

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Date:	27 June 2011
Title:	Strategy and Policy Statement for Risk Management and Health and Safety
Reference:	3063
Report From:	<i>Chief Executive</i>

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to obtain Cabinet approval of a revised strategy and policy statement for risk management and health and safety. The Strategy is appended to this report as Appendix 1.
- 1.2. The County Councils arrangements for managing risk and health and safety are important elements of its overall governance arrangements. Approval of a strategy for risk management is sought in accordance with the provisions of the County Councils Financial Regulations.
- 1.3. The County Council recognises that maintaining a dynamic risk aware culture is vitally important as it goes through a period of significant change, with the increasing need to balance the effects of budget reductions and changes to the ways services are provided. The financial challenges facing the County Council mean that it will need to adopt positive strategies to risk taking, in order to maintain the resilience of its essential services through a period of change.
- 1.4. The aims of this strategy are to support the challenges that the County Council may face, allowing it to react dynamically to sharply changing external circumstances by delivering improvements to the capacity for the Council to handle risk effectively and deliver successful outcomes.

2. Contextual information

- 2.1. The County Council has had robust strategies for both Risk Management and Health and Safety, which have culminated in considerable recognition of the County Council as a centre of excellence. In 2010 the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (Rospa) presented the County Council with their

award for the best Public Sector, Education and Local Authority organisation as part of their national award scheme.

- 2.2. Both the previous strategies for Risk Management and Health and Safety have come to a successful conclusion. In going forward, Officers have recognised the increasing synergy between risk and safety and have combined them into a single more efficient approach.
- 2.3. An Improvement Plan has been developed to support the Strategy, which will further improve the quality of the management of risk across the County Council, focusing on encouraging considered risk taking, taking proportional responses to risk and ensuring that processes are lean, efficient and focused on business need.

3. Link with Resource Re-alignment

- 3.1. It is important that the County Councils approach to managing risk is consistent with its resource re-alignment and financial strategies.
- 3.2. Care has been taken to ensure that the approach outlined within the proposed Risk Management Strategy and Policy is in accordance with the County Councils Cost Reduction, Efficiency and Transformation programme.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1. That the Strategy and Policy Statement for Risk Management and Health and Safety appended to the report be approved.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:**Links to the Corporate Strategy**

Hampshire safer and more secure for all:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Maximising well-being:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
Enhancing our quality of place:	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
OR	

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

DocumentLocation

None

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equalities Impact Assessment:

1.1. Not applicable

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1. Not applicable

3. Climate Change:

a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

None

b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

c) None