Coventry City Council

Public report

Audit and Procurement Committee — 21st September 2026

Name of Cabinet Member:
Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership – Councillor G Duggins

Director Approving Submission of the report:
Director of Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer)

Wards affected:
City Wide

Title:
Corporate Risk Register September 2026

Is this a key decision?
No

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to provide the Audit and Procurement Committee with the outcome of the latest review of the Corporate Risk Register 2026 in Appendix 1 to the report. By having arrangements in place to identify and manage our risks, we increase our chances of achieving corporate and operational objectives and reduce the chance of failure. Good risk management also increases our ability to cope with developing and uncertain events.

Recommendations:

The Audit and Procurement Committee is requested to:

1) Note the current Corporate Risk Register and confirm that they have satisfied themselves that corporate risks are being identified and managed.

2) Identify any areas where additional information is required.

3) Approve the bringing of a further risk management report to the Audit and Procurement Committee in March 2027.

List of Appendices included:

Appendix 1 – Corporate Risk Register

Background papers:

None

Other useful documents:

None

Has it been or will it be considered by Scrutiny?

No

Has it been or will it be considered by any other council committee, advisory panel, or other body?

No

Will this report go to Council?

No

Report title: Corporate Risk

1. Context (or background)

1.1 The Audit and Procurement Committee's Terms of Reference require the Committee to monitor the effective development and operation of risk management within the Council. It was agreed in March 2024 that the Audit and Procurement Committee would receive the Corporate Risk Register twice a year in line with the 2024 Grant Thornton Value for Money Report.

1.2 The Corporate Risk Register should identify the risks that threaten the successful implementation of the One Coventry Plan.

1.3 This report provides the Audit and Procurement Committee with the outcome of the review of the Corporate Risk Register 2026, which was received and reviewed by Leadership Board on 7th July 2026 and resulted in one residual risk score reduction, one residual risk score increase, and the removal of two risks from the Corporate Risk Register.

2. Options considered and recommended proposal.

2.1 The Corporate Risk Register at Appendix 1 to the report has been reviewed in consultation with the Leadership Board and the allocated Risk Owners. It identifies the main risks facing the Council, the impact of the risk, the inherent risk score before risk mitigation, the risk mitigations, the risk score after the mitigations are applied and where responsibility lies for the Council's response.

2.2 The final column identifies what the risk score was when the Audit & Procurement Committee last received the report in March 2026.

2.3 The Corporate Risks and the control measures in place to address them are more fully described in Appendix 1 to the report. Audit and Procurement Committee are asked to review the register and satisfy themselves that the process is operating effectively within the Council as required under the Risk Management Policy.

2.4 There are some changes to the Corporate Risk Register from the previous report to Members.

<u>**Risks added in this review:**</u>

- **No new risks were added to this report**

<u>**Risks removed in this review**</u>:

- **Risk 19 – An increase in families in temporary accommodation and street homelessness which is not countered by availability of social and affordable housing to provide move on options.**
  Recommended for de-escalation due to improved metrics and strong mitigation. The position has improved over 2025/26 with a reduction trend appearing. The risk has been de-escalated to the Directorate Risk Register.

- **Risk 43 – Elections**
  Elections have concluded. The risk will be reinstated around January next year in preparation for the elections scheduled for May 2027.

<u>Risks where the residual risk score has decreased:</u>

- **Risk 7 – Children's Services statutory safeguarding responsibilities**
  The residual risk score has reduced from 20 to 15. The impact remains severe, but the likelihood has reduced from 4 to 3 as a result of the mitigation measures in place.

<u>Risks where the residual risk score has increased:</u>

- **Risk 35 – The threat of Cyber- attack to the delivery of One Coventry priorities**
  The residual risk score has increased from 15 to 20. The increase reflects the evolving threat landscape, including AI-enabled attacks and increased data targeting. The potential impact of a breach or attack could be very serious, increasing the impact score from 3 to 4.

2.5 It is proposed that the Corporate Risk Register be reviewed by the Audit and Procurement Committee next in March 2027.

3. Results of consultation undertaken

None

4. Timetable for implementing this decision.

There is no implementation timetable as this is a monitoring report.

5. Comments from the Director of Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer) and the Director of Law, Governance and Safer Communities

5.1 Financial implications

There are no financial implications directly associated with the Corporate Risk Register although the management of the risks is essential to the operation of the Council, the pursuit of its priorities and its financial integrity.

5.2 Legal implications

The maintenance and review of the Corporate Risk Register ensure that the Council meets its statutory obligation under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to have appropriate measures in place to ensure that risk is appropriately managed.

6. Other implications

6.1 How will this contribute to achievement of the Council's plan?
(https://www.coventry.gov.uk/strategies-plans-policies/one-coventry-plan)

Effective risk management arrangements are an integral component of strategic decision making, service planning and delivery and increasing the likelihood of achieving corporate priorities.

6.2 How is risk being managed?

The Council has a policy to support risk management arrangements across the organisation as part of its overarching governance processes. This report forms part of that practice.

6.3 What is the impact on the organisation?

Effective risk management arrangements are part of the good governance arrangements which lead to improved decision making and operational practices across the organisation.

6.4 Equalities / EIA

None

6.5 Implications for (or impact on) climate change and the environment

The Corporate Risk Register outlines the risks associated with the Council's work to tackle the causes and consequences of climate change and promote sustainability.

6.6 Implications for partner organisations?

None

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Councillor G Duggins	Cabinet Member for Policy and Leadership	-	21/08/26	07/09/26
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