SUR Departmental risks - DETAILED REPORT EXCLUDING COMPLETED ACTIONS for COMMITTEE

Report Author: Faith Bowman **Generated on:** 13 June 2024



Rows are sorted by Risk Score

| Risk no, title, creation date, owner | Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact) | Current Risk Rating & Sco | Risk Update and date of update | Target Risk Rating & Scot | Target Date/Risk Approach | Current Risk score change indicator |
|--|--|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| SUR SMT 005 Construction and Service Contracts Price Inflation beyond that which was anticipated or planned 14-Oct-2021 Ola Obadara | Cause: Market conditions have led to input price inflation Event: Project and programme cost escalation Impact: Inability to delivery capital and revenue projects within budget | Impact 16 | Material costs and labour availability are continuing to raise costs beyond that has been anticipated or planned. This item impacts property projects, our facilities management (FM) provision, reactive repairs, and revenue works. Whilst construction cost inflation had been forecast to level out, this has yet to happen. This is across both building materials and construction expertise where labour constraints continue to place upward pressure on pricing. Market conditions remain dynamic and will be kept under review. As such the target date should be considered a review point. 13 Jun 2024 | Impact | 31-Mar- 2025 | Constant |

| Action no | Action description | Latest Note | Action owner | Latest Note Date | Due Date |
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| SUR SMT 005a | Procurement Strategy The department is working with legal and procurement to identify different buying options, thereby managing the risk to the department / organisation. | This exploration included a review of the prior Single Stage tender process (which had been preferred for medium range projects - £2m - £50m). Following the review Two Stage contracts will be used more frequently which is the current market norm for these projects. This change enables contractors to better transfer their risk, however, leaves the City with a degree of cost uncertainty, even post Gateway 5. Whilst this transfer is not desired, it does offer far better market coverage and reflects the prevailing external conditions. | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 005d | Exploring the potential to | The department and the Chamberlain's Procurement team have explored the inclusion of fluctuating provisions in our contracts. This has resulted in attracting a greater number of contractors to bid on projects, however, the inflation risk has been transferred to the organisation. The value of this approach will be continually reviewed. | | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 005e | Contract Engagement Expanding the amount of information available at an early stage of contract exploration. This will provide greater cost certainty. | The team plan to engage early with our contractors on a consultancy basis to obtain as much information as possible prior to contract. | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 005f | Specification and Materials Ensuring materials are readily available before and during the design phase and, if possible, procure in advance of the contract. This limits the impact of further price rises in at risk commodities. | Inflation in raw materials has decreased, however, it should be noted that prices are not typically falling elsewhere. Further consideration is being given to the origin of source materials to ensure supply. | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

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| Construction Consultancy | Cause: Poor performance by consultants Event: Abortive work, delays, or non- performance. Impact: Additional costs, project delays | Impact | | This relates to abortive design / development. The department continues to suffer the impacts of this risk, with action being taken against consultants when their performance does not meet expectations. Individuals assigned in the commercial market to City (and public sector generally) projects often do not have the skill and competency required to deliver the work to the standard required. This issue is being seen across the construction industry. | Document Document | 4 | 31-Mar- 2025 | - |
| 14-Oct-2021 Ola Obadara | | | | 13 Jun 2024 | | | Reduce | Constant |
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| SUR SMT 006a | 0 0 | Close work with the Procurement team in Chamberlain's has resulted in this change. The impact will be tracked over the coming months. | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 006b | The team is working | Where performance has been poor action has been taken against consultants which has increased end-to-end timescales. Due to public sector contract constraints, our ability to seek immediate redress from construction consultancy contractors is limited whilst action is taken, results take longer than would otherwise be possible in a commercial environment. The department is working with colleagues through the Construction Category Board on this item. | | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 006c | | The department continues to work with colleagues from the Procurement team to explore available options to manage and mitigate this risk. The City's public sector role limits the number of avenues compared to commercial operators. | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

| | due diligence, particularly in regard to the quality of contractor appointed (rebalancing the quality/cost equation). This is with the view that we will get better quality applications and this risk may reduce. | The City Surveyor's Department participated at the March "Meet the Supplier – Construction and Professional Services" event organised by the Procurement team. This event was aimed at further diversification and strengthening of our supplier base. Subsequently further engagement with colleagues has taken place to consider lessons learnt and next steps. | | | |
|--------------|--|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| SUR SMT 006d | | Detailed scoping is required to ensure that projects are delivered on-time and on-budget which can lead to extended lead times. Due to a wider lack of skills in the industry, consultants allocated to this element of work are making more errors than desired which has contributed to the overall red risk rating. Further actions are being explored; however, this is an industry wide issue (particularly for public sector organisations). | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 006e | Review of appointment documents The team is working closely with the legal department to ensure that procurement activity aligns with project objectives and the consultants meet quality requirements | Action has been taken against consultants where performance has been poor which has resulted in increased end to end timescales. | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

