

BRENTWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER SUMMARY SHEET 2017-2018

Row No	Risk No	Risk Description	Existing Controls	Residual Risk Rating			Current Risk Rating			Movement	Risk Response/Update on action required	Risk Owner
				Jan-17			May-17					
				*L	*I		*L	*I				
1	RSK1	<u>Finance Pressures</u> As central government grant support to the council falls away dramatically in the next 2 years, the budget gap is a major management issue.	Medium Term Financial Planning is undertaken on an annual basis, with monthly budget monitoring and half year reports to Members. A Funding Volatility Reserve has been created to specifically address the uncertainty of Government funding levels. Currently healthy reserves and working balances held.	5	5	25	5	5	25	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: Further bad news from the Local Government Finance Settlement, a £500k cut to the new homes bonus grant for 2017/18 with impact expected on subsequent years, gives the council even greater financial pressures. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: No better news has been forthcoming since December, the financial outlook still remains gloomy. Work is underway to address the 2018/19 budget deficit.</b>	John Chance
2	RSK12	<u>Extension of Right To Buy to registered provider tenants</u> Funding to be provided by the LA from the sale of high value Council houses resulting in a reduction in housing stock.	We will continue to monitor progress and update Members.	4	5	20	4	5	20	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: We have received no further information from DCLG, we will continue to monitor. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: We have received no further information from DCLG, we will continue to monitor.</b>	Angela Williams
3	RSK11	<u>Rollout of Universal Credit</u> The direct payment of universal credit to claimants (previously Housing Benefit payments) may result in a reduction on the rent roll received, increasing the level of rent arrears.	Current tenants affected by Universal Credit are being monitored by Housing Officers on a regular basis, who can be referred for budgeting advice. Updated Income Management procedure to become more client based. Introduction of new Pre-Tenancy Service to instill a payment culture. Monthly rent arrears campaign to target high risk areas.	4	4	16	4	4	16	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: We have seen a further impact on households that are in TA, although low numbers, who are subject to the benefit cap causing tenants to fall into unintentionally fall into arrears. Further referrals are being made to HB for DHP, however not sustainable long term, further joint working with HB to help partially fund DHP from the homeless prevention fund. At present direct payments to tenants is planned for 2019. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: No further update, position remains the same.</b>	Angela Williams
4	RSK2	<u>Local Development Plan</u> Failure of the Council to adopt a Plan in line with National Planning Policy Framework resulting in planning applications judged against NPPF 'in favour of sustainable development'	Meeting targets set out in the Plan timetable, with ongoing discussion with neighbouring Local Planning Authorities. Retention of permanent staff. Risk impact is high but controls are in place to manage this and meet targets, which means likelihood is lower.	3	5	15	3	5	15	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: Report taken to Policy, Finance & Resources Committee regarding implications to the LDP timetable from a number of external factors. Recommendation approved to have the LDP Member Working Group propose a revised timetable to account for these issues and present to future committee. Risk is being monitored but remains the same. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: Revised timetable to be taken to Special Council meeting on 21 June 2017, along with further consultation document (Focused Consultation) on Draft Plan.</b>	Phil Drane

