

Warwickshire Joint Audit and Standards Committee Report Summary

Meeting Date: 25th September 2024

Subject: OPCC risk Management

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Purpose of the Report:

The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the OPCC risk register.

Recommendation:

The Committee are asked to note this report and provide feedback.

Background:

The OPCC risk register is a combined strategic and operational risk register, which is reviewed monthly by risk owners and updates provided. Within the risk register basic details regarding each risk are included which informs the classification as either strategic or operational. The gross risk analysis is scored, which is based on the likelihood and impact of the event or issue occurring. Mitigating activities are outlined, including those that are in place and those planned, to arrive at a net risk score. Progress updates are updated on a monthly basis by risk owners, and risks are reviewed at the OPCC Delivery and Assurance Board and final decisions regarding the closure of strategic risks are ultimately made by the Chief Executive, following any discussion or consultation as required.

The OPCC Internal Assurance Board, considers the risk register and any changes in scoring and progress updates when they meet. New and existing risks are discussed and decisions regarding their classification are made jointly. If risks require more immediate attention and awareness, these are raised directly, or in team meetings and escalated as necessary, an assurance board meeting is not necessarily waited upon. Only the risk map is replicated as part of this report, but further details on the risk register are available.

Executive summary

The Chief Executive last reviewed updates to all risks on the 13th September 2024. This followed discussion and recommendations from the OPCC Delivery and Assurance Board on the 25th July (August meeting cancelled due to annual leave commitments).

The below strategic risks were reported to JASC in March as being open. Since then there have been two changes. Risk 7 – the PCC fails to hold the chief constable to account was removed in July 2024, and Risk 9 which refers to a lack of knowledge regarding property conditions was added in late April.

All strategic risks are outlined below and further details regarding the changes are also included. There have been no changes to risk scoring since those last reported in March 2024 for risks 1,2,3 and 6.

Risk 1 . Police and Crime Plan is not delivered, and objectives not achieved

Risk 2 . Delivery of Estates plan not achieved

Risk 3. The risk that regional collaborations fail

Risk 6. The impact of a major incident in Warwickshire

Risk 7. The PCC fails to hold the chief constable to account

Risk 9. Lack of knowledge on property condition

Risk 7 (the PCC fails to hold the chief constable to account) was closed by the Chief Executive on the 25th July, following updates and recommendations from the Delivery and Assurance Board. It was closed following a review of the holding to account process during the summer, which included a setting out of the objectives, and the desired outcomes from the process, and incorporates the use of various trackers and feedback to monitor performance in the future. These changes have been introduced. The risk has been closed, and this issue is being treated as business as usual.

Risk 9 relates to a lack of information held on property and assets, which can impair good decision making on estate matters. The PCC has had limited information available to him regarding the condition of property, and this has been one of various factors that have contributed to the degradation of some buildings, in that investment and maintenance has not occurred at the required levels for some years. Earlier this year, stock condition surveys were undertaken, and as a result a 5 year plan is now in place for the completion of planned estates works. Works for 2024/25 have been approved via a decision notice and are fully financed. However, actual projects and their financing for 2025/26 and beyond still needs to be agreed and approved. The information is helping to inform decision making and will be considered as part of the budget process and medium term capital and revenue planning. Further detail on planned works will still be required and procurement processes will ultimately determine costs. The gross risk score is 12, against a mitigated score of 4.

The current risk map is shown below:

Impact	5. Significant	5	10	15	20	25
	4. Major	4	1 6	12	16	20
	3. Moderate	9	6	2 9	12	15
	2. Minor	2	4	6	3	10 ACTION
	1. Insignificant	1	2	3	4	5 ASSURANCE
		1. Rare	2. Unlikely	3. Possible	4. Likely	5. Almost Certain
		Likelihood				

Operational and Closed Risks

In addition to the strategic risks a total of 35 open operational risks have been identified and these are collated by area of business, based on the OPCC staffing structure. This compares to 28 open operational risks in March 2024 (last reported to this Committee). These operational risks are reviewed monthly by managers, and more formally at the Delivery and Assurance Board.

Conclusion

The PCC Delivery and Assurance Board meets quarterly and reviews the risk register in full. This process has enhanced the OPCC's strategic planning and is helping it in achieving the Police and Crime Plan objectives, through improved service delivery and risk mitigation. The combined risk register means that risks are considered more holistically and that the process for flexing risks between categories is more transparent and the process more embedded.