



# Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Fire Authority

---

**Meeting and date:** Overview and Audit Committee, 15 March 2023

**Report title:** Corporate Risk Management

**Lead Member:** Councillor Keith McLean, Health, Safety and Corporate Risk

**Report sponsor:** Graham Britten, Director of Legal & Governance

**Author and contact:** Stuart Gowanlock, Corporate Planning Manager

[sgowanlock@bucksfire.gov.uk](mailto:sgowanlock@bucksfire.gov.uk)

**Action:** Decision

**Recommendations:**

1. That the status of identified corporate risks at Annex C be reviewed and approved.
2. That comments be provided to officers for consideration and attention in future updates / reports.

---

**Executive summary:**

This report provides an update on the current status of identified corporate risks. Risk registers are maintained at project, departmental and directorate levels. Corporate risks are those that have been escalated from these levels for scrutiny by the Strategic Management Board (SMB) because of their magnitude, proximity or because the treatments and controls require significant development.

Officers draw on a range of sources to assist with the identification and evaluation of corporate risks. For example, membership of the Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum (TVLRF)'s Strategic Coordinating Group (SCG) facilitates active monitoring of a range of risks with the potential for impacts on local communities and services.

Involvement with the Local Resilience Forum directly links officers into national Government agencies and departments such as the UK Health Security Agency and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. This allows the sharing of intelligence and information with those who are making decisions at the very highest levels.

The TVLRF SCG enables its partners to jointly develop combined responses to civil emergencies, and strategic consequence management. This multi-agency partnership approach helps target activity directly to the needs of the public.

The Corporate Risk Register was last reviewed by the Overview and Audit Committee at its 9 November 2022 meeting. Since then, it has been subject to review by the Performance Monitoring Board (PMB), at which all the directorate and departmental

risk registers are reviewed, and by SMB at its monthly meetings. Also, Lead Members have been consulted during the evaluation process for risks falling within their portfolios of responsibility.

Since the last Overview and Audit Committee review, the Corporate Risk Register has been updated to reflect:

- The inclusion of a specific industrial relations risk, specified at appendix 3 (pages 3-4) following the outcome of the FBU's ballot for strike action;
- The Government's decision to - allow all fire authorities to increase Council Tax by £5 (Band D), increase Business Rates / RSG revenue streams by September 2022's CPI inflation rate of 10.1% and withdraw the Authority's USAR Grant provision from the end of March 2023 – the net impact of these changes on the Medium Term Financial Plan has facilitated a reduction in the risk probability score to 3 resulting in a reversion to amber RAG status;
- The withdrawal of specific Covid related absence and mitigation measures with residual controls absorbed into business as usual processes and procedures (risk probability score reduced to 3 resulting in a green RAG status);
- Current steps being taken to explore the potential to improve the Service's capabilities in relation to wildfire and other types of outdoor fires.

The current distribution of corporate risks relative to probability and potential impact is shown at Appendix 1.

Changes to the corporate risk ratings over the last 12 months are shown at Appendix 2.

Detailed assessments of identified corporate risks are shown in the Corporate Risk Register at Appendix 3.

The next Overview and Audit Committee review is provisionally scheduled for 19 July 2023 (subject to confirmation at the Authority's annual meeting on 14 June), preceded by review at the 16 May 2023 SMB meeting.

---

### **Financial implications:**

No direct financial implications arising from the presentation of this report. It is envisaged that the further development of the Authority's corporate risk management framework will be undertaken from within agreed budgets.

### **Risk management:**

The development, implementation and operation of effective corporate risk management structures, processes and procedures are considered critical to assure continuity of service to the public, compliance with relevant statutory and regulatory requirements and the successful delivery of the Authority's strategic aims, priorities and plans.

### **Legal implications:**

None directly arising from this report. Any legal consequences associated with the crystallisation of individual risks are detailed in the Risk Register report at Appendix 3.

Within the role description of a Lead Member is a requirement 'to attend the Overview and Audit Committee, at its request, in connection with any issues associated with the portfolio which is the subject of scrutiny'

**Privacy and security implications:**

None directly arising from the presentation of this report. However, potential risks to privacy and security together with mitigating actions are captured within applicable risk evaluations.

**Duty to collaborate:**

The potential to share corporate risk intelligence with neighbouring fire and rescue services and other relevant agencies will be considered. Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Fire Authority already participates in the multi-agency Thames Valley Local Resilience Forum which produces a Community Risk Register which is among the sources used to identify potential risks to the Authority.

**Health and safety implications:**

Development of the framework does not impact directly on the legal compliance to health and safety, however if risks are not appropriately identified or evaluated then this may present Health and Safety risks.

**Environmental implications:**

None directly arising from the presentation of this report. However, potential environmental implications together with mitigating actions are captured within applicable risk evaluations.

**Equality, diversity, and inclusion implications:**

No direct implications from the presentation of this report. However, risks to achieving the Authority's equality, diversity and inclusion objectives or compliance with relevant statutes or regulations are identified assessed and managed via this process and are currently monitored within the HR Risk Register. Equality Impact Assessments are undertaken on strategies, change, procedures and projects.

**Consultation and communication:**

Senior managers and principal officers are key stakeholders in the development of the corporate risk management framework and have an active role in this at every stage as well as in ongoing identification, evaluation and monitoring of corporate risks. The Lead Member for Health, Safety and Corporate Risk is also be involved in the development of the framework with particular responsibility for determining the reporting arrangements for the Authority.