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5	RSK3	<u>Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity</u> Failure to respond effectively to an incident/event due to lack of robust Emergency Planning & Business Continuity Plans results in service disruption and inability to deliver key services.	Most services have Business Continuity Plans in place but likely to be outdated. Insurance cover. Alternative fuel stocks /supplies. Pandemic flu plan in place. A business continuity guide has been produced for businesses and an Emergency Planning Guide produced for residents.	2	4	8	3	4	12	↑	COMMENT JAN 2017: The overarching plan has been completed for 2017/18 but is being re-amended to reflect current understood delegations/titles. Departmental Plans format is being revisited to reflect changes in the way data is stored/retrieved thus making information more secure. The future organisation of some services is unclear which will impact upon the timely completion of Departmental Plans. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: Awaiting management response.</b>	Mark Stanbury
6	RSK13	<u>Failure to deliver key Corporate Projects</u> There are a number of projects that are vital to supporting and delivering the vision for Brentwood. Failure to implement/deliver these projects will either mean a loss to the community or a loss of income.	PF&R Committee appointed as Programme Board. Continued communication on all projects. Ownership of delivery of projects identified at all levels within the Council.	2	5	10	2	5	10	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: Progress is being made on a number of areas to confirm the no change status. To substantiate this a number of presentations have been made to the PFR committee and Full Council. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: The newly formed Corporate Projects Scrutiny Committee will take a close look at key Corporate Projects and reflects the importance placed upon them. A paper has been prepared which will be presented to PPR committee and then forwarded to CPSC. This emphasises the importance of key projects and the close monitoring of them by members.</b>	Phil Ruck
7	RSK5	<u>Information Management and Security</u> If a data breach occurs (e.g. Unauthorised release of personal information) the Council may be fined by the ICO and be subject to damages and loss of reputation.	Data Protection Policy Regular training	3	3	9				↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: The Council has engaged extra resources to roll out new information governance policies and procedures to be fully in place by April 2017. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: Awaiting management comments.</b>	Daniel Toohey
8	RSK4	<u>Organisational Capacity</u> Lack of capacity to effectively govern the organisation will result in delay in delivery of business objectives	Medium Term Financial Plan. Communications Protocol & Strategy. Workforce Strategy. Regular meetings between senior members & officers. Review options for alternative service delivery models.	2	4	8	2	4	8	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: We are continuing with the process in line with Corporate Procedures and policies. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: We continue to review all structures in light of performance supported by delivery. Any variances are being closely reviewed to ensure we have a structure that delivers both services and projects.</b>	Phil Ruck

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9	RSK8	<u>Contract/Partnership Failure</u> Key to delivering efficiency benefits and outcomes relating to contracts is the way in which they are delivered. Management of contract/partnership arrangements is vital to ensure that we reach and deliver the outcomes we need.	Service Level Agreements embedded within contract and penalties in place for non performance. Regular reporting on contract performance. Escalation and governance in place.	2	4	8	2	4	8	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: We have held a number of training exercises re the whole area of contract management and improvements put in place. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: We have held a procurement review which has focused on the end to end procurement process, not just the pricing element. This has been supported by staff training and member training is scheduled for July 2017.</b>	Phil Ruck
10	RSK7	<u>Commercial Activities</u>	Medium Term Financial Planning is undertaken on an annual basis, with monthly budget monitoring. Regular reports to Asset and Enterprise Cttee to provide close monitoring. Robust business modeling and financial projections.	2	4	8	2	3	6	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: We are currently developing the business case for this, which will involve both new service arrangements and the review of assets of the organisation. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: With the financial outlook unfavourable it is essential we explore all opportunities for enhancing commercial activities. The Council is currently working with EELGA and other partners to develop strategies.</b>	John Chance
11	RSK10	<u>Failure to spend Capital Receipts</u> Failure to spend capital receipts within the deadline will result in delays in delivering Affordable Housing programme	Monitoring by finance team. Affordable housing programme in place.	1	5	5	1	5	5	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: Risk rating reduced as we have one live site and 5 x garage sites for Whittington Rd at pre-app stage. 5 further sites agreed to pursue in addition to Maple Close site. Further 2 properties are being purchased alongside development programme ahead of June 17 deadline. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: On track, 1 further property purchased and one more being finalised. Whittington Road sites are progressing and are currently at the Stakeholder Engagement stage.</b>	Angela Williams
12	RSK9	<u>Lack of Strategic Direction</u> Without a clearly defined vision, the organisation is in danger of managing services only and losing the impact of much needed change supported by clear targets. If we do not follow a clear strategic path we will find ourselves falling behind and potentially failing residents	Corporate Plan. Training and Development for Officers and Members Code of Conduct. Consultation / surveys. Project and performance Management Framework.	1	4	4	1	4	4	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: The Vision for Brentwood is being rolled out with adherence to the budget and key strategies are being developed supporting this. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: Delivery of the Vision is being controlled by strong and robust programme and project management. CLB now hold monthly P&amp;P focused meetings.</b>	Phil Ruck
13	RSK14	That outsourcing/shared service arrangements result in the Council's democratic duties not being fulfilled or ignored leading to a failure in the Council's obligations.	Statutory returns will be built into contracts relating to any outsourcing/shared arrangements. The Monitoring Officer to be involved at all times in relation to contracts and monitoring of performance.	1	2	2	1	2	2	↔	COMMENT JAN 2017: This risk is being managed on an ongoing basis by contract management and the involvement of the Monitoring Officer. <b>COMMENT MAY 2017: This risk continues to be managed on an ongoing basis by contract management and the involvement of the Monitoring Officer.</b>	Phil Ruck

