

Full Council

Date:	27 February 2018
Title:	Effectiveness of Internal Control / Financial Risk
Contact Officer:	Morag Robinson, Office Administration Manager

Purpose of the Report

1. To approve the measures taken to mitigate financial risks and to review the effectiveness of internal control.

Background

2. The Council is responsible for ensuring its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively.
3. This is a statutory requirement defined in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.
4. In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs and for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of its functions and which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

Resource Appraisal

5. There are no immediate resource requirements in reviewing these risk appraisals but future action plans arising from the annual review may identify the need for additional resources. These will be duly presented with any action plan.

Risk Assessments

6. The documents attached to this report detail the potential risks and actions taken by the Council to mitigate those risks. Members are asked to review the documents and identify any areas of concern. Should any weaknesses or improvements be identified an action plan will be produced for members to approve. Minor amendments have been made in red.
7. The introduction of electronic payments has led to the Financial Risk Assessment 1. Administration and 3. Expenditure to be updated to reflect this change as detailed in red.
8. A new Financial Risk Assessment 9. Strategic Risk Register has been produced which outlines the risks and controls in place in regard to strategic risks that the Council may face.

Recommendation that:

- i) The measures taken to mitigate financial risks be approved.*
- ii) The effectiveness of internal control be approved.*