

Bolsover District Council

Meeting of the Executive on 3rd November 2025

Risk Management Strategy

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Resources

Classification	This report is Public
Contact Officer	Karen Hanson, Chief Executive

PURPOSE/SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To update Members of the Executive of the current position regarding risk management arrangements.
 - To provide Members of the Executive with the refreshed Risk Management Strategy for consideration and approval.
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REPORT DETAILS

1. Background

Risk Management Strategy

- 1.1 The Council's current Risk Management Strategy, approved in October 2022 is due to be reviewed and refreshed. This has taken place and is attached, with an updated action plan at **Appendix 1**. The Strategy includes but is not limited to the following;
- The nature of 'risk' both the 'threats' and the 'opportunities'
 - The benefits of a robust risk management approach
 - The Council's risk appetite
 - Risk categorisation – Operational, Governance, Strategic
 - Project and Partnership risk
 - The Council's risk management approach and arrangements including the role of the Risk Management Group
 - Roles and responsibilities including Senior Risk Officer and Senior Information Risk Officer (SRO and SIRO)
- 1.2 The Strategy details the work of the Risk Management Group (RMG). This is chaired by the appropriate Cabinet Member and includes the Council's Chief Executive, Senior Risk Officer (SRO), Senior Information Risk Officer (SIRO), S151 Officer, Senior Managers, Internal Audit and Health and Safety. The group provides a comprehensive oversight of risk throughout the Council.
- 1.3 The Group oversees all Council operational and strategic risk registers ensuring they are up to date and accurate whilst offering challenge to the assessment

process itself. It is responsible for risk management reporting to stakeholder groups across the Council, including this Committee and supports the production of the Annual Governance Statement. The Group leads on the development and review of all risk related policies, plans and strategies across the Council and oversees and champions the implementation of the Risk Management Strategy and associated action plan.

1.4 Following completion of the previous action plan, a refreshed action plan is contained within the Risk Management Strategy 2026. The actions outlined for the Risk Management Group are as follows:

- Regularly review the Council's Corporate Risk Register
- Continue to review and develop risk management arrangements and reporting.
- Ensure staff and members are appropriately trained in risk management awareness.
- Ensure the Council's Risk Register includes reference to Local Government Re-organisation, bringing the Dragonfly companies in-house, and the spending review 2025.
- Schedule a further review of the Risk Management Strategy in 2028.
- Continue to promote a risk awareness culture within the organisation.
- Undertake Risk Management Audits as required within the Council's audit programme
- Ensure monitoring of the anti-fraud and corruption strategy.
- Ensure regular reviews of Health & Safety policy arrangements

2. Details of Proposal or Information

Update of the Risk Management Group (RMG)

Corporate Strategic Risk Register

2.1 The Risk Management Group is chaired by the Cabinet Portfolio Holder, with the Council's Executive, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer in attendance. Meetings take place quarterly and there is an expectation that all required officers attend. The Terms of Reference state that in the absence of an Assistant Director, or Service Manager, a substitute (with the ability to make strategic decisions) must attend in their place.

2.2 The RMG regularly undertakes a review and gives consideration to the Council's Strategic Risk Register.

2.3 Amongst a range of service specific topics, over the last 12 months, the RMG has considered (and continues to consider) the following arising issues and their impact on the Council:

- The Dragonfly companies including ongoing projects and work to bring services and staff back into the Council
- The Council's budget and the potential impact of the Spending Review on the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan
- The impact of Local Government Reorganisation
- Cyber-crime risks

- 2.4 These issues will remain under constant review, alongside all risks within the Strategic Risk Register, by the RMG and appropriate additions and/or amendments to the Council's Strategic Risk Register will take place at the appropriate time.

Operational Risk Registers

- 2.5 In addition to the Corporate Strategic Risk Register, the RMG has oversight of individual operational risk registers for specific service areas. This is undertaken on a rolling programme to ensure all services have appropriate and up-to-date risk registers in place.
- 2.6 Where required, Service leads provided presentations to the Group to enable appropriate review and scrutiny to take place.

Corporate Insurance renewal

- 2.7 The Council's insurance portfolio was renewed on the 1st of October 2025 following annual reviews of policies to minimise and mitigate risks. This is normal practice. The Council's Insurance Officer regularly attends the Risk Management Group and also maintains the master copy of the risk registers.

3. Reasons for Recommendation

- 3.1 Alongside regular updates on risk management, the Council's Audit Committee considered the refreshed Risk Management Strategy on 25th September 2025. The Risk Management Group provides a comprehensive oversight of risk throughout the organisation.
- 3.2 The Risk Management Group has made significant progress in ensuring that risk is effectively managed within the Council. By leading on the development and review of all risk related policies, plans and strategies across the Council, the Group provides consistency of approach and alignment of all service areas in relation to risk management.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 It is good practice for the Council to develop and regularly review its Risk Management Strategy, Strategic Risk Register and associated risk management processes and policies. Given the importance of these arrangements for the overall performance and governance of the Council the alternative of not providing them is rejected.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Executive consider and approve the refreshed Risk Management Strategy 2026 at Appendix 1.

Approved by Councillor Clive Moesby, Portfolio Holder for Resources

IMPLICATIONS:**Finance and Risk:** Yes ☐ No ☒**Details:**

There are no additional financial implications arising out of this report. Whilst, where appropriate, additional mitigation measures have been identified and implemented during the course of preparing the strategic and operational risk registers, the cost of implementing this mitigation is met from within existing service budgets

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes ☐ No ☒**Details:**

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

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes ☐ No ☒**Details:**

There are no human resource issues arising directly out of this report.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards, or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: Revenue - £75,000 ☐ Capital - £150,000 ☐ ☒ Please indicate which threshold applies	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i>	No

District Wards Significantly Affected	None directly
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader ☒ Executive ☒ SLT ☒ Relevant Service Manager ☒ Members ☐ Public ☐ Other ☒	Yes Details: Portfolio Holder for Resources, Audit Committee

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.

All

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
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1	Risk Management Strategy 2026

Background Papers

<i>(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 Executive you must provide copies of the background papers).</i>