

THE MORAY COUNCIL

RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

1 Introduction

The Council recognises that adverse degrees of risk will impact on its ability to deliver quality services, deflect it from its corporate and departmental objectives and hamper efforts to deliver continuous improvement in line with the Best Value agenda. As a large organisation the Council is exposed to a wide variety of risks. It is therefore committed to the conscious and proactive management of these risks.

By definition risk management covers all the processes involved in identifying, assessing and judging risks, taking actions to mitigate or anticipate them, and monitoring and reviewing progress.

2 Policy

The Moray Council's policy is to pursue a structured approach to the effective management of risk in pursuit of business objectives. This approach and the framework for its achievement is set out in the Risk Management Strategy, which details the process of integrated activities by which the potential impact of risks to the achievement of the organisation's objectives is managed.

The policy is underpinned by the Council's corporate objectives and its core values and also supports its governance obligations.

3 Objectives

The objectives of the risk management policy are to:

- ◆ Ensure compliance with statutory obligations;
- ◆ Fulfil the Council's governance obligations by demonstrating transparency, accountability and equity in delivering its commitments to stakeholders;
- ◆ Preserve and enhance service delivery;
- ◆ Safeguard the interests of staff, clients or service users, members, partners and all other persons to whom the Council has a duty of care;
- ◆ Protect the Council's property and assets;
- ◆ Maintain effective control of public funds;
- ◆ Promote the reputation of the Council.

4 Applicability of the policy

This policy applies whether services are delivered in-house, through partnership arrangements or contracted out. The responsibility for risk management therefore lies with the provider of the service who is ultimately accountable to the Council for demonstrating its risk processes and practices align with the Council's requirements in this area.