

Strategic Risk Assurance Map – February 2016

Risk Ref	Risk Title and Description	Current Score	Types of Assurance			Comments / Gaps in Assurance/Risk Exposure
			External/ Independent (Third Line of Defence)	Risk and Compliance (Second Line of Defence)	Operational and Management (First Line of Defence)	
1	Looked After Children (LAC) If the number of LAC is not reduced this may result in an increase in costs, budget overspends and an increased demand on children's services.	15 Red	Performance indicator- number of LAC per 10,000 population Audit and Risk Committee review of risk – September 2015 Internal audit review 2015/16 - Placements and LAC	Scrutiny review of Corporate Parenting and Children in Care Council – September 2015 Resources panel reviews Update to Children's Trust Board- September 2014 Care pZanel reviews of placement costs Report to Cabinet (Performance Management Panel) September 2014 Scrutiny review of LAC February 2014	Children's Services self- assessment December 2015 Reports to LAC Budget Monitoring Group (every two months) Controls Assurance Statement	Present sources will continue to provide assurance regarding the changes in number of LAC and progress made against the Families r First programme. Assurances regarding the cost of LAC need to be continually provided to ensure effective management of the budgetary pressures associated with this risk.
2	Skills for Work If the city residents do not have the appropriate skills that employers require then they will be unable to access the jobs and opportunities available resulting in high rates of unemployment and increased demand on council services.	15 Red	Audit and Risk Committee review of risk – September 2015 Wolverhampton Skills Commission Review – November 2014 to April 2015 Internal audit review – City of Wolverhampton College- Learners with learning difficulties post 16, December 2014 Internal audit review - Employment Opportunities 2013/14 (Satisfactory assurance) Black Country performance management framework	Scrutiny review of "Employability and Skills in Wolverhampton" report to Cabinet 11 March 2015 Report to SEB – November 2015 Scrutiny review of "Employability and Skills" September 2014 – January 2015 Performance indicator - % of residents with no qualification Performance indicator - number of work experience/ volunteering/ apprenticeships opportunities provided Monthly unemployment briefings	Reports to the Wolverhampton Skills and Employment Board Controls Assurance Statement	In addition to the performance indicators in place, the review undertaken by the Wolverhampton Skills Commission and the successful monitoring and delivery of the city skills and employment action plan will provide suitable assurances over the effectiveness of the various measures and initiatives in place to manage this long term risk.
3	Information Governance If the council does not put in place appropriate policies, procedures and technologies to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the handling and protection of its data is undertaken in a secure manner and consistent with the provision of the Data Protection Act 1998; compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and Environmental Information risk Act then it may be subject to regulatory action, financial penalties, reputational damage and the loss of confidential information.	8 Amber	Internal audit review 2014/15 – Information sharing agreements (Satisfactory assurance) Internal audit review– Protective marking compliance, September 2014 (Limited assurance) Internal audit review 2013/14 - Management of information sharing agreements (Satisfactory assurance) Information Commissioner audit (July 2012) Internal audit review 2015/16- Information Governance	Information risk register and reports to Information Governance Board Update reports to Cabinet, Scrutiny Board and SEB Performance indicators reported to Cabinet- Number of data breaches Performance indicator - % of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests met within timescales Performance indicator- % of Subject Access Requests (SAR) met within timescales	Senior Risk Information Officer Annual Report 2014/15 Controls Assurance Statements	The Council's ongoing dialogue with the Information Commissioners Office, regular audits, performance against FOI and SAR requests and information incidence logs will all continue to provide assurance over this risk.

