Impact**

3.1 There are no issues arising directly from this report.

**4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection**

4.1 Given that the Council is committed to both effective management and to effective partnership working it is important that we maintain an up to date policy which helps ensure that this policy commitment is secured in practice. Given this policy commitment there is no realistic alternative other than to agree an appropriate Strategy designed to set out how the Council will ensure that the impact of fraud and related activities upon the Council is minimised.

**5 Implications**

**5.1 Finance and Risk Implications**

Financial and Risk issues are covered in the Strategy which is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

**5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection**

There are no legal or data protection issues arising directly out of this report.

**5.3 Human Resources Implications**

There are no issues arising directly from this report.

**6 Recommendations**

6.1 That the Audit Committee consider the Draft Risk Management and Partnership Working Strategy attached at Appendix 1 and to make any comments that it considers appropriate.

**7 Decision Information**

<b>Is the decision a Key Decision?</b> (A Key Decision is one which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)	No
<b>District Wards Affected</b>	Not Directly
<b>Links to Corporate Plan priorities</b>	All

<b>or Policy Framework</b>	
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**8 Document Information**

Appendix No	Title
1	Draft Risk Management Strategy (including Partnership Working Strategy).
<b>Background Papers</b> (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
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