Report for Information

Report to Audit Committee

17 January 2011

Report of Head of Finance

Subject Corporate Risk Management Review

Purpose

To update members on the results of the review of key corporate risks and mitigation actions by the council's corporate management team.

Recommendations

That members:

- Review changes to the register as a result of review by the corporate management team.
- Review the mitigation actions to address individual risks.

Financial Consequences

The financial consequences of this report are none directly.

Risk Management

The report deals with the councils risk management processes.

Strategic Objective/Service Priorities

The report helps to achieve the strategic priority "One council:

- customer focus putting customers at the heart of everything we do;
- continuous improvement of our services; and
- cost conscious efficient and effective service delivery "

Contact Officers

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Background Documents

Audit Committee 13 May 2010 – "Corporate Risk Management Review"

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Background

- 1. The previous version of the corporate risk register was presented to Audit Committee in May 2010.
- In October 2010 members of the corporate management team and other senior managers reviewed all the risks and mitigating actions to take account of the significant changes that had occurred, and the risk register was updated with the intention of presenting it to November's Audit Committee.
- 3. However, as members wanted a separate report into the risks and contingency arrangements around the Connaught collapse, it was felt to be sensible to defer the corporate risk report and consider them together at today's meeting. This provided an opportunity for a thorough review of the register to take account of recent events and associated risks.
- 4. In addition, Zurich Management Services was asked to carry out a review and challenge of service risk registers in December 2010. As a result some service risks have either been added to the corporate register as new risks, or have been incorporated into existing corporate risks.
- 5. The updated corporate risk register is attached at **annex 1**. Reasons for the changes are summarised in the following section:

Changes to the Corporate Risk Register

- 6. For each risk in the previous version of the register, the following shows a brief summary of where the changes have been made:
 - CR01 Public sector funding. Now incorporates CR03 government policy, which has been removed. References to recession have been removed, but have added funding arrangements for other bodies. Includes reference to under-utilisation of assets from facilities and building services' risk register.
 - CR02 Single status. 'Likelihood' score reduced from 5 to 3. Although
 the proposed pay scheme is still with UNISON, it is satisfied that the
 scheme is legally compliant.
 - CR03 previously Government policy. Incorporated into CR01 and removed.
 - CR04 HCA strategic partnership. 'Impact' score reduced from 7 to 5.
 Removed reference to withdrawal or claw back of funding, as most of the
 funded projects are complete or on target. Mitigation added to take
 account of positive audit reviews.
 - CR05 previously Prioritisation. Reviewed and renamed "Delivery of the corporate plan and other key policies and strategies within the council's strategic framework." Now incorporates CR13 – implementation of key policies and strategies, which has been removed. Substantially amended to take account of updated situation. Owner is now head of strategy and programme management.

- CR06 Outsourced blue collar services. This risk has been removed
 as the risks relating to the new contracts have either disappeared (where
 the contracts are in place and arrangements are working well), or have
 actually materialised in the case of Connaught, therefore they are no
 longer risks but issues which have been addressed. Risks relating to
 contract management and major contractors are now covered under
 CR17 and CR17a.
- CR07 Neighbourhood strategy. 'Likelihood' score reduced from 4 to 3. Responsibility for mitigating actions now with head of local neighbourhood services.
- CR08 Customer demand. Minor change to 'trigger'.
- CR09 Maintenance of the housing stock. Various updates to reflect
 the actions that have been taken as a result of Connaught going into
 administration. Additional mitigation to reflect the government's planned
 changes to the housing revenue account, which should help to mitigate
 the affordability issues of maintaining the housing stock.
- CR10 Business continuity. 'Likelihood' score reduced from 4 to 3 to reflect progress made on continuity planning, which has been confirmed in a recent audit review. Various updates to reflect current position.
- CR11 previously Greater Norwich Development Partnership, renamed "Delivery of Joint Core Strategy." Addition to 'action/controls' to reflect all parties' agreement with the proposed policy framework. Additions to vulnerability, trigger and consequences to incorporate government changes to the planning framework, as taken from planning's risk register.
- CR12 IT Strategy. 'Likelihood score increased from 3 to 4. Minor changes to 'trigger' and 'consequences'.
- CR13 Implementation of key policies and strategies. Incorporated into CR05 and removed.
- CR14 previously Minimum service standards, renamed "Service standards". Mitigation added under 'action/ controls' to reflect programme of 'systems thinking' training for managers.
- CR15 previously Use of resources, renamed "Corporate governance". Although use of resources inspections under the comprehensive area assessment have been abolished, the council will still be subject to a value for money conclusion by the Audit Commission or its successor. It is therefore appropriate to retain this corporate risk. Mitigation added under 'action/ controls'.
- CR16 Environmental strategy. Substantial rewrite to reflect current position.
- CR17 Contract management. Substantial rewrite to reflect current position.
- CR17a new risk "Failure of major contractor". When corporate risks were reviewed by CMT in October 2010 this was added to CR17. But it has now been decided to separate them, as the risk scores are different, but keep them linked if possible.