**Background papers:**

The current Corporate Risk Management Policy was approved at the 24 March 2021 Executive Committee:

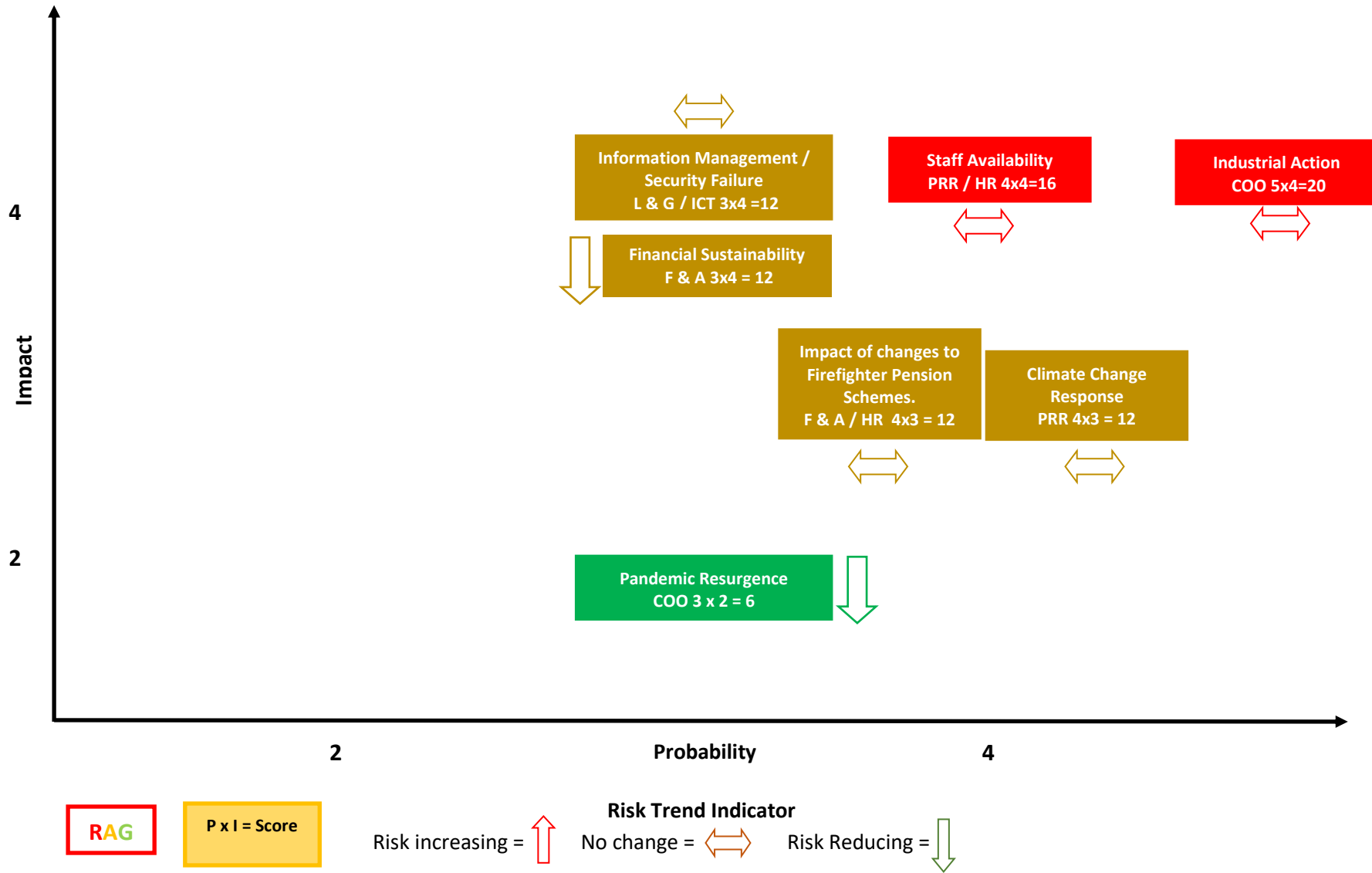
<https://bucksfire.gov.uk/documents/2021/03/ec-240321-item-5.pdf/>

Fire Authority Members were last updated on the status of the Authority's Corporate Risks at the 9 November 2022 Overview and Audit Committee meeting:

<https://bucksfire.gov.uk/documents/2022/10/oa-091122-item-11.pdf/>

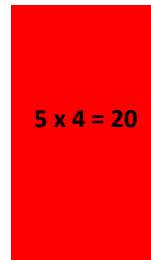
<b>Appendix</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Protective Marking</b>
1	Distribution of Corporate Risks as at 21 February 2023.	None
2	12 Month View of Changes to Corporate Risks	None
3	Corporate Risk Register Report	None

# Appendix 1: Corporate Risk Map – As at 21 February 2023



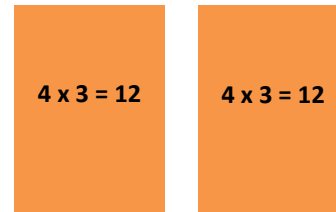
## Appendix 2 – Risk Register Changes (12 Month View)

