Policy & Resources Committee Meeting	
Meeting Date	26 March 2025
Report Title	Risk Management Update
EMT Lead	Lisa Fillery – Director of Resources
Head of Service	Katherine Woodward – Head of Audit
Lead Officer	Georgia Harvey – Auditor and Systems Officer
Classification	**Open**
Recommendations	1. To consider the Council's corporate risks and overall risk profile, gaining assurance that key risks are being appropriately managed.

1   Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

1.1   The reporting of risk information is essential to ensure risks are being appropriately identified and managed and, ultimately, to ensuring the Council achieves its priorities.

1.2   The purpose of this update is to provide the latest position on the Council's corporate risks, as well as an overview of operational risks, which are reviewed and updated regularly by officers. In addition, this update also includes details on the progress for implementing planned controls, as well as changes, and additions of, risks which could prevent the achievement of the Council's strategic priorities.

1.3   Following feedback from members and officers, the format of the report has changed since it was last presented in November 2024. The main changes are:
- The inclusion of a dashboard to show all risk matrices on a single page to facilitate comparative data analysis. (Appendix 1 - Page 3)
- Summary narrative on the main changes to risks over the last quarter. (Appendix 1 - Page 3)
- A table to show the changes to the unmitigated rating, at the end of each quarter, for each risk on the corporate risk register has been included. (Appendix 3)

2   Background

2.1   The Council's risk management arrangements have been in place since 2015, with Mid Kent Audit facilitating the operation of the overall process. The Risk Management Framework is comprehensively reviewed and updated, with the current version approved by Audit Committee in July 2022. Risk management is well established within the Council; with officers engaged in the process, and aware of their risks and how to manage them.

2.2   The Council uses risk management software (JCAD) to support risk owners with the maintenance of their risks in accordance with the Council's Risk Management Framework.

2.3 Risk information is routinely reported to members and the management team as follows: Senior Management Team (SMT) receive quarterly updates on all corporate and key operational risks. Policy & Resources Committee received half yearly updates on risk management. The Audit Committee receive an annual report on the effectiveness of the Council's risk management arrangements each April.

3 Proposals

3.1 Members of Policy & Resources Committee are responsible for oversight and challenge of how the Council's key risks are managed. In particular, the management of those risks above the Council's risk appetite. As such, Members are asked to consider the Council's risks and whether they are being appropriately managed.

4 Alternative Options

4.1 Identifying and monitoring the Council's risks is a key component of effective governance. The Council could decide not to identify, monitor and report on high-level risks, but this would be contrary to the agreed Risk Management Framework and principles of good governance.

5 Consultation Undertaken or Proposed

5.1 All risk owners and Heads of Service have been involved in the identification and assessment of the Council's risks. The risks reported have been reviewed and updated by the relevant risk owner.

6 Implications

Issue	Implications
Corporate Plan	Effective risk management is part of the Council's governance framework. The purpose of the risk management process is to ensure that key risks are identified and appropriately managed as the Council pursues its corporate objectives.
Financial, Resource and Property	Investment in developing risk management arrangements is being met from existing resources within the Mid Kent Audit partnership. No implications have been identified.
Legal, Statutory and Procurement	None identified at this stage.
Crime and Disorder	No implications have been identified.
Environment and Climate/Ecological Emergency	No implications have been identified.
Health and Wellbeing	No implications have been identified.
Safeguarding of	No implications have been identified.

Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	
Risk Management and Health and Safety	This report is about risk management across the Council. No health and safety implications have been identified.
Equality and Diversity	No implications have been identified.
Privacy and Data Protection	No implications have been identified.

7   Appendices

7.1   The following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report:
- Appendix 1: Risk Management Update – March 2025
- Appendix 2: Corporate Risk Register
- Appendix 3: Corporate Risk Movement

8   Background Papers

- Risk Management Framework 2022.