- CR18 previously Impact of unitary status on service delivery. Risk removed.
- CR19 Fraud. Minor change to 'action/controls'.
- CR20 new risk "Level of reserves". Taken from Finance's service risk register. Added to corporate risks to reflect current financial pressures and the legal duty to maintain a prudent level of reserves.
- CR21 new risk "Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults".

 Taken from Local Neighbourhood Services' risk register. The risk is likely to increase due to the impact of cuts on care services.
- 7. Page 2 of the register, key corporate risks summary, has been updated to reflect the above changes.
- 8. Page 3 of the register, council priorities 2010-12, has been updated to reflect the new portfolio holders following the local elections in May and more recent senior management changes.
- 9. Risks are again shown in 'risk score' order, highest risks first.
- 10. A 'tracked' version of the register, showing all the changes in detail, can be made available if required.

Norwich City Council Key Corporate Risks

Reviewed by Audit Committee January 2010

Updated by DMTs Feb/March 2010

Reviewed by Audit Committee May 2010

Updated by Corporate Management Team October 2010

Updated by Corporate Management Team December 2010

Key Corporate Risks Summary (next 2 – 3 years)

18 risks ranked, 5 red risks

		Impa	act / C	onseque	ences	
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
		1	2	3	5	7
	5 Very High				1	
billity	4 Likely				5, 8, 12, 17a	
-ikelihood / Probability	3 Possible			19	2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 21	
Likelih	2 Unlikely				17, 20	
	1 Rare					

No.	Top Corporate Risks
Very High	Likelihood - Major impact
CR01	Recession & public sector funding
Likely - N	lajor impact
CR05	Delivery of the corporate plan
CR08	Customer demand
CR12	IT Strategy
CR17a	Failure of major contractor

Council Priorities 2010-2012 (used to link to key corporate risks below)

City Council Aims	12 priorities for 2010-2012	Portfolio Holders (tbc)	CMT Lead
Strong and prosperous city	Under this aim, our priorities will be to deliver: 1. a dynamic local economy 2. a strong cultural offer 3. sustainable growth and development	Cllr Morphew Cllr Arthur Cllr MacDonald	J Massey A Bonsor N Rotsos
Safe and healthy neighbourhoods	Under this aim, our priorities will be to deliver: 4. better access to green spaces and leisure 5. more active and engaged communities and neighbourhoods 6. a safer and cleaner city	Cllr Arthur Cllr Bremner Cllr Brociek- Coulton Cllr Westmacott Cllr MacDonald Cllr Sands	J Massey N Rotsos
Opportunities for all	Under this aim, our priorities will be to: 7. provide support to people during the recession 8. increase pride in the city 9. increase access and opportunity	Cllr Sands Cllr Waters Cllr MacDonald	AII
One council	Under this aim, our priorities will be: 10. customer focus – putting customers at the heart of everything we do 11. continuous improvement of our services 12. cost conscious – efficient and effective service delivery	Cllr Waters Cllr Sands	B Buttinger J Massey R O'Keefe

