

Risk Ref	Risk title and description	Relighting our city priority	Current Risk Score & Target Score & Appetite	Direction of Travel	Update position
1 04/21	Impact on Residents Health and Wellbeing There is a potential impact on the health and wellbeing of Wolverhampton residents due to inaction by the Council. Risk Owner: John Denley Cabinet Member: Cllr J Jaspal	Support People who need us most	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	↔	The Council published an outbreak control plan in June 2020 which was refreshed in March 2021 and sets out how, together, we will continue to protect and support our city from the virus and any future outbreaks. Work is ongoing to support two significant programmes associated with the pandemic: a lateral flow testing (LFT) programme and a vaccination programme. A local, more detailed risk register detailing operational risks and issues is being maintained within public health.
2 04/21	Businesses Closing Loss of businesses within the City, potentially impacting on regeneration and the achievement of the Council's 'Relight' recovery plan. Risk Owner: Richard Lawrence Cabinet Member: Cllr S Simkins	Grow our vital local businesses Stimulate vibrant high streets and communities	8 Amber Target 4 Amber	↓	As current guidelines for Covid 19 have been relaxed, businesses across the City are reopening. For some sectors this has brought new challenges particularly amongst the hospitality, leisure and care sectors who are reporting shortages in staff. This is impacting on the businesses ability to meet customer demand. Another significant challenge is the supply chain, due to staff shortages in logistics and distribution and the UK no longer part of the EU. The food and construction sectors are reporting significant delays. The Council is continuing to support local businesses to adapt and invest in new ways of working and strengthen areas which the pandemic has highlighted as weakness in their business. Along with the expert advice and guidance, the Council's Business Relight programme now offers small grants.
3 04/21	Safeguarding Children Failure to safeguard the City's most vulnerable children. Risk Owner: Emma Bennett Cabinet Member: Cllr B Momenabadi	Support the people who need us most	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	↔	Statutory social work with children and families continues to be delivered face to face as it has been throughout most of the pandemic. In addition, important programmes that work with victims of domestic abuse and families affected by sexual abuse are now being delivered face to face by the Councils Strengthening Families Workers. Demand has been higher than recent pre-pandemic years over the summer period resulting in higher referrals both to social care and early intervention. There has also been an increase in social work turnover, although the annual turnover rate remains below national levels the fact that leavers have all left over a short period of time does mean that caseloads are slightly increasing. Actions are being taken to try to attract out of city agency workers and social workers are being supported to ensure children are safe. Monthly data continues to be submitted to the DfE and is being closely monitored. MASH24 was launched on 14 June 2021, the new arrangements support greater consistency of practice and response during the daytime, evening and at weekends.
4 04/21	Safeguarding Adults Failure to safeguard the City's most vulnerable adults. Risk Owner: Emma Bennett Cabinet Member: Cllr L Leech	Support the people who need us most	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	↔	All statutory assessments and safeguarding enquiries are undertaken and more face to face visits are taking place. Service providers and inhouse provision continue to reopen services safely. An increase in contacts to MASH and ASC has been experienced. The impact of the Government Guidance on mandatory vaccinations is a potential risk to statutory service delivery (see new risk 18 below).
5 04/21	Reputation / Loss of Public Trust There is a risk that the Council loses public trust and confidence by; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> failing to respond to the needs of local people, especially vulnerable failure to warn and inform the public leading to impact upon the health of residents and businesses. Risk Owner: Ian Fegan Cabinet Member: Cllr I Brookfield	Support the people who need us most	15 Red Target 10 Amber	↔	Comprehensive, targeted and regular communications with residents and other key stakeholders in Wolverhampton has played a key role in driving down infection rates and driving up vaccination rates in the City. Effective communications remain essential to keeping people of all ages safe, connecting them to life-saving covid-19 vaccines, reinforcing positive behaviours following the lifting of restrictions to help prevent the virus spreading and preparing residents for recovery and 'relight'. There has been a comprehensive assessment of levels of vulnerability and the Council's approach will continue to prioritise keeping the most vulnerable residents safe. Co-ordinating communications, working with partners at a local, regional, and national level continues to be absolutely vital to ensure clear and consistent messaging.
