City of London Corporation Committee Report

Committee: Port Health and Environmental Services Committee	**Dated:** 21/7/26
Subject: Risk Management Update	**Public report:** For Information
This proposal: • **delivers Corporate Plan 2024-29 outcomes** • **provides statutory duties** • **provides business enabling functions**	• Providing Excellent Services • Vibrant Thriving Destination • Leading Sustainable Environment • Dynamic Economic Growth
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
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Summary

This report provides the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee with assurance that risk management procedures in place within the Environment Department are satisfactory and that they meet the requirements of the corporate Risk Management Framework.

Risk is reviewed regularly within each service area as part of the ongoing management of operations. In addition to the flexibility for emerging risks to be raised as they are identified, a process exists for in-depth periodic review of the risk register.

This report considers the key risks managed by the following service areas which fall within the remit of your Committee:

- Port Health and Public Protection
- The Cleansing Service

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report and the actions being taken by the Environment Department to monitor, mitigate and effectively manage risks arising from their operations.

Main Report

Background

1. The Risk Management Framework of the City of London Corporation requires each Chief Officer to report regularly to Committee on the key risks faced by their department.

2. To fulfil this requirement, the key risks of the service areas of the Environment Department which fall within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee are presented to the Committee every four months.

3. Risk Management is discussed regularly by the Department's Senior Leadership Team and at the meetings of each service area's Senior Management Team.

4. Between Management Team meetings, risks are reviewed in consultation with risk and control owners, and updates are recorded in the corporate risk management system.

Current Position

5. This report provides an update on the key business risks that exist in relation to the operations of service areas of the Environment Department which fall within the remit of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee:

   - Port Health and Public Protection
   - Cleansing Service

Summary of key risks

6. The register of key risks held by the Port Health and Public Protection Division and the City Operation Division's Cleansing Service includes one departmental level risk (Air Quality) and three service level risks, as summarised below. The detailed risk register is presented at Appendix 2.

7. **ENV-SLT 005 Air Quality**
   (Current risk score: Green 3, Possible/Minor)
   Since this risk was added to the register in 2015, the score has reduced from Red 16 (Likelihood: likely; Impact: major) to Green 3 (possible; minor). The target is now to reduce the risk further by the end of 2026. This reflects the City of London's long-term commitment to improving air quality in the City.

Apart from at a very small number of busy roadside locations, the air quality in the City consistently meets statutory targets. This significantly reduces the impact on health. Air quality data collected in 2025 (the most recent available data) demonstrated that levels of particulate air pollution PM10 and PM2.5 both met the health-based standards. Nitrogen dioxide was measured at 91 locations and just 4 of these locations breached the required standard.

A new Air Quality Strategy for 2025 to 2030 has been adopted. The Strategy aims to exceed national standards, further demonstrating the City of London's commitment to maintaining and improving air quality. Delivery of the Strategy's Action Plan is monitored and reported on annually. The annual assessment and progress report for 2025 has been submitted to the Greater London Authority and will be presented to this Committee in September 2026.

8. **ENV-PHPP 001 Border controls – Impact on Port Health and Animal Health**
   (Current risk score: Red 24, Possible/Extreme)
   The risk remains high (Red 24) due to continued uncertainties with the new regime and the new Government desire for a closer relationship with the EU, including discussions regarding a future veterinary agreement with the EU. The Port Health Service continues to engage with stakeholders and respond to the government's consultations.

9. **ENV-CO-GC 002 - Road traffic collision caused by City of London staff or contractor who is unfit to drive while on City business**
   (Current risk score: Red 16, Unlikely/Extreme)
   All employees must complete a mandatory 'Driver Check' questionnaire. If that questionnaire identifies them as someone who drives on City of London business, they are automatically registered with an online licence checking system. Obtaining automated reports to determine compliance with the initial 'Driver Check' questionnaire continues to be problematic, and a manual system has been in place for some time. Officers are now working to find a solution using the new SAP (HR and Finance) system, but have a manual system in place in the meantime. Once a new automated system is in place, the risk will be reassessed and the score reduced if appropriate.

10. **ENV–CO-GC 006 - A major incident, such as flooding or fire, makes Walbrook Wharf unusable as a depot**
    (Current risk score: Amber 8, Unlikely/Major)
    This risk remains at a score of Amber 8: unlikely, but with a major impact on the ability to deliver cleansing and waste services should it occur. A robust Business Continuity Plan is in place. A Business Continuity exercise was undertaken in February 2026 and actions identified are now being implemented. This risk has also been identified as a longer-term risk linked to Climate Change and is being addressed as part of the Climate Adaptation Action Plan. Officers continue to undertake a range of actions to control the likelihood and impact of the risk, and keep it under review, but are unable to reduce the score any further at present.

Identification of New Risks

11. New and emerging risks are identified through several channels, the main being:
    - Directly by Senior Management Teams as part of the regular review process.
    - In response to ongoing review of progress made against Business Plan objectives and performance measures, e.g., slippage of target dates or changes to expected performance levels.
    - In response to emerging events and changing circumstances which have the potential to impact on the delivery of services, such as a border control agreement between the UK and EU.
    - The risk register may be refreshed over and above the stated process for review and oversight, in response to emerging issues or changing circumstances.

Corporate and Strategic Implications

12. Effective management of risk is at the heart of the City Corporation's approach to delivering cost effective and valued services to the public as well as being an important element within the corporate governance of the organisation.

13. The proactive management of risk, including the reporting process to Members, demonstrates that the department is adhering to the requirements of the City of London Corporation's Risk Management Policy and Strategy.

14. The risk management processes in place in the Environment Department support the delivery of the Corporate Plan, our Departmental and Divisional Business Plans and relevant Corporate Strategies

Conclusion

15. Members are asked to note that risk management processes within each service area adhere to the requirements of the City Corporation's Risk Management Framework. Risks identified within the operational and strategic responsibilities of each area are proactively managed.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – City of London Corporation Risk Matrix
- Appendix 2 – Environment Department Key Risks (Port Health and Environmental Services Committee)

Contact

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