Likelihood scored on a scale 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (5 = very high, 1 = rare)

Impact scored on a scale 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 (7 = catastrophic, 1 = insignificant)

Risk	Council	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
CR 01	All	5	5	\$	Score 25	Public sector funding	A major reduction in public sector funding, including consequences of changes in funding arrangements for other bodies. Impact on balancing the budget – significant change and financial savings required. New policies and regulations place a major financial burden on the Council e.g. RSG and HRA restructuring. Change in direction of government policy. Under-utilisation of assets.	Further economic decline. Change in national government policy as a result of the economic position. Unable to make saving within the required timescales Other triggers: Residual liability re land at Bowthorpe. Bethel St Police Station – market value payment. Triennial pensions review. VAT partial exemption. Variable energy prices Increasing voids due to market and economy factors Loss of major tenant	Inability to raise capital receipts Decline in income streams (eg rents from investment properties) – insufficient funds to maintain current service levels Erosion of reserves Major financial problems Reputation damage Possible industrial action Poor inspection results Changes become "knee jerk" Govt intervention Further savings required Council loses critical mass in key areas Service failures Potential disproportionate impact on the poorest and most vulnerable members of society Damage/costs across void portfolio	S151 Officer
	Action/co	ontrols and ot	her mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	CMT & Exe regularly rev Weekly rev	ecutive, transfo eviewed and up	rmation projection	ects regular	ly monitore	ial reporting to ed, MTFS is sess implications	CMT and S151 Officer		Monthly or more frequently if ne	eded
CD	All	4	E		20 -	Delivery of the	The council has a clear set	Corporate priorities	Koy priorities for the City	Head of
05	All	4	5	\(\(\)	20	corporate plan and other key policies and strategies within the council's strategic	of corporate priorities within its corporate plan. Within the council's wider strategic framework, there are a number of key corporate strategies and	Corporate priorities	 Key priorities for the City are not delivered Projects halted or delayed Adverse public opinion Projects / work completed to a lower quality Negative impact on 	Strategy and Programme Management

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
					Score	framework.	policies which must be delivered across the organisation to realise the council's objectives, e.g. customer experience strategy, equalities policy etc The new localism bill will change the legislative framework for local government and put new requirements on the council that must be met in a number of different areas. When this is combined with the significant savings the council will need to make to meet the government funding reductions, there is a risk that these changes will reduce the capacity of the council to deliver on its corporate objectives		outcomes for customers Negative performance ratings for the council Continual over stretching of capacity Inconsistent approach taken across council Full benefits not realised Benefits of cross working not gained Lack of corporate working Staff confusion over policies and process	
		ontrols and of					Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	key policie manageme setting to	s and strategie	s, effective polanning and es are in plac	erformance service plar e to deliver	and progr nning align	ed with budget	Cabinet and CMT		Continuous process	
CR 08	All	4	5	\$	20	Customer demand	The profile of customer demand is always changing. The change will accelerate through periods of decline and changing demographics.	Excessive customer demand in key areas, particularly in relation to the need to cut services	 Unable to cope Poor KPIs Complaints Poor CAA Reputation damage 	Deputy Chief Executive
	Action/controls and other mitigation						Responsibility for Action	1	Review Frequency	1
	future eve	research on cus nts that will ge el shift. Data c	nerate higher	demand ar	nd use of d	lata held to map	Head of Service where relevant and Customer Contact Continuous			