6 04/21	Social Care Providers Adults There is a risk that we may lose service providers and not be able to maintain adequate service provision. Risk Owner: Emma Bennett Cabinet Member: Cllr L Leech	Support the people who need us most	16 Red Target 8 Amber	↔	Risks to sustainability are being mitigated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robust outbreak management processes Robust vaccination plans for residents in care settings and those receiving home care Ongoing enhanced support to providers Use of the daily provider survey to alert to trigger contact and support if providers report they are having issues Ongoing work local recruitment agencies to ensure that they understand potential demand and how they can support local care homes whilst ensuring that necessary controls are in place.
7 04/21	Employee Wellbeing There is a potential impact on the health and wellbeing of the Council's staff due to unprecedented levels of service demand and changes to working practices. Risk Owner: Laura Phillips Cabinet Member: Cllr P Brookfield	Support the people who need us most	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	↔	Employee well-being continues to be a Council priority, a number of initiatives have been embedded for employees which include (but are not limited to); The Council's Our People Portal, access to mental health first aiders, access to face to face well-being checks and work-outs led by WV-Active, the introduction of Council wide wellbeing leads and the creation of wellbeing pledges.

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8 4/21	WV Living There is potential for significant reputational and financial risk to the Council as a result of the financial impacts on WV Living as a result of Covid-19 Risk Owner: Claire Nye Cabinet Member: Cllr I Brookfield	Stimulate vibrant high streets and communities	Not applicable	Not applicable	This risk has now been de-escalated from the Strategic Risk Register
9 4/21	Education Provision There is a risk to the consistent provision of education to all children and young people in Wolverhampton due to Covid-19 outbreaks in schools, children and young people not regularly being in school and parents confidence that children are safe in schools due to the pandemic Risk Owner: Emma Bennett Cabinet Member: Cllr Dr M Hardacre	Create more opportunities for young people	12 Amber Target 4 Amber	↔	The Council continues to provide a programme of ongoing support to education providers. An education incident management team continues to meet regularly to monitor emerging Covid cases in schools and provide ongoing support to education settings in order to manage outbreaks. Communications to both education settings and to parents to ensure consistent messaging is ongoing. Significant progress has been made to identify the impact of Covid on learning and through this provide local assessments to help leaders to capture the impact and also understand current attainment and rates of progress for a range of pupil groups including Pupil Premium and Special Educational Needs (SEND).
10 4/21	City Wide Regeneration There is a potential impact on the City if the Council do not take effective action to regenerate and repurpose. In addition, there are risks to ongoing Council managed and operated capital projects and programmes in terms of costs, timings and ensuring that original business cases continue to align with the Council's strategic aims. Risk Owner: Richard Lawrence Cabinet Member: Cllr S Simkins	Stimulate vibrant high streets and communities	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	↔	With regards to the Council's major capital projects: the strategic pipeline with funding having been secured from Towns Fund, Future High Street Fund, WMCA with further funding bids submitted as part of Levelling Up round 1 submission for CLQ. Regeneration Infrastructure Board (RIB) and Infrastructure for Growth Board (I4G) continue to consider the impacts of COVID-19 and the changes in longer term objectives. In order to mitigate any additional risk a new PMO (Project Management Office) is being established to co-develop and implement projects across all funding sources. The PMO function will support and complement existing activities and resources to ensure successful project delivery and implementation. The Covid reporting protocol is ongoing and continues to identify, monitor and mitigate risks and issues directly related to Covid-19. Covid risk reports are produced on a regular basis and reviewed by Senior Management. The Council is pro-actively working with partners and stakeholders to mitigate risk and continue operations in accordance with Government guidelines.