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| SUR SMT 009 Recruitment and retention of property professional 21-Jan-2022 Paul Wilkinson | Cause: Uncompetitive pay and benefits structures within some professional grades; poor quality work environments; lack of professional progression over recruitment freeze and restructuring period; increased employee focus on work-life balance Event: Increasingly difficult to recruit suitably skilled staff at the correct level for the grade being recruited for. Increasingly difficulty to keep staff who get better reward packages from other organisation (both commercial and public sector) Impact: Increased vacancies, objectives unachieved or delivered late (including project delivery and income generation), reduced customer satisfaction, less real estate activity, reduced employee wellbeing, demotivation of staff. Increased costs borne by the organisation though recruitment campaigns and training etc, or to the department through filling vacancies through comparatively expensive temporary contracts. | Impact | This risk has been identified across several divisions of the City Surveyor's Department particularly within Investment Property, Surveying and Project Management. This risk was reviewed in June 2024 and its risk score maintained due to specific issues in certain industries. The department continues to engage with corporate colleagues to mitigate this risk over the long term. The risk will be kept under review, with the target date reflecting this on-going review. 12 Jun 2024 | Impact 8 | 31-Mar- 2025 | Constant |

| Action no | Action description | | | Latest Note Date | Due Date |
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| SUR SMT 009a | | received by staff. | Paul Wilkinson | | 31-Mar- 2025 |

| SUR SMT 009b | Best Practice Including delivery of appraisals, regular one-to-ones, team and group meetings. This aims to improve communications at all levels, ensuring that CSD is a positive work environment and that issues/blockers can be raised and addressed. In some areas career graded roles have been instituted, and deployment can be further explored. | CSD is supporting Corporate HR with embedding the on-line appraisal system which enables greater tracking of compliance with the performance management process. | Paul Wilkinson | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
|--------------|---|---|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| SUR SMT 009c | Communication Including delivery of appraisals, regular one-to-ones, team and group meetings. This aims to improve communications at all levels, ensuring that CSD is a positive work environment and that issues/blockers can be raised and addressed. In some areas career graded roles have been instituted, and deployment can be further explored. | Managers across the department are in the process of ensuring that all end of year appraisals have been inputted into the system. | Paul Wilkinson | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 009d | Engagement with HR Some of the items highlighted as the 'causes' of this risk are outside the control of CSD, and engagement with our Corporate partners will be critical to overcoming these items. This departmental risk directly supports the Corporate Risk on "Recruitment and Retention" (CR39). | Corporate HR have delivered a new staff survey, and the department will develop an action plan in September following analysis of the results. | Paul Wilkinson | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 009e | Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion The department has an active ED&I network, which regularly engages with the City Surveyor and the Senior Management Team. This is seeking to make the department a more attractive destination for under-represented groups and seek to retain and progress staff from all backgrounds. There is corporate HR representation on this departmentally led Group | The CSD ED&I group continues to meet regularly and monitors and tracks delivery of the ED&I action plan. The June meeting included updates from the Corporate Equalities team and the WIN and Carers and Parents staff networks. A neurodiversity all staff talk has been scheduled in September which will cover the full end-to-end process of responsible procurement, the contractor's commitment to delivery, and the social value impact. | Ola Obadara | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

| SUR SM | 1T 009f | | The department has highlighted that there are specific pressures within this department in relation to the withdrawal | | 12-Jun- | 31-Mar- |
|--------|---------|------------------------------------|---|-----------|---------|---------|
| | | | of the earlier reward scheme (where those on top-of-grading salaries could achieve performance related pay) prior to | Wilkinson | 2024 | 2025 |
| | | The Corporation is reviewing pay & | the review conclusions which has made our renumeration package less competitive than our peers. The department | | | |
| | | reward | is engaging with Korn Ferry who are currently conducting the Ambition 25 review of pay and reward. Local | | | |
| | | | feedback suggests that whilst recruitment is possible, the limited scope for (pay and professional) progression makes | | | |
| | | | retention is more challenging and existing staff are concerned about their current pay and of potential negative | | | |
| | | | impact from Ambition 25. | | | |

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| SUR SMT 011 Contractor Failure | Cause: Market conditions Event: Failure of either a main contractor, or a substantial sub-contractor Impact: Delayed delivery of projects, or the delivery of projects at a higher cost | Impact | 16 | This risk relates to the failure of a main contractor, or a main sub-contractor. In particular, the City Corporation has not historically had a significant influence over who is commissioned to undertake work. Should a main contractor, or sub-contractor, fail, there are knock on implications for warranties, or our capacity to seek redress for any design faults. Recent industry uncertainty has raised the risk likelihood, and this risk remains at Red. 13 Jun 2024 | Impact | 4 | 31-Mar- 2025 | Constant |