### Industrial Action



Feb 2023

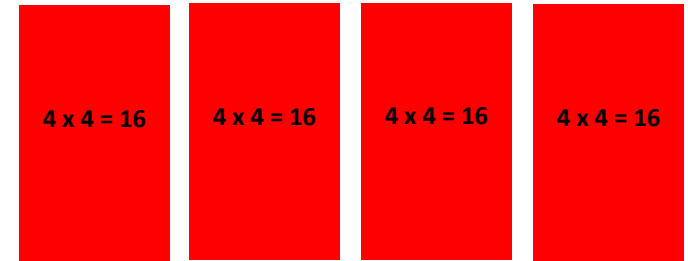
### Climate Change Response



Nov 2022

Feb 2023

### Staff Availability



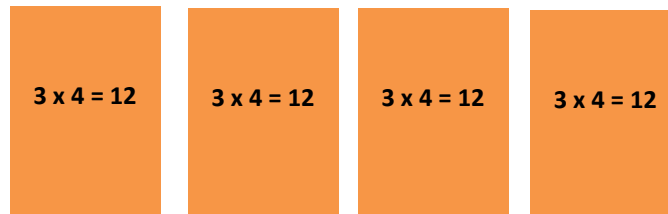
Mar 2022

July 2022

Nov 2022

Feb 2023

### Information Management / Security Failure



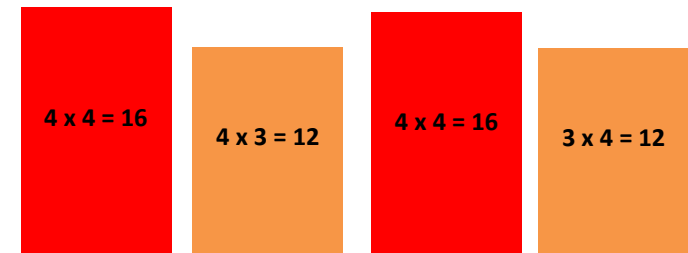
Mar 2022

July 2022

Nov 2022

Feb 2023

### Financial Sustainability



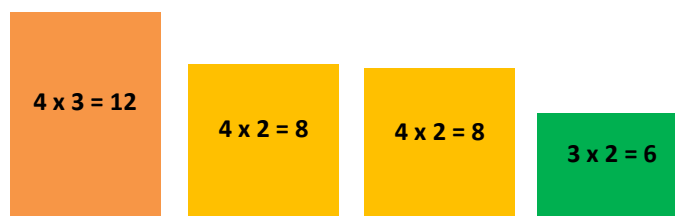
Mar 2022

July 2022

Nov 2022

Feb 2023

### Risk of Covid-19 Resurgence / Pandemic Flu



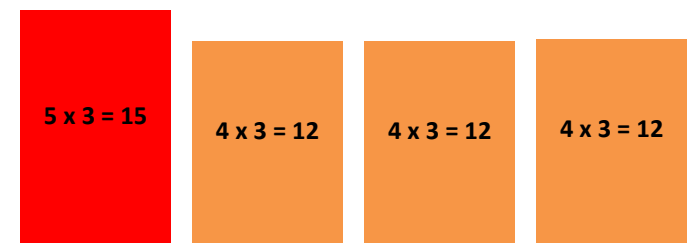
Mar 2022

July 2022

Nov 2022

Feb 2023

### Impact of Changes to Firefighter Pension Schemes



Mar 2022

July 2022

Nov 2022

Feb 2023

## Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

### Corporate Risks

Risk Description	Resp.	Consequences if Untreated Risk Occurs	Risk Score (Former) / New			Risk Level	Current Treatment	RAG	Comments / Further Treatment Proposed		
			P	I	Σ	HML					
<p><b>Staff Availability: 1/ Staff inability or reduced ability to work due to disruption caused by factors such as Pandemic Flu, fuel supply issues, industrial action etc.</b></p> <p><b>2/Impact of employment market conditions on attraction of new staff, retention and overall workforce stability.</b></p> <p><b>3/ Simultaneous loss of Principal Officers / Senior Management</b></p>	Lead Member for Service Delivery, Protection & Collaboration	Potential detrimental effects on service delivery to the community and the Service's reputation.	(2)	(5)	(10)	(M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Business continuity plans in place &amp; uploaded to Resilience Direct.</li> <li>Succession Plans in place for key leadership and management personnel.</li> <li>Contingency arrangements in place to mitigate risks to Principal Officer operational rota capacity.</li> <li>Peer review of the business continuity arrangements</li> <li>Bank System</li> <li>Flexi-Duty System Pilot</li> <li>Staff Transfer Procedure</li> <li>Employee assistance and welfare support</li> <li>Training Needs Assessment process</li> <li>Monitoring of staff 'stability ratio' relative to best practice and sector norms</li> <li>Review of Resourcing and Retention strategies</li> <li>Wider range of contracts offering more flexible ways of working</li> <li>A variety of approaches are being adopted to replenish the workforce. These include more operational apprentices, transferees, and re-engagement options</li> <li>Workforce planning data is regularly reviewed with Prevention, Response &amp; Resilience, HR and Finance.</li> </ul>	R	<p><b>23 August 2022 SMB</b> Workforce Planning Group meeting regularly to progress recruitment actions for Wholetime, transferees, On Call, Support Services. Spreadsheet and dashboard in place to track progress. CFO agreed Support Services Employees pay two per cent from 1 July 2022, await outcome of Grey-book pay. Industrial action expected, planning in place. <b>20 September 2022 SMB</b> Following their rejection of the initial two per cent pay offer from the employers, on 5 September the FBU announced their next steps including their intention to ballot members regarding strike action in 5 weeks' time (week commencing 10 October). Temporary Area Commander – Industrial Action – in position from 12 September to ensure resilience and comprehensive plans. Wholetime and Transferee recruitment progressing in line with Workforce Planning Group. Promotion/Development Centres being held in September for Watch, Crew and Station <b>18 October 2022 SMB</b> The FBU have recommended that their members reject a revised offer of a five per cent increase to firefighter pay from national employer representatives. A consultative ballot of FBU members will now take place: <a href="#">All members briefing on revised 5% pay offer   Fire Brigades Union (fbu.org.uk)</a> <b>15 November 2022 SMB</b> On 31 October the <a href="#">FBU launched a consultative ballot</a> of members on whether to accept the 5 per</p>		
			(5)	(5)	(25)	(H)					
			(3)	(5)	(15)	(H)					
			(4)	(5)	(20)	(H)					
			(3)	(5)	(15)	(H)					
			(5)	(4)	(20)	(H)					
	Chief Operating Officer	Failure to discharge statutory duties.	(4)	(3)	(12)	(M)					
			(5)	(3)	(15)	(H)					
			(4)	(3)	(12)	(M)					
			(5)	(3)	(15)	(H)					
			(3)	(3)	(9)	(M)					
			(4)	(3)	(12)	(M)					
	4			4						16	

## Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

<p><b>Team members.</b></p> <p><b>This is a composite risk more detailed evaluations of individual risk components are contained in the HR Directorate Risk Register.</b></p>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth bids to be considered to support future resourcing demands.</li> <li>• HR are reviewing the future promotion and career development options</li> <li>• Resourcing levels are constantly monitored to ensure coverage.</li> <li>• The Recruitment Oversight Board meets periodically to review resourcing and ensure a joined-up approach.</li> <li>• Pensions remedy consultation received, response to be drafted. Workforce planning to be reviewed for implications and plans put in place</li> <li>• GC/AC development centre held.</li> <li>• CC/WC/SC development centre held in September 2020.</li> <li>• On-call virtual awareness evenings held, and recruitment continues ensuring compliance with government guidance.</li> </ul>	<p>cent pay offer from the employers. The FBU's Executive Council is recommending that members vote to reject the offer. The ballot is on the pay offer itself, with rejection not automatically leading to strike action for which a further ballot would be required. Preparation and Communications with employees continue. Meetings with Support Services staff taking place in early November. Wholetime, transferee, On call and support recruitment continues. The Workforce Planning Group meets monthly to ensure a joined up approach.</p> <p><b><u>17 January 2023 SMB</u></b> Risk of industrial action by FBU members migrated to separate entry in Corporate Risk Register given potential imminence of risk crystallisation following rejection of national employers' pay offer and ongoing strike ballot. Further recruitment for Apprentices planned for October intake.</p> <p><b><u>21 February 2023 SMB</u></b> Workforce planning group due to meet 13 February. OnCall to Wholetime transferee (internal) advert open. 16 Apprentices plus 1 Firefighter trainee to start 1 March. 2 March cohort applicants, starting in October, as can't be released form RAF before then. Wholetime advert 20 February to 26 March. On Call and Wholetime Crew and Watch Commander (internal and external) transferee advert opens 16 February and On Call and Wholetime Firefighter (internal and external) transferee advert opens 12 May. Recruitment Fairs planned in throughout 2023. Updates given at SMB and Executive Committee.</p>
---	--	--	--	--	---	--



### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

Risk Description	Resp.	Consequences if Untreated Risk Occurs	Risk Score (Former) / New			Risk Level	Current Treatment	RAG	Comments / Further Treatment Proposed
			P	I	Σ				
<b>Disruption to service delivery functions due to industrial action by Fire Brigades Union Members.</b>	Lead Member for Service Delivery, Protection & Collaboration	Detrimental effects on service delivery to the community and the Service's reputation.	5	4	20	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business continuity plans in place &amp; uploaded to Resilience Direct.</li> <li>• Industrial Action tactical group meets weekly.</li> <li>• Industrial Action Strategic group meets weekly.</li> <li>• Industrial Action standing agenda item at weekly SMT.</li> <li>• Regular communications with local FBU Officials.</li> <li>• Regular staff engagement and communications.</li> <li>• Staff survey of operational staff intentions to support strike action or to work.</li> <li>• Staff survey of support staff intentions to support additional activities in response to strike action.</li> <li>• Recruitment and training of 'Resilience Fire Crews', through employment agency.</li> <li>• MACA request to utilise military premises as holding points during periods of strike action.</li> <li>• Expression of interest to be included within national MACA request for military personnel support.</li> <li>• Number of appliances identified to be kept aside for strike cover, for the period of the pay dispute.</li> <li>• BFRS included as part of Thames Valley Fire Control resilience contract provided by Securitas.</li> </ul>	R A G	Following the close of the consultative ballot, with 79% voting to reject the 5% offer, and 78% of eligible members voting in the ballot, the FBU started their next steps in moving to a formal dispute regarding pay.
	Chief Operating Officer	Increased risk to the public (including life and property), economy and the environment due to inadequate or insufficient response to emergency incidents.							On 21 November 2022, the FBU submitted letters to employers setting out a trade dispute on the issue of pay.
		Failure to discharge statutory target duties.							On 28 November 2022, they notified all employers of their intention to ballot members for strike action.
		Disruption to service support functions due to need to divert staff to provide support to front line operations.							On 5 December 2022, a ballot commenced of all members, with a recommendation to vote in favour of strike action.
		Delay to implementation of Service plans and projects due to need to divert staff to provide support							On 30 January 2023, this ballot will close.

Depending on the ballot result, 14 days' notice would be required of any planned strike dates, first viable strike date being 16 February 2023.

**21 February 2023**  
 On 30 January 2023, the FBU [announced](#) the outcome of their ballot for strike action with 88% of members who participated voting in favour. The turnout was 73%.

