

COVID RISK REGISTER - Q1 2020/21

	HIGH LEVEL DASHBOARD													
Nr	Theme	STRATEGIC & CORPORATE RISKS - SUMMARY	CLT LEAD	1 2 Like	3 4	4 5 od	1 2	3 npac	4 5 t	CURRENT OVERALL STATUS	_	RIOD AGO		
1	Contract Management	Viability of our providers, contractors, suppliers including concerns around sustainabilitly of key markets and failure to provide essential services.	CLT - Richard Penska							HIGH			The procurement team are working with Service Leads and Contract Managers to assess the ongoing viability of providers and market sectors, and reporting back to DLTs as part of the contract monitoring performance reporting. The effectiveness of these arrangements is yet to be tested. Known areas that represent significant risks are Care Sector; transport and leisure. The Cabinet Office have issued a new PPN, which in effect updates the Supplier Relief arrangements and extends them until 31st October 2020. It also highlights the importance of reviewing the scope and viability of all contracts given the impact of COVID-19.	
2	Finance	Council financial viability – liquidity, sustainable budget position	CLT - Richard Penska							HIGH			COVID 19 impacts are being tracked and modelled and inidicative in-yeat budget gap identified dependent on future level of Govt funding. DLTs working on mitigation to bring in a balanced budget, due to playback to CLT on 17th June.	
3	Safeguarding	Safeguarding of vulnerable adults & children during lockdown	CLT - Sheila Smith							HIGH			There is a safeguarding risk in the Strategic Risk Register and whilst there will always be risk, there are both operational and strategic mitigations. The Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safeguarding Children's Partnership are in place with a range of sub-groups and multi-agency quality assurance systems which inform their strategic challenge of all organisations with responsibilities for safeguarding vulnerable children and adults. Both of these groups have met during the Covid-19 'lockdown' period and received qualitative and quantitative data in regard to how agencies are discharging their responsibilities. In operational terms we have continued to respond to all referrals of concern although these have been much reduced in number, particularly in relation to children. The LA has sought to mitigate this by maintaining close contact with schools and early years settings so that there has been oversight of the most vulnerable children. Whilst not all families have been seen physically as much as in this period, workers have used digital devices to keep in contact where face to face visits have not been possible. All child protection referrals have been responded to, with visits taking place and workers using PPE when appropriate. Workers undertook risk assessments on all children who had a social worker but it is important to recognise that there may be children in the community who are 'hidden' because they aren't in school and who may be in stressful, harmful situations. Clearly when 'lockdown' is eased we may see an increase in referrals – already the number of referrals is slowly going up but we are confident that a return to previous levels can be responded to in a timely manner. It will only be if the number goes above the norm that additional mitigations would need to be put in place e.g. moving additional staff into the Referral and Assessment Team in Children's or considering additional capacity in the Adults Safeguarding Unit.	
4	Public Health/Social Care	Infection prevention and control (including PPE) within the Care Sector	CLT - Matt Lenny							MEDIUM			Weekly group meeting including public health and adult social care alongside health colleagues to review care home needs and ensure supply of Infection Prevention and Control resources and advice.	
5	Equalities	Widening of inequalities across the District with service/population impacts	CLT - Matt Lenny							HIGH			Future planning will use PHE tools and local data sources to identify and track areas of risk, e.g. later presentation for chronic illness, mental health and wellbeing needs or disjointed service provision/coordination. Issue being addressed through BNSSG Healthier Together partnership, at local and BNSSG wide Health and Wellbeing Board forums. More work to do to move from awareness to detailed actions to target key locations and population groups.	
6	Regulatory Services	Advice and enforcement activity for regulatory services	CLT - Matt Lenny							HIGH			Teams have been proactively communicating with key audiences with FAQ guidance. Activity remains high but still being delivered. Likely to be some surge in enforcement activity following additional lockdown lift in early July, particularly around hospitality/tourism sector.	
7	Operations	Failure to capture & maximise opportunities (e.g. community engagement). Continue to use additional capacity generated by volunteers and community groups	CLT - Jo Walker							HIGH			The work with our communities and voluntary sector continues via NS Together and other existing pre Covid relationships. We are exploring both through internal discussions and with our partners how we can use our covid experience to stengthen relationships and support the council with demand for its services whilst also strengthening community resilience	
8	Local Economy	Ability to transition the public environment into safe & vibrant spaces (transition out of lockdown)	CLT - Lucy Shomali							MEDIUM			Coordinated officer groups are managing and implementing car parking, highway social distancing measures, safely reopening town centres initiatives and immediate Economic Recovery measures. This has become a rapid and high intensity programme of work and is significantly diverting resource from business as usual and strategic aims. Should include a strategic approach licensing and street trading. Significant local and member expectations to be managed through proportionate engagement.	

