

Audit Committee – 22nd October 2009

6. Partnering Risk - Risk Management Update

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Purpose of the Report

To update members of the Audit Committee on the risk register relevant to Partnering Risk and to give an opportunity for members to comment and offer advice in relation to how the Council is monitoring risk in relation to Partnering Risk.

Recommendation

That the Audit Committee:

- (1) notes the risk register for Partnering risk and comment accordingly;
- (2) notes the lack of commercial partners that figure in the risk register, this is due to a management decision that all support type partnering risks are located in the individual services risk register. This affords greater ownership of the supply chain risk.

Report

I have attached one report from the risk management system (Risks with Controls and Actions v2 (24) (pages 9-16). I believe this provides all the relevant information regarding the Partnering risk register contained on Magique.

The heat map risk profile for Partnering risk has been inserted to indicate to members of the Committee a sense of the risk in relation to the risk appetite set by the Council (see thick black line indicating risk appetite).

The total risk profile is normal to low compared to most service based risk registers (see risk appetite line indicator). As you can see a large proportion of the risk sits just below the amber or major risk area, indicating 'Moderate' risk, however many are indicated as 'Possible' on the probability indices. I believe this may be an over optimistic assessment of some of the partnering risk. Many of the new risks appertaining to the performance targets supporting the new corporate plan are being uploaded into the new risk register contained within the TEN-policy and performance system. A further update on this system will be brought to the Audit Committee at some point in the future.

However, I remain concerned that officers are not sufficiently engaged in the risk identification within partnership working and a greater focus would I believe in time, lead to better outcomes from some of the partnerships we will be drawn into. The appointment of a partnering manager is expected to strengthen this area of risk. It has been agreed that the risk manager and the partnering manager will work together on this in the coming months.

AC

Highest Scoring Risk on Register

Transport for Somerset - Purpose and outcomes not achieved

Purpose: To secure improvements in providing access to services and facilities in a manner, which achieves social inclusion and offers residents and visitors sustainable access to the countryside by providing increased or improved transport opportunities. (SCC, SSDC and other Somerset Districts, Regional Assembly, SWRDA and GOSW and parish representatives)

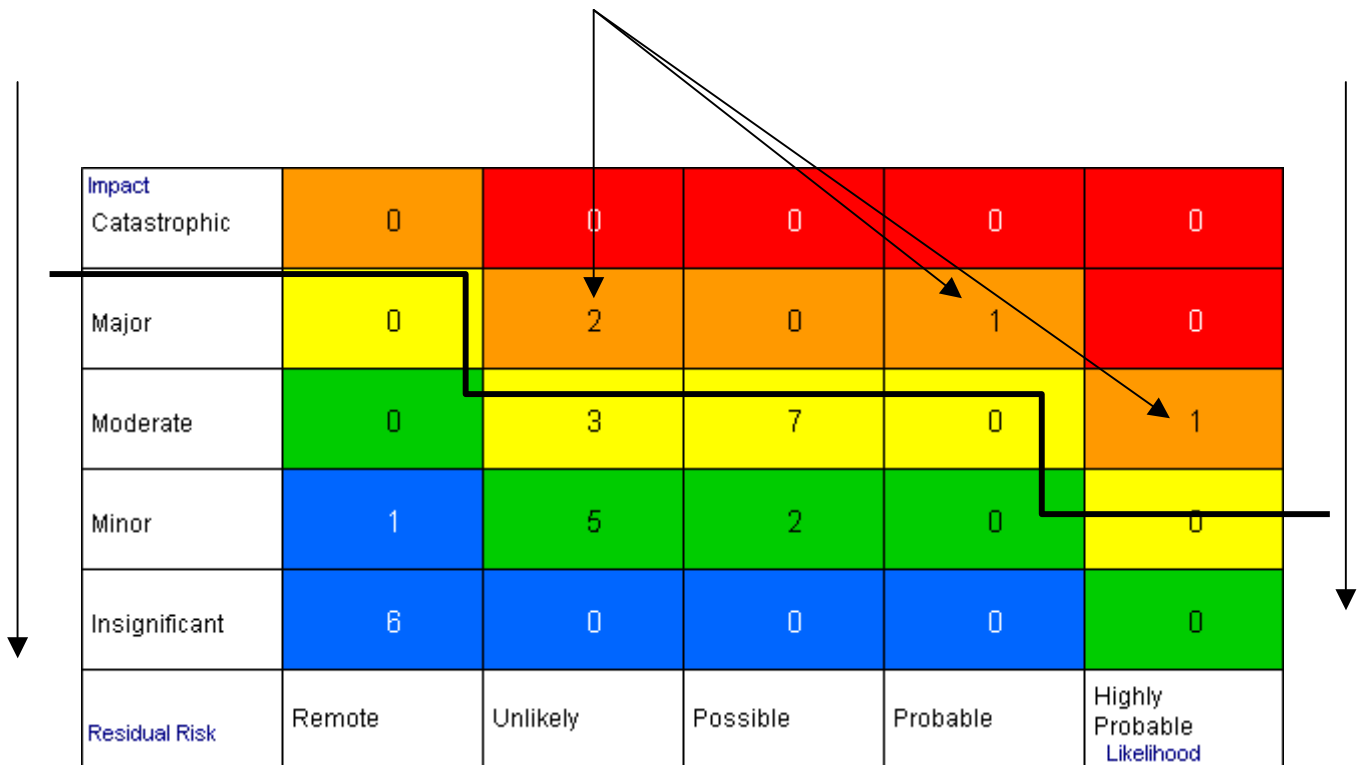
This risk still shows as the highest risk for the Partnering risk register.

See risk score table for detail: -

Numeric score 21-25
20-16
15-11
10-6
5-1

Net Risk profile, expressed as Heat Map in the conventional way

Only 4 risks above the risk appetite line.



RISK APPETITE (below the line)

Risks Register (Partnering) with Controls and Actions Report (24).

This report gives members a greater degree of detail in what the lead officer or risk owner has indicated as a control for the given risk and clearly shows the risk reduction from the gross to the net score, giving members an indication of the impact or robustness of the control in dealing with the risk.

Background Papers: None.