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| SUR SMT 011a | E | greater account of contractor and sub-contractor failure into consideration. We may need to have a greater say in who a main contractor identifies as an appropriate sub-Contractor. Further actions to | | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 011b | | The department is instituting six-monthly reviews of contractor suitability. Historically this only happened at contract commencement. This will better prepare the organisation if the contractor (or significant sub-contractor) begins to experience difficulty. | | 31-Mar- 2025 |

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| Investment Property Group staffing and Capacity | Cause: Capacity and the existing skill set of the team is misaligned to deliver changing requirements. Event: Inability to undertake the management of the portfolio at the pace expected by the Market or by senior stakeholders and undertake new requirements as required by the City of London Corporation. Impact: Slow engagement with third parties, reduced capacity to optimise income/capital and ability to react to changes in market conditions at pace impacting on the delivery of the City Corporation's Medium Term Financial Plan, delays to major projects/organisational initiatives, negative impacts on customer/employee satisfaction and the investment portfolio does not meet its CAS targets. | Impact | This risk identifies the significant volume and change in the nature of activities to be delivered by the team including; more demanding Investment Objectives, supporting delivery of major projects, increased lease restructures and transactions, implementation of Destination City and City Occupiers Strategy and City Bridge Foundation (CBF) being an independent client with different reporting requirements and investment strategy. New skills within the Investment Property Group are required to optimise engagement with the market to raise external capital sources and meet the demands of fund management/ analytics and the management of joint ventures to deliver on changing requirements. The aim is to produce a team which is enabled to deliver high value / judgement / decision making capability with outsourcing of low-level administrative tasks to deliver the income and capital that the Corporation and CBF requires. This risk is Linked to Recruitment & Retention risk (SUR SMT 009) and Investment Strategy Risk (SUR SMT 003) | Impact 2 | 31-Mar- 2025 | |
| 12-Jun-2024 | | | 12 Jun 2024 | | Reduce | Constant |

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|-----------|--|---|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| | Funding Funding request to resource the extra capacity and capability required. | The department has made a funding request through the Deep Dive process which is currently being fully assessed by Finance. | Robert Murphy | 12-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| | Training Training on new capabilities to be delivered to existing IPG staff. | | Robert Murphy | 12-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| | Approval Seek City Bridge Foundation's approval to the cost consequences of enhanced capability. | Investment Property Group will seek City Bridge's Foundation approval following Investment Committee in July. | Robert Murphy | 12-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| | Secondments To consider whether secondments within IPG would support the influx of corporate requests. | This will be considered post September. | Robert Murphy | 12-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

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| Investment | Cause: The business environment declines, flexible working reduces central London demand, retail tenant failure, or demand moves away from City of London assets. Event: Lower rental levels achieved, lower demand, increased turnover of tenancies, increased tenant failure. Impact: Inability to maximise property returns and income for an acceptable level of risk. | Impact 12 | This risk captures a number of sub-risks which may impact the organisation's ability to maximise its property returns for an acceptable level of risk. The on-going mitigation of this risk is important for the organisation achieving its aspirations regarding Climate Action Strategy and Major Programmes, due to the income generated by the function. As the composition of the portfolio changes, new skills will be required by those working within the function. This links closely with the department's Recruitment & Retention risk (SUR SMT 009) and IPG staffing and capacity risk (SUR SMT 016) The target date on this risk reflects a major review point. Investment Strategy will always be a risk, but the key drivers and extent of the risk will vary. 13 Jun 2024 | | 31-Mar- 2025 | Constant |
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| SUR SMT 003a | Macro-economic Within an overarching Investment Strategy the objective will be to maintain a diverse portfolio that reduces the impact of this risk. This includes: 1. Use (office, retail, industrial) 2. Location (City, Southwark, West End etc.) 3. Tenancies (Long term Headlease geared, FRI, directly managed) 4. Covenants (multinationals, SME) 5. Asset management (lease renewals, voids, arrears, etc. 6. Monitoring retail habits in change of building use | estate investments. The actions described will be undertaken in the context of the approved overarching strategy. Consideration includes the potential for recession, inflation, energy pricing etc. and how this will impact tenants and the wider market. | Robert Murphy | 13-Jun-2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