9	Local Economy	Recessional economic impacts & recovery including impacts on the housing market	CLT - Lucy Shomali			HIGH	Impact likely to be significant with number of people employed in visitor, aviation and retail. North Somerset's housing delivery is disproportionately reliant on traditional open market product delivered by volume housebuilders. Local Plan must prioritise diversification of residential products including counter cyclical products to maximise market absorbtion. New Economic Plan to set out NSC ambition now in preparation following initial briefing with Exec. Future Economy Steering Group being set up for series of workshops to work towards publication later in summer. NSC actively engaging with regional partners and Homes England about interventions in housing market to introduce counter cyclical products into the market Working with housebuilders and HAs to understand how to keep building.
10	Local Economy	Further decline of Town Centres and High Streets in particular WSM	CLT - Lucy Shomali			HIGH	Lockdown has exacerbated and accelerated existing trends toward contraction, consolidation and diversification with increase of online consumption and fulfillment. Planning policy and placemaking programmes should be targeted to capture opportunities to facilitate change of use and surgical consolidation of activity. Weston Placemaking Strategy and package of post lockdown measures will be able to focus priorities and make an immediate impacts. Likely collapse in WsM property values could significantly exacerbate accute inequalities and public health concerns in the town centre without intervention, but with fundamental market failure will require public sector intervention, for which need capital and revenue support will be needed. Strategic repositioning of Sovereign Centre through business plan and capital projects could be a key enabler in WsM.
11	Infrastructure	Long term impacts on public transport infrastructure and providers and ability to maintain progress around active travel	CLT - Lucy Shomali			нідн	Significant concerns on viability of public transport operations during social distancing and recovery beyond. Will require substantial support for services, promotions and infrastructure from NSC and Central Government. Smaller operators risk of collapse remains. Much officer resource diverted to COVID response and September mobilisation of HTST. Walking and cycling social distancing requires reprogramming of LTP Capital Programme and increased resourcing in 'Traffic' functions to enable. Both areas form a key part of any green and just recovery planning. Cycling in particular delivers significant economic benefits as per DfT studies. PT should also consider other forms such as Mobility as a Service and Demand Responsive functionality.
12	Operations	Delivery of public facing services through transition and service reconfiguration	CLT - Richard Penska			MEDIUM	Risk Assessments are in place for all services that have been reopened and Service Leaders are monitoring the safety and demand of operations. CLT have established a Transitions Steering Group to oversee the opening of the council's main offices and gateway.
13	Workforce	Ability to effectively work remotely/ Workforce management	CLT - Paul Morris			MEDIUM	Most staff are able to work remotely from home and those staff that are unable to do so will be encourage to return to the office when the offices are reconfigured to support social distancing. The Transitions Steering Group are reviewing the effectiveness of current arrangements and what further actions need to be taken in the interim period. A further more strategic review is being commissioned and do to go out to tender on 22nd June.
14	Workforce	Support employee mental health & wellbeing	CLT - Paul Morris			нідн	Employee Assistance Programme in place to provide support. HR POlicie sto be reviewed to reflect higher levels of anxiety and concerns about returning to workplace
15	Workforce	Ability to transition into a new way of working within an office	CLT - Richard Penska/Paul Morris			MEDIUM	Offices can re-open with operating procedures as set out in the Government Safe Working Environment guidelines - however the occupancy levels will need to be circa 25% of previous levels to meet safe distance working requirements. This is likely to be met only if home working continues for large numbers of staff. E-learning training packages being developed to provide support and guidance on expected ways of working.
16	H&S	Ensuring that Risk Assessments are completed and all mitigating measures are followed for different working arrangements - office working, home visiting, reception opening, etc	CLT - Paul Morris			нідн	Generic Risk Assessmnets being developed for Buildings, Schools, Nurseries, Reception, Outside Working, Home Visiting, Vulnerable employees

1	. Informatio Manageme		CLT - Richard Penska			HIGH	In mitigation we are mainly relying on existing arrangements although we increased the number of intelligence feeds. These now include: NCSC (and its sector forum, CiSP) NHS CareCert The South West WARP (has a very active Slack workspace for cyber security) NAFN (LGA) We also exchange information with OneWest and South Glos on a regular basis. We have also implemented the Protective DNS service at the start of the year. This is sponsored by NCSC and prevents us from being able to resolve computer names of known malicious sites into computer addresses and hence stops visits or communication with them. We have at least one case which this intercepted a large number of attempts to get to a malicious site from within the network.
1	Climate Emerç	Delivery of our climate emergency strategy and action plan	CLT - Lucy Shomali			нідн	Significant expectations within the member group and local community networks to capture the opportunities presented by Covid, including for NSC-led interventions. Clearly this could result in financial pressures (though some culd be considered an investment if financial position allows - eg solar). Much of the officer resource to drive existing projects across the business is currently diverted to Covid-19 response related initiatives and is impacting progress. Climate Emergency Project Manager should be key part of any transformation programme across the business.