Appendix 1 - Departmental Risk Register

CHB Corporate and departmental risks - detailed report EXCLUDING COMPLETED ACTIONS

Report Author: Leah Woodlock **Generated on:** 17 August 2023



Rows are sorted by Risk Score

Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating	& Score	Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating &	Score	Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
department transformation	Cause: The TOM changes are insufficient or implementation of radical change fails. The flexible retirement scheme has been taken up by many long term colleagues who will all be leaving the corporation by March 2022. The TOM is also creating anxiety which in turn could cause colleagues to find roles elsewhere. Event: Culture change is insufficient. Corporate memory is lost. The Chamberlain's Department is not fit for the future. Effect: Chamberlain's Department fails to deliver its objectives.	Impact	16	Three of the four teams within Chamberlain's are now fully resourced and the CIO function commenced in January. A key risk remains but is reducing within Financial Services. Recruitment is underway where vacancies have been held, with key roles being prioritised. A number of key roles have been appointed too. Management is deploying temps and external expertise where there are significant gaps to support the current team until permanent positions are filled. There is considerable pressure on existing staff and risk of not meeting key deadlines.	Impact	4	31-Mar- 2024	

		Following a series of workshops teams are now working on implementation of transformation action plans.			
12-Nov-2021		29 Aug 2023	•	Reduce	Constant
Caroline Al- Beyerty					

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
CHB001b	Colleagues are provided with the training they need to fulfil their role.	The departmental Learning & Engagement Board was re-launched on 21 June with a renewed vision, terms of reference and refined learning objectives. The sponsor is a member of SLT to drive the priority of improving learning outcomes for all Chamberlain's staff . The Board are currently in the process of identifying its key workstreams for 2023/24.	Phil Black	30-June- 2023	17-August- 2023
CHB001c	Chamberlain's TOM structure design and culture is fit for purpose.	A culture and values workshop was held in November 22 for all staff to allow colleagues across Chamberlain's the opportunity to shape the departmental culture. An action plan was subsequently produced in response to the feedback provided and progress was reported at the all staff call in July 23 and the action plan published on the departmental SharePoint. The annual update will be presented to staff in November 23. The final part of the Chamberlain's Departmental Vision has been finalised as a result based on discussions held at the all staff event which includes the behaviours we want to see exhibited by colleagues across the team. This vision will be used within the corporate appraisal process to ensure a continuation of the golden thread. This information was shared with all colleagues at the March all staff call and has been shared on our Departmental intranet.		30-June- 2023	31-Mar- 2024
CHB001d	The corporate recruitment moratorium has lead to a significant number of vacancies being held across the department leaving gaps in capacity.	Vacancies across Chamberlain's have now been filled with the exception of a number remaining in the Financial Services team. A multiagency recruitment campaign took place during April to fill 5 critical vacancies. There still remains 7 permanent positions to recruit to (including the Chief Accountant role), plus Trainee Graduates and Apprentices (underway) It is an employee's market and inducements are being offered by other employers with higher rates and working from home flexibility. Market Forces Supplement (MFS) – has now been considered, an update was taken to this committee in April. Resignation of the Assistant Director and Chief Accountant positions moved the risk rating to red, placing a considerable amount of pressure on existing staff and adding further risk of not meeting key deadlines on transformation. An interim Assistant Director has been appointed.	Sonia Virdee	11-Jul-2023	31-Mar- 2024

		The Permanent Assistant Director commenced on 31 July. The Chief Accountant permanent position is now advertised with applications due by 18 September. This role is currently being covered by an interim Chief Accountant, to ensure consistency of approach during accounts preparation and to refocus efforts on other vacant positions. A renewed focus is taking place on 'training our own' through a wider apprenticeship programme and graduate trainee recruitment.			
CHB001e	Following the resignation of the Assistant Director the team are now required to reprioritise to focus on core financial work including statutory deadlines, due to the capacity gap that this vacancy creates along with those already existing within the team.	A plan has been drawn up by the team to ensure the most pressing work is covered, which will lead to some work being deprioritised in the interim and a possible shift in target completion dates. An update on FSD was taken to this committee in April with 3 key priorities focusing on 1) well being of staff; 2) recruitment 3) getting the basics done. Further updates are included in the FSD update paper to this committee.	Sonia Virdee	11-Jul-2023	31-Mar- 2024
CHB001f	Ensure procedure notes are in place, accurate and current. To avoid loss of critical knowledge and best practice approaches to departmental tasks and responsibilities.	A project was commissioned in July by the Chamberlain's Senior Leadership team to identify the current procedure notes available and gaps across the department. The project proposes to review the quality, accuracy and validity of the procedure notes.	Leah Woodlock	27-Jul-2023	31-Dec- 2023

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CR38 Unsustainable Medium Term Finances - City's Cash 31-Oct-2022 Caroline Al- Beyerty	Causes: High inflation –Office for Budget Responsibility forecasting peak in Autumn 2022 and although predicted to fall over the next two years, embedded increases. Construction inflation running at 5% for 2023/24. Contraction in key income streams and increase in bad debts following post pandemic change in working practices still continues into 2023. Event: Inability to contain financial pressures within year (2022/23) and deliver sustainable savings already baked in and/or increase income generation not realised requiring further draw down on Reserves. Inability to contain construction inflation or inability to rescope capital schemes within budgets. Effects: Additional savings over and above those identified to meet this challenge are required, reserves are utilised and/or services stopped. The City Corporation's reputation is damaged due to failure to meet financial objectives or the need to reduce services / service levels to business and community. Inability to deliver capital programme and major projects within affordability parameters. Spend is not aligned to Corporate Plan outcomes resulting in suboptimal use of resources and/or poor performance. Stakeholders experiencing reduced services and service closures.	Impact	16	The five year financial plan provides recommendations for one-off cost pressures and on-going pressures, now approved via the carry forward process on 30 June, this also included approval of £3.5m central contingency to support unforeseen inflationary pressures An officer Star Chamber took place during May/June to review savings yet to be delivered during 2023/24 and was presented to RASC sub away day. 28 Aug 2023	Impact	8	31-Mar- 2023	Constant