On 8 February, the national employers agreed to a 7% pay rise backdated to July 2022 and a further 5% pay rise from July 2023. On 10 February the FBU Executive Council unanimously recommended that members accept the revised

### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

		to front line operations.					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thames Valley Concept of Operations developed, to deliver Command &amp; Control function.</li> <li>• Exercising of the above to provide assurance of call handlers, mobilising ability and communication pathways.</li> <li>• Non station based operational staff to receive frontline refresher training.</li> <li>• Communication and engagement with high-risk premises covered by the Regulatory Fire Safety Reform Order.</li> <li>• Increased Prevention messaging once FBU strike mandate and tactics are known.</li> <li>• Review of Predetermined attendances (PDAs), with focus on life risk.</li> <li>• National Major Incident recall agreement between joint secretaries.</li> <li>• Local guidance agreed with FBU around implementing the above and recalling staff.</li> <li>• Departmental procedures developed to ensure continued delivery of statutory functions during periods of strike action (Prevention and Protection).</li> <li>• A number of personnel have been recruited and trained to undertake the role of Resilience Fire Crew, in the event of a strike.</li> <li>• 22 military personnel have been trained to operate as fire crew at a Defensive level.</li> <li>• Four military personnel trained to drive fire appliances at normal road speed.</li> </ul>	<p>pay offer and instigated a hybrid online and postal ballot which will open on Monday 20 February and close on Monday 6 March at 2pm. The FBU has agreed not to name strike dates while members are consulted on the offer.</p> <p>Whilst this is extremely positive, the national pay dispute will remain live until such a time that the FBU membership accept the pay offer. Planning for strike action will continue, with the first potential strike date now being after 20 March 2023.</p>
--	--	---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	---

## Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

Risk Description	Resp.	Consequence if Untreated Risk Occurs	Risk Score (Former) / New			Risk Level	Current Treatment	RAG	Comments / Further Treatment Proposed
			P	I	Σ				
<b>Financial Sustainability</b>	Lead Member for Finance and Assets, Information Security & IT	The Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) factors in several assumptions when forecasting the financial position.	(4)	(4)	(16)	(H)	Proactive management of the MTFP is in force and is very closely aligned to workforce planning.  As part of the budget setting process, Officers will seek to identify savings opportunities to address potential future cost pressures.  A risk-assessed General Fund reserve of £1.5m (circa five per cent of the net budget requirement) is held to cover a range of potential financial risks. In addition, earmarked reserves are held to fund specific anticipated future costs.	<b>A</b>	<p><b><u>23 August 2022 SMB</u></b> The Bank of England’s most recent Monetary Policy Report (August 2022) noted that higher energy prices are expected to push inflation to 13 per cent. The energy prices the Service was paying had decreased from Q1 to Q2 of the current year, but prices quoted for Q3 are even higher than those in Q1. Additionally, it is anticipated the pay award for staff in 2022-23 will be higher than the two per cent in the budget. It is therefore recommended that the impact score is increased, as without further funding, the Service may need to reduce establishment numbers back towards the number at the start of 2021-22. This would mean increasing the RAG score from Amber to Red – <b>Approved</b>.</p> <p><b><u>20 September 2022 SMB</u></b> Awaiting details of Government support for non-domestic energy users to facilitate assessment of likely impact on revenue budget forecast.</p> <p><b><u>18 October 2022 SMB</u></b> The announcement of the energy price cap for non-domestic customers has reduced the forecast spend for the year on gas and electricity by £400k. However, the cap is currently only confirmed to apply for six months until 31 March 2023. On 4 October 2022, the UK National Employers for Fire &amp; Rescue Services have agreed to make an improved pay offer of five per cent on all basic pay rates and continual professional development payments. While a five per cent pay award can be absorbed this year, it is because of the recent non-domestic energy support announcement and assumes no further financial pressures emerging. However, without additional funding through either grant funding and/or precept flexibility in the forthcoming Local Government Finance Settlement, the Service would not be on a sustainable footing in future years.</p>
			(3)	(4)	(12)	(M)			
	Director Finance & Assets	Future costs are significantly affected by the level of pay awards (which for most staff are determined nationally), general price inflation and changes to employer pension contributions. Future funding levels are affected by council tax referendum limits, growth in council tax and business rate bases, the level of general government funding and specific grants. If a number of these areas are significantly worse than forecast	(3)	(4)	(12)	(M)			
			(4)	(4)	(16)	(H)			
			(4)	(3)	(12)	(M)			
			(4)	(4)	(16)	(H)			
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>M</b>						

### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

		<p>there is a risk the Authority will not meet its commitment to the PSP 2020 - 25 and that a fundamental re-think of service provision would be required.</p>						<p><b><u>17 January 2023 SMB</u></b>  Outlook for funding improved following: government confirmation that fire and rescue authorities may raise Council Tax by £5 (Band D equivalent) without recourse to a referendum; and confirmation that Settlement Funding Assessment will be raised by CPI inflation rate as at September 2022 (10.1%). These measures will enable the Authority to offset the effect of inflationary pressures and reduce the likelihood of needing to draw on reserves. However, the Service has also received notification that the Government will look to discontinue the USAR grant funding that the Service receives at the end of March 2023. This is currently worth over £800k and the loss of this will need to be factored into the MTFP for 2024/25.</p> <p><b><u>21 February 2023 SMB</u></b>  The Authority approved the MTFP for 2023/24 to 2027/28 at its meeting on 15 February 2023. As noted in the update of 17 January 2023 (see above) this factored in the discontinuation of the USAR grant funding that the Service has been informally notified of. It was also updated to reflect the latest NJC pay offer of 7% from 1 July 2022 and 5% from 1 July 2023, the recently agreed twelve-month utilities contracts from 1 April 2023 and confirmed business rates payments from the billing authorities.  The net impact of all the above is that reserves are now forecast to increase very slightly during 2023-24 before remaining broadly level during the period of the MTFP. The risk is to remain at amber due to uncertainty about energy prices over the next 12 months and the sensitivity of the finances to small changes in assumed pay awards after July 2023.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---

## Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

Risk Description	Resp.	Consequences if Untreated Risk Occurs	Risk Score (Former) / New			Risk Level	Current Treatment	RAG	Comments / Further Treatment Proposed
			P	I	Σ				
<p><b>Information Management* / Security failure to -</b></p> <p><b>a) comply with statutory or regulatory requirements</b></p> <p><b>b) manage technology</b></p> <p><b>c) manage organisational resources</b></p> <p>Deliberate: unauthorised access and theft or encryption of data.</p> <p>Accidental: loss, damage or destruction of data</p>	<p>Lead Member for Finance and Assets, Information Security &amp; IT</p> <p>Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO)</p> <p>Director Legal &amp; Governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inability to access/use the e-information systems.</li> <li>Severe financial penalties from the Information Commissioner</li> <li>Lawsuits from the public whose sensitive personal information is accessed causing damage and distress.</li> </ul> <p>*Information management is concerned with the acquisition, custodianship and the distribution of information to those who need it, and its ultimate disposition through archiving or deletion. Information security is the practice of protecting information by mitigating risks such as unauthorised access and its unlawful use, disclosure, disruption,</p>	(4) <b>3</b>	(4) <b>4</b>	(16) <b>12</b>	(H) <b>M</b>	<p><b>1. Appropriate roles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SIRO has overall responsibility for the management of risk</li> <li>Information and information systems assigned to relevant Information Asset Owners (IAO's)</li> <li>Department Security Officer (DSO) the Information Governance &amp; Compliance Manager has day-to-day responsibility for the identification of information risks and their treatments</li> <li>'Stewards' assigned by IAO's with day-to-day responsibility for relevant information.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Virus detection/avoidance:</b></p> <p>Anti-Malware report – no significant adverse trends identified which indicates that improved security measures such as new email and web filters are being successful in intercepting infected emails and links.</p> <p><b>3. Policies / procedure:</b></p> <p>Comprehensive review and amendment of the retention and disposal schedules / Information Asset Registers,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>current and tested business continuity plans / disaster recovery plans</li> <li>employee training/education</li> <li>tested data/systems protection clauses in contracts and data-sharing agreements</li> <li>Integrated Impact Assessments (IIA)</li> <li>disincentives to unauthorised access e.g. disciplinary action</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Premises security:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preventative maintenance schedule</li> <li>Frequent audits at Stations and inventory aligned to asset management system.</li> </ul> <p><b>5. Training:</b></p> <p>The biennial "Responsible for Information" training supplemented by the National Cyber Security Centre's</p>	<b>A</b>	<p><b>5 April 2022 SMB Meeting</b></p> <p>Recommended that Risk Score and RAG status remain at present levels in light of National Cyber Security Centre guidance in relation to heightened virus and malware risks following measures taken by UK, EU, US and other countries in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. ICT Manager has been appointed as Single Point of Control for liaison with the Home Office in relation to related cyber risks in addition to other control measures already in place.</p> <p><b>21 June 2022 SMB</b></p> <p>Against South-East Government Warning, Advisory and Reporting Point (SEGWARP) criteria, due to interventions applied by ICT, BMKFA's email security ranking has improved since last evaluated in March 2022.</p> <p><b>20 September 2022 SMB</b></p> <p>In August Oxford Health NHS foundation trust reported that it was the subject of a ransomware attack, declaring a critical incident over the outage which targeted systems affecting its patients' care and its finance system. A reminder to BFRS staff about the danger of 'phishing' by which ransomware can be introduced to BFRS systems was published on the intranet.</p> <p><b>18 October 2022 SMB</b></p> <p>The Data Protection and Digital Information Bill (DPDI Bill) was introduced into Parliament on 18 July 2022. The second reading of the DPDI Bill did not take place on 5 September</p>

### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

		<p>deletion and corruption. As more and more information is held electronically risks have become systems, as well as process and people based and are therefore vulnerable to cyber-attacks. Cyber-crime is unrelenting and issues arise at a greater frequency than existing intrusion attempts can be resolved. As such, this is a constant on the CRR.</p>					<p>new e-learning package 'Top Tips for Staff' which has been built into the Heat training platform as a mandatory biennial package.</p>	<p>2022 as scheduled, with a new date not yet published. The potential effects of the DPDI Bill on the Authority if it were to be enacted in substantially the same form have yet to be fully evaluated, however they will likely reduce the resources needed to achieve regulatory compliance.</p> <p><b><u>15 November 2022 SMB</u></b> No change to risk score or RAG status</p> <p><b><u>17 January 2023 SMB</u></b> The UK Government Resilience Framework , published by the Cabinet Office 19 December 2022 reported that 39% of all UK businesses reported a cyber breach or attack in 2022 and warns of the risks of a Hostile State using cyber to disrupt emergency services operations, or malicious communications to reduce public cooperation with emergency services and authorities in a crisis.</p> <p><b><u>21 February 2023 SMB</u></b> Since last reported to the O&amp;A Committee (20 July 2022), against South-East Government Warning, Advisory and Reporting Point (SEGWARP) criteria, BMKFA’s email security ranking continues to improve and is expected to improve further with the installation of <a href="#">MTA-STS (Mail Transfer Agent Strict Transport Security)</a></p>
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