11 4/21	Recovery If the Council's 'Relight' recovery planning is not robust the Council and the City will not recover swiftly resulting in an inability to fulfil key priorities and support residents and businesses effectively, resulting in significant financial and/or reputational damage. Risk Owner: Charlotte Johns Cabinet Member: Cllr I Brookfield	All	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	↔	Full Council approved the 'Relighting Our City' strategy on the 16 September 2020, the framework sets out five priority areas for recovery alongside three thematic cross cutting principles. The plan was developed after extensive engagement with our partners and communities, a mechanism is in place through a digital engagement platform to ensure we have an ongoing dialogue with communities around recovery in the coming months. Work to shape our future economic priorities with key partners across the city has also continued. A robust governance structure to oversee the recovery phase has been established including a city Recovery Co-ordinating Group. Regular reporting to the Strategic Executive Board and elected members is ongoing.
12 4/21	Rising Unemployment The impact of Covid-19 on businesses and industries across the City will result in more unemployment. Risk Owner: Richard Lawrence Cabinet Member: Cllr S Simkins	Create more jobs and learning opportunities Support the people who need us most	20 Red Target 16 Red	↔	The Council are continuing to monitor levels of unemployment across the City. Recent figures have identified that the City has moved from being 5th highest unemployment in the UK in October 2020 to 7th highest in July 2021. Young people (18 – 25) and the over 55s have been particularly affected. The City now has the second highest rate in the country for youth unemployment (July 2021). The Council's Wolves at Work Team, along with other providers, has started delivery in the City of the Restart Scheme, the Government's new welfare to work programme. Delivery of the Restart Scheme will be initially from the City Centre and Bilston Town Hall, as referrals are coming from those Job Centres. The programme provides employment support to those who have been unemployed for 12 to 18 months (since the start of the pandemic), to help them into sustainable work. The Impact (youth employment support) Team and Connexions (careers service) will start delivery from the Youth Hub, within The Way building in the City Centre from September 2021.
13 4/21	Information Governance If the Council does not put in place appropriate policies, procedures and technologies to ensure the handling and protection of its data is undertaken in a secure manner and consistent with relevant legislation then it may be subject to regulatory action, financial penalties, reputational damage and the loss of confidential information. Risk Owner: David Pattison Cabinet Member: Cllr P Brookfield	Support the people who need us most	8 Amber Target 4 Amber	↔	The score of this risk remains the same as new ways of working are continuing to be embedded. Information governance implications are being considered as part of new ways of working with Relight Our Council. Information Governance mandatory training uptake is being progressed and monitored. Information governance continue to ensure that key documentation such as Teams User Guides and working from home guidance is reviewed and available for. The Council's Information Governance Team continue to work closely with the Projects and Programmes team to ensure that information governance implications are taken into account across all work streams.

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14 4/21	MTFS If the Council does not manage the risks associated with the successful delivery of its medium term financial strategy including the continual review of the assumptions and projections of the strategy including the impact of Covid-19 and, the effective management of the key MTFS programmes a then this may exhaust reserves, result in the potential loss of democratic control and the inability of the Council to deliver essential services and discharge its statutory duties. Risk Owner: Claire Nye Cabinet Member: Cllr I Brookfield	All / Our Council	20 Red Target 12 Amber	↔	On 17 February 2021, it was reported to Cabinet, that including the projected impact of Covid-19, the Council was faced with a budget deficit of £25.4 million in 2022-2023, rising to £29.6 million by 2023-2024. On 28 July 2021 Cabinet received an update on the draft budget strategy for 2022-2023. It was reported that whilst we continue to operate with the uncertainty of the pandemic, work had been undertaken to map out the draft budget strategy for 2022-2023. The proposals outlined in the report go a long way to enabling the Council to set a balanced budget for 2022-2023, however, these proposals provide a short-term plan and do not address the underlying budget deficit over the medium term. The estimated budget deficit for 2023-2024 onwards is in the region of £25 million.