Action no	Action description			Latest Note Date	Due Date
CR38a	Impact of inflation • Rising inflationary pressures on energy costs • Rising inflationary pressures on construction and labour costs	J 11 J	Sonia Virdee	11-Jul-2023	31-Mar- 2024
		Mitigations approved by CoCo in March 2023 include: central contingencies held to support new pay pressures; carry forwards from 2022/23 underspends to support one-off pressures; transformation funding held centrally to support Resource Prioritisation Refresh workstreams			

		and the culture shift. Additional funding allocated to support the backlog of urgent Cyclical Works Programme. £3m contingency ringfenced for urgent health and safety works under capital programme. An update on the five year financial plan was presented to RASC away day, with recommendations on 2024/25 budget setting.			
CR38b	Impact of construction inflation on capital programme: • Major projects • Business as usual capital programme Remain within the financial envelopes approved for major projects		Sonia Virdee	11-Jul-2023	31-Mar- 2024
CR38e	A reduction in key income streams and increase in bad Debt Triggers: Increase in loss of property investment portfolio income over £5m p.a.			22-Aug- 2023	30-Jun- 2024
CR38f	Achievement of current Savings Programme – includes flight path savings (Fundamental Review) and securing permanent year on year savings (12%).	The five year financial plan provides recommendations for one-off cost pressures and ongoing pressures. An officer Star Chamber was held during June which was to review savings yet to be delivered during 2023/24 and was presented to RASC sub away day.	Sonia Virdee	11-Jul-2023	31-Mar- 2024

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CR35 Unsustainable Medium Term Finances - City Fund 19-Jun-2020 Caroline Al- Beyerty	F	Impact	12	Retail Price Index rose by 13.7% and Consumer Price Index rose by 8.7% in 12 months to May 2023. Inflation is predicted to fall 6.1% in 2023, however increases are feared to be embedded creating pressures on service/departmental 2023/24 budgets to make further savings. Construction inflation is forecast at 5% for 2023/24 The Bank of England base rate rose to 5.0% on 22 June 2023 and is expected to rise further to 6%. The risk has reduced, the medium term financial plan was approved by Court of Common Council on 9 March, which includes contingency measures to support 2023/24 pressures. 28 Aug 2023		8	Reduce	Constant

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
CR35a	Impact of inflation • Rising inflationary pressures on energy costs • Rising inflationary pressures on construction and labour costs	2023/24 base budgets include 2% uplift plus increase in base to support July 2022 pay award. Mitigations approved by CoCo in March 2023 include: increase in Business Rate Premium; rise in core Council Tax and Adult Social Care; rise in HRA rents; central contingencies held to support new pay pressures; carry forwards from 2022/23 underspends to support one-off pressures; transformation funding held centrally to support Resource Prioritisation Refresh workstreams and the culture shift. Identified inflationary pressures are well within the contingencies held, in addition, interest rates are giving a welcome boost to City Fund finances. The £30m ringfenced reserves released to support the backlog of urgent Cyclical Works Programme. £3m contingency ringfenced for urgent health and safety works under capital programme. An update on the medium term financial plan was presented to RASC away day, with recommendations on 2024/25 budget setting.	Sonia Virdee	11-Jul-2023	31-Mar- 2024
CR35b	Capital schemes forecast to exceed budget. Review of HRA commissioned and due to report at the end of November 2022. Need to monitor identified expenditure risks around recovery of leaseholder contributions following the decision not to allow the Appeal of the Great Arthur Cladding case. Housing 30 year financial projects have been completed.	Close monitoring of capital schemes is required during 2023/24. Regular reporting of capital forecasts is now planned into the forward plan. Review of HRA commissioned from Savills reported to Finance in May. Housing are now looking at detailed options following up on the report, to come back to Committee for agreement in the autumn. A separate review has been commissioned by the Town Clerk Need to continue to monitor identified expenditure risks around recovery of leaseholder contributions following the decision not to allow the Appeal of the Great Arthur case. The latest five year financial projections show the revenue funding position remains precarious and vulnerable to revenue overspends or significantly rising capital costs (leading to higher loan repayments and interest charges)	Mark Jarvis; Paul Murtagh	11-Jul-2023	31-Mar- 2024
CR35c	Remain within the financial envelopes approved for major projects	For Major Projects – Capital Buildings Board monitors delivery within the revised budget envelopes. Monthly updates on the cash flow requirements on the major projects are provided to Policy and Resources Committee, Investment Board and Finance Committee to understand the investment/asset disposal strategy. Regular reporting on the major projects programmes will be presented to Capital Buildings Board, Finance Committee, and Policy and Resources Committee monthly and draw down requirements to the Investment Committee. Capital financing options was presented to RASC sub away day, further discussions with RASC will take place on 5th September.	Sonia Virdee	29-Aug- 2023	31-Mar- 2024

CR35f	flight path savings (Fundamental Review) and securing permanent year on year savings (12%).	£4.6m savings for 23/24 onwards. There remains a continuing risk to sustaining the delivery of savings of this scale, alongside delivering against the National Officer Uplift programme.	29-Aug- 2023	30-Sep- 2023
		The medium term plan provides recommendations for one-off cost pressures and on-going pressures, now approved via the carry forward process on 30 June, this also included approval of £10.2m central contingency to support unforeseen inflationary pressures.		
		An officer star chamber was held during June to review savings yet to be delivered during 2023/24 and was presented to RASC sub away day.		