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
CR 12	10-12	4 (changed Dec '10 from 3 to 4)	5	Û	20 (was 15)	IT Strategy	The council is currently half way through a 15 year PFI contract to provide IT. See risk around Steria contract in risk CR17 The council also holds a variety of data that is confidential. There is a legal imperative to keep this data secure e.g. FoI, Data Protection	IT strategy fails to support the organisation moving forward and the Lean blueprint for a new council.	 Incoherent approach to IT systems Systems not customer friendly Systems are not integrated with one and other Drain on resources as staff work around the systems Lack of accuracy in key data Data are unreliable Key information not trusted Hinders management and service improvements Failure to deliver council priorities 	Deputy Chief Executive
	Action/co	ontrols and of	ther mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action	<u>I</u>	Review Frequency	
	Board and Security Fo	onthly meeting feedback to Co orum, prioritisa nthly service re	ontract Board tion of work i	, delivering equests, St	alignment trategy Boa	of priorities, Data	Head of Procurement & Serv Steria for governance arrang Data Security Forum - Monito	Bi-annual review of overall gover arrangements	rnance	
		1 .	_		•	5 11 6 1	I = 1 11 1	T 10	0 1 1 1 5	D
17a	4-6, 10-12	4	5	NEW	20	Failure of major contractor	The council has a number of key contractors who may be vulnerable to market and economy factors.	Key contractor goes into administration	 Customer and staff complaints Services not delivered Contingency plans have to be invoked Cost and time to retender contract 	Director of Regeneration and Development
	Action/co	ontrols and of	ther mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	Monitor major contractors for warning signs and make any necessary contingency plans						Head of Procurement and Se	ervice Improvement	Quarterly	
CR	11, 12	3	5		15	Single status	The council is currently in	Adverse impact	Time / Cost /Money	Deputy Chief
02	11, 12	(changed Dec '10 from 5 to 3)	J	ή	(was 25)	onigic status	the process of implementing single status. Single status is designed to promote equality. In some organisations it has caused significant	either a) Significant financial cost b) Negative impact on staff morale c) Impact on the	Impact on service delivery Negative impact on outcomes	Executive

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
							problems.	demand for resources e.g. appeals		
	Action/co	ntrols and o	ther mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	review by		ultant for legal	l compliand	e (confirme	f overall impact, ed by UNISON),	Overall co-ordination by HR		As and when required	
CR 04	All Action/cc	3 ontrols and o	5 (changed Dec '10 from 7 to 5)	ion	15 (was 21)	Norwich and Homes & Communities Agency Strategic Partnership (NAHCASP)	Reputation Change of rules by the government – tighter deadline for bidding for affordable housing grant Problems with major contractors Responsibility for Action	Material breach of contract Deadlines missed Major contractor in administration	 Projects halted or delayed Adverse public opinion Increase in local unemployment Funding for some projects may not be obtained Review Frequency	Director of Regeneration and Development
	Board. Anr	nual Business F ancial and bud	Plan. Project n	nanagers fo	or individua	er Implementation al projects. e good assurance	Asst Director City Developme Development Mgr	ent & City Growth &	Monthly highlight reports	
CR 07	4-6	3 (changed Dec '10 from 4 to 3)	5	Û	15 (was 20)	Neighbourhood Strategy	The Neighbourhood Strategy is a priority for the council, which requires a joined up corporate approach. The council has a Neighbourhood Agenda around improving neighbourhoods by focusing more closely on the individual needs in specific locations, providing local solutions and involving residents in decision making.	The council fails to deliver the agreed outcomes of the Neighbourhood Agenda.	Failure to take the opportunity to make the lives of Norwich citizens better Other organisations, such as the police, take the initiative and lead the agenda Loss of reputation	Director of Regeneration and Development
		ntrols and o					Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	requireme Neighbour	ation plan in p nts of the neig nood teams es ivery to be agr	hbourhood sti tablished. Ne	rategy. Res ext phase o	ources alig f neighbou		Head of local neighbourhood	services	6 monthly review to Executive. [monitor progress	OMTs will