15 4/21	Cyber Security Failure to maintain a high level of cyber security (technology, processes and awareness) throughout the Council may result in cyber-attacks and theft or loss of confidential data leading to financial penalties, reputational damage and a loss in public confidence. Risk Owner: Charlotte Johns Cabinet Member: Cllr O Ahmed	Support the people who need us most	Amber 8 Target 6 Amber	↔	ICT continue to deploy security enhancements across the infrastructure to further improve security, key activity undertaken includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of multi factor authentication • Conditional policies which prevent access to the Council's network on personal devices unless it is via the internet. • Amending council's password policy to move to passphrases. • Implementation of Windows Defender Advance threat protection, User risk detection and mitigation. The council has also achieved external accreditation of its security, through achievement of Cyber Essentials Plus and PSN compliance.
16 14/21	Civic Halls There is a significant reputational and financial risk to the Council and to the City's wider visitor economy if the revised Civic Halls refurbishment programme is not effectively managed in terms of project timings, costs and scope. Risk Owner: Richard Lawrence Cabinet Member: Cllr S Simkins	Stimulate vibrant high streets and communities	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	↔	In conjunction with professional advisors, rigorous examination of contacts to ensure continuing compliance is ongoing. In preparation for opening in 2022 and the recommencement of commercial events (subject to Covid restrictions and national guidance), work is continuing with the preferred operator to enter into a long-term partnership with the council to operate the Civic Halls. The preferred operator will bring forward exciting and ambitious plans for the venue with bigger and better acts and events. Plans will also benefit local businesses, see new jobs created and raise the city's profile.
17 4/21	Climate Change Failure to achieve the Council's commitments in relation to Climate Change, including the pledge to make Council activities net-zero carbon by 2028 may result in significant reputational damage and a loss in public confidence. Risk Owner: Ross Cook Cabinet Member: Cllr S Evans	Stimulate vibrant high streets and communities Support the people who need us most	6 Amber Target 3 Green	↔	The Council's Climate Change Action Plan was approved by Cabinet in July. The action plan clearly sets out all activity needed to meet the Council's net zero ambitions by 2028 as well as setting out the framework for the 2041 target for the whole City. Further work is now being undertaken to identify the resources needed on any specific actions, and this will be monitored and reviewed in the coming months.
18 8/21	Adult Social Care Provision and Social Work/Occupational Therapy There is a risk that staff in provider services, frontline Social Work and Occupational Therapy will not be able to carry out their roles if they do not comply with mandatory vaccination guidance. Risk Owner: Emma Bennett Cabinet Member: Cllr Leach	Support the people who need us most	12 Amber Target 6 Amber	New Risk	There is a risk that recent government guidance and a change in the law regarding the mandatory vaccination of care home employees, could negatively impact on providers delivering services, (staff may leave or be dismissed if non-compliant). The vaccination guidance states that Social Care Workers and Occupational Therapists cannot enter a care home if not double vaccinated – this could pose a risk to the Council's ability to carry out statutory Care Act functions that require care home entry, if uptake of the vaccine does not increase. The following actions are ongoing to greater understand and mitigate this risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveying of all care homes to establish potential impact(s). • Regular review of vaccination levels. • Regular communications with care homes and to employees. • Promotion of vaccination bus and walk in clinics, Q&A sessions and webinars. • Targeted sessions with Public Health • Understanding the potential impact to capacity if homes reduce beds in line with staff (current there are surplus vacancy levels to meet needs). • Sharing findings with regional bodies and organisations.
19 8/21	Related Parties The Council has a number of bodies that it either owns or has a potential liability for. There is a risk that poor performance of these bodies could adversely impact on the Council both financially and reputationally. Risk Owner: Claire Nye Cabinet Member: Cllr I Brookfield	All	12 Amber Target 8 Amber	New Risk	Regular monitoring of the related parties is undertaken, and monthly reports are provided to the Executive Team. The Annual Governance Statement incorporates our related parties and an update will be provided to Audit and Risk Committee every 6 months. A detailed financial review of each company was undertaken as part of the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, this included the going concern position of each party. It was concluded that there is currently no material financial impact on the Council.