4	Medium Term Financial Strategy If the council is unable to agree and operate within its medium term financial strategy (MTFS) this may result in insufficient reserves to remain solvent, the potential loss of democratic control and the inability of the council to deliver essential services and discharge its statutory duties.	15 Red	PwC report: Report to those charged with governance (ISA 260) September 2015 Independent review of process for MTFS and budget- E Sullivan, May 2014 Internal audit review Budgetary Control - 2014/15 (Satisfactory assurance) Internal audit review – 2014/15 Assumptions of the MTFS	MTFS risk register Reports to Budget Working Party Reports to Cabinet	Management accounts Controls Assurance Statements	Ongoing internal and external reviews will continue to provide assurances over the achievement of efficiency savings and the resilience of the MTFS.
7	Safeguarding If the Council's safeguarding procedures and quality assurance processes are not consistently and effectively implemented then it will fail to safeguard children and vulnerable adults and lead to reputational damage.	10 Amber	West Midlands Association of Directors of Adult Social Services peer review – Adult safeguarding September 2014 West Midlands Association of Directors of Children's Services peer review- children's safeguarding September 2014 Peer review – Local safeguarding Children's board 2013 Ofsted inspection safeguarding services- June 2011 Internal audit review 2015/16 – Safeguarding in schools	Reports to safeguarding boards and annual reports Annual reports from adults and children's local safeguarding boards 'Our Story' report to Cabinet Member for Children and Families National and local Wolverhampton performance indicators in relation to social care Self- audits confirmation by schools of s175 compliance	Children's Services self- assessment December 2015 Children's safeguarding self - assessment- September 2014 Adults safeguarding self- assessment – September 2014 Quality Assurance Framework and assessments Controls Assurance Statement	Up to date assurance from Ofsted is required to confirm risk is being effectively managed. In addition, further assurances continue to be sought by the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children's Board in respect of the adequacy and effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements in schools.
8	Business Continuity Management Failure to develop, exercise and review plans and capabilities that seek to maintain the continuity of critical functions in the event of an emergency that disrupts the delivery of Council services.	10 Amber	Internal audit review 2015/16 – Business continuity and resilience management (satisfactory assurance)	Reports from Wolverhampton Resilience Board to SEB	Incident management: St Alban's Church of England School February 2015 Incident management : e.g. industrial action July 2014 Reports to Wolverhampton Resilience Board Controls Assurance Statement	The exercise and testing programme once developed and implemented will provide further assurances on the management of this risk. Given the continual reductions in the Council's workforce, ongoing testing will be required to provide assurance over the resilience of the provision of Council services.
9	City Centre Regeneration If the city centre regeneration programme is not effectively managed in terms of project timings, costs and scope, then it will be unable to maximise opportunities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creation of well paid employment • retention of skilled workers • sector and economic growth • increased prosperity and • reduced demand on council services 	8 Amber	Internal audit review 2015/16- City centre development (Satisfactory assurance)	Programme and project risk registers Project reports to Cabinet and Scrutiny Monthly reporting to the City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Monthly programme reports to Corporate Programme Office	Reports to Programme Board from project managers Controls Assurance Statement	Regular update reports to the Programme Board and Cabinet continue to provide assurance on the management of this risk.
10	Economic Inclusion If the Council and its partners do not work effectively together to promote and enable growth then the risk of economic exclusion will materialise and demand for Council services will continue to increase.	12 Amber	Reports to the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership and City Board National performance indicators e.g. % residents unemployed, child deprivation, skills profile, etc. Wolverhampton Skills Commission Review – November 2014 to April 2015	Report to SEB – City Board – Monthly unemployment briefings	Controls Assurance Statement	National indicators will demonstrate the effectiveness of the measures in place to manage this long term risk.