| SUR SMT 003b | Portfolio Ensuring that the overall composition of the investment portfolio takes advantage of emerging segments of growth, whilst managing the exposure to property types which are showing reducing demand. | The overarching Investment Strategy will define the targets and the tactical implementation will be achieved through regular market scanning, and the integration of learning into the Corporation's approach. | Robert Murphy | 21-Feb- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
|--------------|---|---|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| SUR SMT 003c | Climate Action The alignment of our portfolio with the future strategic needs of occupiers, particularly supporting their ESG (Environmental-Social-Governance) needs. Climate Action is principally managed through the Climate Action Strategy. | Ensure that the investment portfolios are compliant with the emerging demands of both investors and occupiers as well as the Corporation's Climate Action strategy and Design Standards. | Robert Murphy | 13-Jun-2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 003d | Office risk Reviewing post-pandemic office use and demand. | The department is monitoring key market use through data supplied by partners (such as footfall information), market research reports, and tenant feedback. The department continues to observe a 'flight to quality' – higher specified and higher quality spaces. Occupiers are increasingly considering their space as a tool to attract talent. Whilst some occupiers are downsizing their space, others are looking to create a better environment for staff through lower densities / improved amenities. This learning informs the portfolio strategy (linked to action SUR SMT 003b). The team is working with corporate colleagues in connection with the "Destination City" agenda, particularly in highlighting market trends to Members and key stakeholders. | Robert Murphy | 13-Jun-2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 003e | Retail Changes in consumer preferences (moving to on-line retail) which has been accentuated through the COVID- 19 pandemic. Elements of the City portfolio is also dependent on tourism, which is only now returning to activity seen pre-pandemic. | The City Surveyor's Department continues to engage with peers to understand retail market impacts. Regular arrears monitoring, including the provision of bi-monthly dashboards and the production of the Rental collection snapshot by the Chamberlain's Department. | Robert Murphy | 13-Jun-2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 003f | Strategy The department will be reviewing its strategic approach to ensure that a portfolio approach is developed (rather than decisions being made on an asset-by-asset basis). This will ensure the ongoing allocation of funds is balanced between different risks/returns | The Investment Property Director is developing the department's Investment Strategy. This is in early stages of development, and further information will be available over time. | Robert Murphy | 13-Jun-2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

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| Insurance - Investment and Corporate Estates | Cause: Revaluation of the City Corporation's estates (Investment and Corporate) does not happen in a timescale compliant with insurance policy requirements or the terms of leases. Event: The City fails to meet the provision under its insurance policies that revaluations are undertaken by a RICS surveyor at least every five years (Investment and Corporate). The City is in breach of its legal obligations as a landlord under the terms of its leases to ensure that the full re- instatement value is insured Impact: The insurance policy does not respond in full (Investment and Corporate). Potential legal action from commercial occupiers in the event of an incident for which there is not appropriate cover. | | 12 | This risk identifies the need of re-valuation of the City of London Estates – (Investment and Corporate) to ensure that the City reaches its legal obligations under its insurance policies. The last on-site valuations of the Investment Property Group estate and corporate buildings (other than special sites) was undertaken in 2015. Funding has recently been identified and a budget is now in place. Tender documents have been drafted. Once contractors are on-site and progressing with completing this activity the risk rating should start to reduce. 13 Jun 2024 | Impact | 1 | 31-Mar- 2025 | Constant |

| Action no | Action description | Latest Note | | Latest Note Date | Due Date |
|--------------|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| SUR SMT 010a | Register of data Ensuring the completeness of the organisation's data sets to ensure that assets are not 'lost' and accuracy of our risk scoring. | | Robert Murphy | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Jan- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 010b | | Where leases allow, the cost can be recovered from commercial tenants, and operational occupiers as appropriate. Funding has been agreed and a budget line identified where relevant within the City Corporation. | John James; Robert Murphy | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |
| SUR SMT 010c | | The delivery of this activity will be done by an external party. Investment Property Group are currently reviewing properties and gathering information. The tender has been developed and is being finalised and once approved and awarded, contractors will be engaged to progress with the activity. | | 13-Jun- 2024 | 31-Mar- 2025 |

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| SUR SMT 012 Adjudication & Disputes 31-Aug-2023 Ola Obadara | Cause: The impact of COVID-19 on project delivery. Event: Regulations restricted access to sites and resulted in more design work being undertaken remotely. Productivity at sites was adversely impacted. Impact: Increased likelihood that projects were designed correctly, and resulting legal and adjudication issues, reputational harm. | Impact | | The department's risk register has a separate risk relating to 'construction price inflation'. The inflation risk is wider as it also captures cost escalations due to other causes (Ukraine, energy, etc). This risk only focusses on adjudication & disputes. This risk may remain on the register until projects commenced prior to, or during, the COVID-19 pandemic, have been delivered and finalised. The risk scoring will be kept under review. 13 Jun 2024 | Impact | 4 | 31-Mar- 2025 | Constant |

| Action no | Action description | | Latest Note Date | Due Date |
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| SUR SMT 012a | Claims consultant can advise the organisation where it can seek to | 81 J | | 31-Mar- 2025 |