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
CR 09		3 ontrols and of			15	Maintenance of the housing stock	The council has to achieve and maintain a decent homes standard. This requires ongoing planned and responsive long-term maintenance of the housing stock. Health & Safety risk. Financing the longer term maintenance requirements Responsibility for Action	Failure in the medium to long term to sustain the housing stock (affordability issues)	Quality of stock diminishes and the need to decommission increases Responsive repairs increase Social problems increase Investment in the stock falls below required levels Delay in meeting the decent homes standard Death/injury Review Frequency	Director of Regeneration and Development
	capital involute counce of the servicing a being let to	vices provided t	amme factor has gore tenants we had basis e bairs. Short ter areas of we	ne into adm re assessed mergency d erm contra	ninistration. If for the ris contracts w cts are in t	The importance sk to tenants if vere set up for gas the process of	Head of Housing Property Se	ervices	Housing Improvement Board, re monitored quarterly CMT monthly	view annually,
CR 10	10	3 (changed Dec '10 from 4 to 3)	5	(15 (was 20)	Business continuity	The council delivers a range of complex services to vulnerable elements of the community. Organisations generally are experiencing significant continuity events once every five years on average.	Occurrence of a significant event (I.T failure, contractor collapse, weather event, communications failure, pandemic)	Service disruption Reputation damage Years to recover Poor inspection reports	Deputy Chief Executive
	Action/co	ontrols and of	ther mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	Flu pander Access to I Hall IT fail plan and th	mic plan, Norfo resources, actio ure, alternative he use of Black to test busines	Ilk Resilience on plans have e site for Cust berries for co	Forum and been used omer Conta ommunication	I to deal wi act Team, o ons. Appro	continuity Team. th actual total City disaster recovery each has also nain works	Public Health & Enforcement ordinates general business, S Manager co-ordinates the IT Heads of service responsible	Service Improvement list of key officers.	All documents have review date: lessons learned. Business contin works contracts reviewed as neo	uity plans for
CR 11	All	3	5	\Leftrightarrow	15	Delivery of Joint Core Strategy	The council, through the Greater Norwich Development Partnership, is seeking to ensure it	Partnership failure on internal governance issues	Lost opportunityReputation damageFailure to provide:Appropriate physical	Director of Regeneration and Development

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
	Action/co Ensuring to as possible based on co with the possible to account the possible based on the possible	e and firmly gro consensus deci roposed policy	peing prepare bunded in reli sion-making e framework.	ed with GNE able eviden ensures all All policy w	DP colleagu ice. Inter- parties are ork is supp	orted by	receives the appropriate additional funding for the growth and regeneration programme. The city will develop and see more than 30,000 homes built in the greater Norwich area, and 35,000+jobs created. Initial studies show that the growth in jobs and homes may occur but there is a funding gap. New government is committed to radical changes to the planning framework Responsibility for Action Head of Planning	Partnership fails to deliver (variety of causes e.g. funding, market, capacity) Joint Core Strategy not delivered or found to be unsound Changes in government guidelines	infrastructure (roads, drainage) / Environmental quality (parks, open spaces) / Social infrastructure (schools, health centres, community centres) Failure to regenerate inner city areas and improve life for local residents Failure to develop the local economy and high quality jobs Radical change to work programmes Current plan development has to be aborted Could affect the way the city looks in the future Review Frequency Quarterly - DMT	
CR 14	10-12	3	5 5	e with gove	15	Service standards	The council has made significant progress in improving service delivery, however there is not always a consistent understanding of this currently and there remain differing views of what is 'good' service delivery. Revising, communicating and maintaining service standards may be more difficult	The council fails to set and maintain service standards	Inconsistent standards for service delivery The council fails to 'raise its game' to a sufficient level to achieve what it wants Unable to fully embed culture of high achievement within the council Failure to break out of culture of low aspiration Customers and service users don't receive the service they expect Loss of reputation	Deputy Chief Executive