12	Better Care Fund If the Council and its partners fail to deliver the improved outcomes required by the Better Care Fund, demand on acute services will not be reduced, the reward money will not be received and the Council will not receive the additional resources promised by the Better Care Fund.	10 Amber	Submission of 2016/17 Plan to NHS England local area team March 2016 and level of assurance given	Regular update reports to the Health and Well Being Board (HWBB) Programme risk register Better Care Plan performance indicators	Monthly project reports Controls Assurance Statement	Assurance on the adequacy of the 2016/17 Better Care Plan will be provided by the level of assurance given by the NHS England local area team. Assurance on the management of the programme is provided by the HWBB, and the measure of key outcome based performance indicators. Following discussions with the Strategic Director, internal audit resource will focus on this area in 2016/17.
14	School Improvement If the Council does not provide effective support, challenge and appropriate intervention to raise standards in schools, then the Council and these schools are at risk of underperforming, receiving inadequate Ofsted judgements and a potential loss of control and influence.	10 Amber	Ofsted annual report – Schools 2014/15, December 2015 Ofsted inspections 2015/16 School internal audit reviews 2013/14 and 2014/15 and 2015/16 Internal audit review 2015/16 – Governance Strategy Internal audit review 2016/17 – Vulnerable Pupils	Performance indicator – gaps in educational performance Performance indicator – end of key stage outcomes Report to Children and Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel- Primary School Organisation strategy July 2015 Report to Children and Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel- Primary School Organisation strategy July 2015 Role of the Local Authority in Raising School Standards of Attainment July 2015 Audits carried out by School Support Advisors and External Governance reviews	Reports to Cabinet Controls Assurance Statement	The Ofsted inspections continue to be the primary source of assurance for this risk. A review on the effectiveness of the School Improvement Strategy in 2016 will provide further assurance on the measures in place to manage this risk.
15	Emergency Planning Failure to develop, exercise and review plans and capabilities for preventing, reducing, controlling or mitigating the effects of emergencies in both the response and recovery phases of major a incident.	6 Amber	Follow up of internal audit recommendations, January 2014 Internal audit review - Resilience management and Business continuity planning August 2013 (Limited assurance)	Reports to Wolverhampton Resilience Board (WRB) Regular reports from WRB to SEB and C3 Scrutiny Panel	Incident management, e.g. weather incidences 2014, Public disorders Summer 2012, Hickman Avenue fire September 2014 Test exercise “Exercise Chillout” August 2014 Debrief report to SEB on mosque incident – 24 July 2013 Winter debrief report to WRB – June 2014 Controls Assurance Statement	The exercise and testing programme once developed and implemented will provide further assurances on the management of this risk. In the meantime, unplanned incidences and the lessons learned from these exercises continue to provide some level of assurance over this risk.
16	Equal Pay If schools do not comply with the Collective agreement and agree local pay scales and conditions then there is a potential for significant equal pay claims to materialise.	12 Amber	Internal audit review - Equal Pay claims, September 2014 (Substantial assurance) Internal audit update report 2015/16 – Equal Pay External legal advice from Browne Jacobson on claims PwC report: Report to those charged with governance (ISA 260) September 2015	Reports to Equal Pay Project Board	Controls Assurance Statement	Ongoing review by management of the level of claims continues to provide assurance on this risk, over which the Council has little control.

17	Employee Management If policies dealing with employee management and in particular appraisals are not effectively implemented and complied with then: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> employees may not be fully aware of the Council's objectives and their contribution to the achievement of them, and employees may not have the appropriate training and support to achieve high standards of performance the Council may not have the required capability to deliver its objectives.	8 Amber	Internal audit review – Performance Appraisal Scheme, September 2014 (Limited assurance) Update report to Audit Sub Committee- February 2015 Internal audit review 2015/16 – Performance appraisals	Corporate performance indicator- re: appraisals completed	Controls Assurance Statement	Ongoing review of the corporate performance indicator by management continues to provide assurance over the management of this risk.
19a	Devolution Deal There is a risk that if issues arise or should the process leading up to formal consent of the devolution deal not include sufficient engagement with members and stakeholders then the Council may not be able to ratify the proposed deal and the Council's objectives in respect of growth in the regional economy, employment and skills, business investment and regeneration may not be fully realised.	8 Amber	Full Council ratification Advice from consultation specialist	Updates to joint Leaders' and joint Chief Executives' meetings Programme risk register Reports to programme office		Adequate assurance on the management of this risk will be evidenced through the ratifications of the proposed deal by the Councils of all seven constituent councils.