

# LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

<b>REPORT:</b>	<b>AUDIT &amp; GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>DATE OF DECISION</b>	<b>19 September 2024</b>	
<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Risk Register Entry 'Deep Dive' Public Switched Telephone Network</b>	
<b>CORPORATE DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR:</b>	<b>Jane West Corporate Director Resources</b>	
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>Malcolm Davies, Head of Anti Fraud, Risk &amp; Insurance, Email: malcolm.davies@croydon.gov.uk</b>	
<b>LEAD MEMBER:</b>	<b>Councillor Jason Cummings, Cabinet Member for Finance</b>	
<b>KEY DECISION?</b> [Insert Ref. Number if a Key Decision]  <i>Guidance: A Key Decision reference number will be allocated upon submission of a forward plan entry to Democratic Services.</i>	<b>No</b>	
<b>CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION?</b>  <i>(* See guidance)</i>	<b>No</b>	
<b>WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	<b>All</b>	

## 1 SUMMARY OF REPORT

- 1.1 The presentations updates the Audit & Governance Committee Members on progress against selected entries from the corporate risk register (the register).

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

For the reasons set out in the report and its appendices the Audit & Governance Committee are recommended:

- 2.1 Note the contents of the risk presentation attached in Appendix 1.

### **3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 Members at the 18 July 2024 meeting of the committee reviewed the corporate risk register.

3.2 Members have the ability to 'call in' risks for a deep dive and the risk related to the Public Switched Telephone Network been selected for a risk 'deep dive' at its 19 September 2024 meeting.

3.3 To assist the Council in meeting its best value duty.

### **4 BACKGROUND AND DETAILS**

Risk 'Deep Dives'

4.1 Members have elected to concentrate on the following risk for a risk 'deep dive' presentation at the meeting of the committee.

- CDS0043 Public Switched Telephone Network

4.2 This presentation is attached at Appendix 1.

4.3 In line with the Council's commitment to openness and transparency, the risk register presentations will appear in Part A of the agenda unless, in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Council's Constitution there is specific justification for any individual entries being considered under Part B (set out under Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended).

4.4 It should be noted that some of the grounds for exemption from public access are absolute. However, for others such as that in para.3, 'Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)', deciding in which part of the agenda they will appear, is subject to the further test of whether, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

## **5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 N/A

## **6 CONSULTATION**

6.1 N/A

## **7. CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

7.1 Getting our finances right and making the council financially sustainable.

## **8. IMPLICATIONS**

### **8.1 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1.1 Finance have been consulted and can confirm there are no additional financial considerations arising from this report.

8.1.2 The Council's financial reporting and medium-term financial strategy takes account of the risk management framework, to consider the potential financial implications of risks

8.1.3 Comments approved by Jame Huggett, Head of Finance for Assistant Chief Executive and Resources on behalf of the Director of Finance.

#### **8.1.4 Revenue and Capital consequences of report recommendation**

N/A

### **8.2 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.2.1 The Audit and Governance Committee is required by its terms of reference to monitor the effective development and operation of the Council's risk management arrangements, to monitor progress in addressing risk-related issues reported to the Committee, and to provide independent assurance to the Council of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the internal control environment.

Therefore, periodic updates on the corporate risk register are provided to assist Members with this responsibility.

**8.2.2** Under regulation 3 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Council must ensure that it has a sound system of internal control which facilitates the effective exercise of its functions and the achievement of its aims and objectives, ensures that the financial and operational management of the Council is effective, and includes effective arrangements for the management of risk. The work of the Committee generally and its overview of the corporate risk register specifically, make a valuable contribution to the Council's internal control arrangements. The effective management of risk is necessary in order to achieve financial prudence, value for money and good governance.

**8.2.3** Comments approved by Looqman Desai, Deputy Monitoring Officer.

### **8.3 HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

**8.3.1** There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report, however, should any matters arise these will be managed through the Council's HR policies and procedures.

**8.3.2** Approved by: Dean Shoesmith, Chief People Officer. Dated: 2 September 2024

### **8.4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

**8.4.1** The Council has a statutory duty, when exercising its functions, to comply with the provisions set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. The Council must, in the performance of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act.
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

**8.4.2** There are unlikely to be specific equalities implications arising from the Council reviewing its corporate risk register.

**8.4.3** Approved by Helen Reeves, Head of Strategy and Policy.

## **9. APPENDICES**

9.1 Appendix 1 Corporate Risk Register Public Switched Telephone Network.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

10.1 None

## **11. URGENCY**

11.1 N/A