Risk Description	Resp.	Consequences if Untreated	Risk Score (Former) / New			Risk Level	Current Treatment	RAG	Comments / Further Treatment Proposed
			P	I	Σ	HML			
Risk of resurgence of Covid-19 and / or seasonal influenza in 2022/23	Lead Member for Health and Safety and Corporate Risk	Increased levels of sickness absence amongst staff.	(4)	(3)	(12)	(M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of sanitisation regimes in all Authority workplaces</li> <li>Confirmed Covid established as absence type</li> <li>Free seasonal flu jabs available to all staff.</li> <li></li> <li>Pandemic management plan in place</li> </ul>	L	<p><b>5 April 2022 SMB</b> The effect of the vaccine programme and residual control measures continues to keep staff Covid related staff absence levels within manageable levels. The ability to provide staff with access to Lateral Flow Tests remains to assist with infection control. No change to risk score or RAG status recommended.</p> <p><b>21 June 2022 SMB</b> Case rates are currently low across the country and whilst staff are still contracting coronavirus, absence levels are lower than experienced previously. We continue to monitor the situation, as the media is starting to suggest that there are early indications of cases starting to rise once again, especially in Scotland.</p> <p><b>20 September 2022 SMB</b> After a peak of infections during July, cases have reduced once again. The booster programme is underway for selected population groups, and BFRS is offering a free Flu vaccination to all staff this autumn. As we approach winter pressures and expect further rises in Covid infections, we continue to monitor this risk, which can translate to high staff absence levels when local transmission is high. Learning from this winter period will inform any decisions to close this corporate risk in the future</p> <p>Flu vaccinations for employees taking place in October and November, three locations across the county.</p> <p><b>18 October 2022 SMB</b> Case numbers are on the rise again nationally, indicating another possible wave of infections. Staff absence has increased in recent weeks but remain within previously experienced levels.</p>
	Chief Operating Officer	Potential degradation of capacity or capability to deliver key services to the public and / or sustain supporting functions.	(4)	(2)	(8)	(M)			

### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

										<p><b><u>15 November 2022 SMB</u></b>          No change to risk score or RAG status</p> <p><b><u>17 January 2023 SMB</u></b>          Whilst the media report fluctuating levels of Covid and high levels of influenza within the community, short term absence remains at tolerable levels. Covid guidance has been updated to become more generalised “winter viruses” and the last remaining covid specific controls are being closed or subsumed into BAU. Notwithstanding a resurgence of any pandemic remains a risk to the Authority, the Covid pandemic is now BAU. Covid19 group meeting 10 January, report to February BTB to present implementation plan.</p> <p><b><u>21 February 2023 SMB</u></b>          Report to February SMB, implementation plan, proposal for 1 April 2023 implementation. Pandemic group to meet mid-March to ensure actions completed. Communications to be worked on. Probability score decreased to 3 (Green RAG status).</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

Risk Description	Resp.	Consequences if Untreated Risk Occurs	Risk Score (Former) / New			Risk Level	Current Treatment	R A G	Comments / Further Treatment Proposed
			P	I	Σ				
<b>Court of Appeal ruling on the McCloud / Sargeant cases: potential impact on staff retirement profile, resourcing to implement required changes and financial impacts thereof.</b>	Lead Member for Finance and Assets, Information Security & IT  Director Finance & Assets	Failure to discharge statutory duties.  Failure to comply with legal requirements.  Unknown / unquantified budgetary impacts.	(5)	(3)	(15)	H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential impacts on costs to be factored into future Medium-Term Financial Planning process.</li> <li>Recruitment of dedicated specialist resource to evaluate requirements arising from the Court of Appeal ruling and implement necessary administrative changes.</li> </ul>	<b>M</b>	<p><b><u>19 October 2021 SMB</u></b>                      The LGA and the FBU have identified a mutually acceptable framework for handling immediate detriment cases, to assist all parties prior to completion and implementation of the McCloud / Sargeant remedying legislation. A paper will be presented to the meeting of the Executive Committee on 17 November 2021 recommending that the Service adopts this framework. The framework will have internal resource implications for the Service, as well as resourcing implications for its pension administrator.</p> <p><b><u>18 January 2022 SMB</u></b>                      On 17 November 2021 the Executive Committee adopted the Framework with the proviso that the timescale for payments may be extended where it is beneficial to the recipient and the Service to do so. On 29 November 2021 the Home Office withdrew its informal and non-statutory guidance on processing certain kinds of immediate detriment case ahead of legislation, with immediate effect. However, the MoU and the accompanying Framework is separate from, and is not subject to or dependent on, any guidance issued in relation to immediate detriment before the legislation comes into force.</p> <p><b><u>22 February 2022 SMB</u></b>                      No changes to the risks identified since the meeting on 18 January 2022.</p> <p><b><u>5 April 2022 SMB</u></b>                      Staff retirement trends remain manageable with near term exits effected by 31 March 2022, following which remaining affected staff revert to the revised 2015 scheme. Potential financial risks arising from the 4 yearly revaluation of the scheme will be mitigated</p>
			4	3	12	M			

### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

								<p>as part of the MTFP process. No change to risk score or RAG status recommended.</p> <p><b><u>21 June 2022 SMB</u></b>          Claimants’ representatives have submitted schedules of test claimants for the purposes of the levels of financial awards to be paid by employers for ‘injury to feelings’. The LGA’s position is that employers should be recompensed by government for any awards.</p> <p><b><u>20 September 2022 SMB</u></b>          No significant developments to report. Monitoring continues. No change to risk score / RAG status.</p> <p><b><u>18 October 2022 SMB</u></b>          Cases are being processed as they arise. A provision of circa £250k had been made in the 2020-21 financial year to cover potential awards in relation to the ‘injury to feelings’ claims (referenced 21 June 2022). However, this amount is now available to use for other purposes, as the LGA confirmed on 14 October 2022 that all the settlement payment costs for FBU claimants will be met by the Government and that funds will be provided to FRAs before any payments are made to FBU claimants by FRAs</p> <p><b><u>15 November 2022 SMB</u></b>          No change to risk score or RAG status</p> <p><b><u>21 February 2023 SMB</u></b>          No significant developments to report. Monitoring continues. No change to risk score / RAG status.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