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
	Action/co	ontrols and of	ther mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	standards customer s A program support ma	service standar	arly by CMT, ds on systems t us on consiste	service spe hinking is no ent levels of	cific stand	ards, corporate vay and this will	Review at CMT		Bi-annually Monthly to CMT	
0.0	10.10	2	-	4.	1 -	Corporate	The council is making	Value for money	Perception that progress	Deputy Chief
CR 15	10-12	3	5	(15	governance	considerable progress since its last inspection. However, it is an external assessment and there will be a degree of uncertainty concerning outcomes.	conclusion has a negative impact on the council.	 has not been made Adverse publicity Impact on service improvement plan Damage to morale Wider perception of council affected Impacts on relationship with members 	Executive
	Action/co	ontrols and of	ther mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action Review Frequency			
	for 'proper progress a A Finance	arrangements t regular meeti	', plans detai ings of all lea Plan has beei	led for 'prop d officers. n scoped an	er arrange d is now b	individual owners ements'. Review eing implemented	reporting leads			
				,						
CR 16	3, 11	3	5		15	Environmental Strategy	The council is about to develop a new Environment Strategy 2011-15. This is a vital area for the council, which will require a joined up corporate approach. Currently the council has only a small environmental strategy team, but a lot of people are involved across the authority. There is a risk that other priorities may reduce the capacity of some areas to work on delivering the new strategy. There is also a risk because a lot of the supporting funding is short-term.	The council does not fully deliver the new strategy.	 Failure to deliver Puts greater pressure on services Loss of reputation Response is not co-coordinated corporately Ineffective use of resources Opportunities missed 	Head of Strategy and Programme Management

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
	Action/co	ntrols and ot	her mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	rollout of r	rogramme and lew strategy ar equirements b	nd refresh of	carbon mar	nagement	development and programme.	Environmental Strategy Mana	ager	Quarterly	
CR 21	6	3	5	NEW	15	Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults	Safeguarding responsibilities not embedded throughout the council. Impact of cuts on care services	Critical incident Reduced service provision	Vulnerable adults and children at greater risk of exclusion or harm	Director of Regeneration and Development
	Action/co	ntrols and ot	her mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	through sa assessmen		dren's officer plan being i	group. Saf	eguarding d. Draft sa	viewed annually compliance self feguarding	neighbourhood services	eguarding vulnerable adults - Tenancy support		
CR 17	4-6, 10-12	2	5		10	Contract management	The council has a number of key contracts – eg with Steria and Fountains Environmental Services – which require strong, consistent procurement and client management.	Key contracts not managed effectively and key objectives not achieved.	 The council doesn't get value for money from the contracts Benefits of contract not realised Constant negotiation around the contract Specification not adhered to Services not provided at an acceptable level Customer and staff complaints 	Director of Regeneration and Development
	Action/co	ntrols and ot	her mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	areas. Clar enforceme Learning a and a prog The contra	ramme is now	sibility and a e structure b nt needs of co in place to n of the 'direct	team establehind each ontract man neet these r	olished for of contrac nagers hav needs.	contract	Head of Citywide Services an Property Services Learning and Development M Head of Procurement and Se	Manager	Direct Works Board and Strategic Board review quarterly Quarterly Quarterly	

Risk No	Council Priority	Likelihood	Impact	Change	Risk Score	Short name	Vulnerability	Trigger	Consequence	Ownership
CR 20	All	2	5	NEW	10	Level of reserves	The council has a legal duty to ensure it has a prudent level of reserves to conduct its business	Reserves fall below acceptable levels	Government intervention Impact on reputation of the council	S151 Officer
	Action/co	ontrols and ot	her mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
							Head of Finance		Quarterly	
CR 19	12	3	3		9	Fraud	Poor internal controls lead to fraudulent acts against the council, resulting in losses	Failure in internal control Discovery of fraudulent acts Allegations received	 Loss of income or assets Adverse public opinion Effect on use of resources Increased costs of external audit Cost of investigation and rectifying weaknesses 	S151 Officer
	Action/co	ontrols and ot	her mitigat	ion			Responsibility for Action		Review Frequency	
	Internal audit, fraud and corruption policy, Payment Card Industry security assessment to protect card payments, National Fraud Initiative, fraud team, whistleblowing policy and prosecution policy						Head of Finance		Quarterly	