

By: Susan Carey, Customers, Communication and Performance
David Cockburn, Corporate Director for Strategic & Corporate Services and Head of Paid Service

To: Governance and Audit Committee – 23rd January 2019

Subject: **Review of KCC’s Risk Management Policy & Strategy**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary:

The Governance and Audit Committee is responsible for the annual review of the Council’s Risk Management Policy & Strategy.

The Governance and Audit Committee is asked to approve the Risk Management Policy & Strategy.

FOR DECISION

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 As part of the Governance & Audit Committee’s terms of reference, KCC’s Risk Management Policy & Strategy is reviewed annually to ensure that it remains up to date and relevant.
- 1.2 The document covers a rolling 3 year period to reflect the medium term nature of the strategy, aligning with the medium term financial planning period. This has not affected the requirement for the Policy & Strategy to be reviewed and approved annually.
- 1.3 Several minor changes have been made to the document as a result of this year’s review, in order to reflect changes to wider organisational strategies or activity that has relevance to this policy and strategy. For ease of reference, these changes have been tracked.
- 1.4 In 2018, the International Organisation for Standardisation reviewed and revised the risk management guidelines (ISO 31000), replacing the 2009 version. The guidance is more strategic and places increased emphasis on both the involvement of senior management and the integration of risk management into the organisation. These factors are already embedded within KCC’s Policy & Strategy and consequently there have not been any changes made as a direct result of the revised guidelines. However, there may be some minor amendments to KCC’s risk management guidance and associated ‘toolkit’ in due course.

- 1.5 The 2018-19 audit of risk management arrangements has recently concluded, focusing on corporate risk processes. This included the processes for reviewing corporate policies and guidance. The audit assurance opinion was 'High' with 'Good' prospects for improvement.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That members of the Governance and Audit Committee, on behalf of the County Council, APPROVE the Risk Management Policy & Strategy for the coming year.

Relevant Director:

David Whittle, Director of Strategy, Policy, Relationships and Corporate Assurance

david.whittle@kent.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 416833

Contact Officer:

Mark Scrivener

Corporate Risk & Assurance Manager

Mark.scrivener@kent.gov.uk

Tel: 03000 416660