Risk Description	Resp.	Consequences if Untreated Risk Occurs	Risk Score (Former) / New			Risk Level	Current Treatment	RAG	Comments / Further Treatment Proposed
			P	I	Σ	HML			
<p>Increased risk of wildfires, flooding, gales and altered hydrology due to effects of climate change.</p> <p><a href="#">UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022 (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a></p>	<p>Vice Chairman of the Authority.</p> <p>Chief Operating Officer.</p>	<p>Failure to protect people from the risks associated with climate change including potential damage to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure and local businesses</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Food production and distribution</li> <li>• Forestry</li> <li>• Heritage</li> <li>• Sensitive environments</li> <li>• BFRS premises (building fabric)</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• CNI sites</li> </ul> <p>Inability to effectively respond during extreme weather events.</p> <p>Inability to effectively deal with increasing incidents within recycling, electricity generation and distribution, largescale battery storage, and electric/hydrogen fuelled vehicles.</p>	4	3	12	M	<p>Provision of National Operational Guidance programme which adapts to changing environment. Adoption of guidance as best practice across Thames Valley. Strategic gap analysis underway to identify and close gaps relative to national best practice.</p> <p>Provision of equipment and training to deal with wildfire, water rescue and flooding, and extreme weather events. Adverse weather procedure in place and business continuity plans for all sites. Research and development officer continues to identify new equipment and practice to mitigate emerging risks (e.g. new equipment to reduce risk involving fires with photovoltaics)</p> <p>Access to and provision of specialist tactical advisors through national resilience framework.</p> <p>Urban Search and Rescue team in-service equipped to deal with major building/infrastructure collapse</p> <p>Specialist boat rescue capability situated in north and south of county. Both included on national asset register. All staff trained appropriately in working in flood water.</p> <p>Site-specific risk assessments and risk information for high risk sites – being expanded to include broader risks such as wildfire, water rescue and flooding and transport. Access to wildfire severity index and flood forecasting data to assist planning.</p> <p>Targeted national and local prevention messaging to mitigate risks at key points in the calendar (e.g. water safety summer/winter – Barbecues spring/summer – Chimneys – Autumn).</p>	A	<p><b>20 September 2022 SMB:</b> Added to Corporate Risk Register.</p> <p>The likelihood and impact of extreme weather-related incidents has been reviewed and escalated following the exceptional summer conditions which stretched the sector beyond what was previously foreseeable.</p> <p>This has prompted a focus to ensure our capabilities are prepared for future similar events, which are now foreseeable to occur again.</p> <p>The Operational debrief process of the major incidents will capture learning to inform future decisions. Where appropriate this will be shared nationally with other Services and agencies.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the Strategic Infrastructure Resilience Group (SIRG) are to be reviewed to include analysis of current capability against foreseeable risks.</p> <p>The Service will explore possibilities of short-term adaptations to existing capabilities and consider long term requirements to inform development of new Community Risk Management Plan</p> <p>Consider any recent PESTEL factors that may have increased the risks and potential impacts to inform the next CRMP, e.g. expanding rural/urban interface increasing wildfire risks, or increased risks of flooding etc.</p> <p>The operational debriefs for the summer major incidents are underway for a ‘Lessons Learned’ report relating to extreme heat conditions experienced in July</p> <p>The NFCC is also planning to capture national work on learning and capability gaps</p>

### Appendix 3 - Corporate Risk Register – as at 21 February 2023

						<p>Back-up power generators to protect emergency response sites from power outages. Regular building surveys from facilities team. Fleet replacement programme ongoing.</p> <p>Bunkered fuel stocks and establishing fleet of alternative fuel vehicles where appropriate to mitigate risk of fuel disruption</p> <p>Strategic infrastructure group in place to horizon scan and ensure preparedness for future risks.</p> <p>Engaged with NFCC to identify and prepare for longer term “fit for the future” considerations</p> <p>Engaged in local resilience groups for flood management</p> <p>Isotonic supplements and cool boxes added to appliance inventories</p>	<p>Potential to use Northumberland FRS for Wildfire risk assessment, and learn from other services who are more influenced by prominent wildfire risks</p> <p>Impact of extreme spate / simultaneous demand risks on operating model / capacity gap to feed into future community risk management planning.</p> <p><b><u>18 October 2022 SMB</u></b> As per September update. The debrief/operational learning process is progressing through the operational assurance team and a report will be presented to the Authority once complete.</p> <p><b><u>15 November 2022 SMB</u></b> No change to risk score or RAG status.</p> <p><b><u>17 January 2023 SMB</u></b> Quotes sourced to adapt two existing 4x4 vehicles for wildfire/small fires purposes.</p> <p>Exploring options to enable existing Iveco 7.5 tonne fire appliance to be resourced as a specialist wildfire appliance.</p> <p><b><u>21 February 2023 SMB</u></b> Quotes and finance secured for 2 wildfire vehicle adaptations, and Iveco 4x4 to be recategorized as a specialist 4x4 appliance – training / fleet requirements being explored.</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--