



For Discussion

Title: Strategic Risk Management

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Purpose

1. This paper supports a review by the Committee of the Cairngorms NPA's strategic risk management position.

Recommendations

The Audit and Risk Committee is asked to

- a) Consider the coverage and adequacy of the Cairngorms NPA's strategic risk management position and advise on any gaps or amendments required to the current strategic risk register.

Executive Summary

2. The Cairngorms NPA's most recent strategic risk register and strategic risk management position is set out as Appendix 1 to the Azets Internal Audit Plan for 2023/24. This document has not been repeated as an Annex to this item, with members able to cross-reference the strategic risk position as set out in support of the Internal Audit Plan.
3. The Park Authority is now at a transitional point as regards its strategic risk management. The new corporate plan for 2023/24 to 2026/27 will be considered by the board meeting which precedes this Committee meeting. We plan to have a risk management workshop with the full board on Friday 26 May in order to both train board members on approach to strategic risk management and also consider the redevelopment or renewal of the strategic risk register to best suit the new Corporate Plan and views of the board on the strategic risks around delivery of the agree strategic objectives set out in that plan. The current strategic risk register therefore has a limited period of remaining validity.



4. It remains important to continue consideration of the Park Authority's current strategic risk environment in this transitional period. The Committee is therefore Invited to consider the current coverage of the strategic risk register as set out In Appendix One to the Internal Audit Plan. Potential risk movements are noted as:
 - a. A1 Downward trend in financial risk given budget position presented to board on 24 March and subject to board views on that budget position.
 - b. A13 escalating risk of CNPA IT services are not sufficiently robust / secure / or well enough specified to support effective and efficient service delivery in context of Azets data management report.
 - c. A16 downward trend assessment regarding scale of asset responsibilities such as for paths, outdoor infrastructure is not adequately recognised and does not secure adequate forward maintenance funding given ongoing funding allocated in budget and subject to board views on the budget position.
 - d. A17 escalating risk of Increasing ICT dependency for effective and efficient operations is not adequately backed up by ICT systems support in context of Azets data management report.

5. The Committee's views on these potential amendments is welcomed as are any other thoughts on the current status of the strategic risk register.

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