ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

AUDIT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

22 SEPTEMBER 2020

STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report provides members with an update on the Council's Strategic Risk Register (SRR).

2.0 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that the Audit and Scrutiny Committee endorse the updated SRR (Appendix 1).

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 The Council's Constitution requires the Chief Executive to attend one meeting of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee per annum to report on how the Council is addressing its key strategic risks and other matters of interest.
- 3.2 The format of the SRR and the Operational Risks Registers (ORR) and the processes to monitor and update them were revised in 2018 and subsequent internal audit reviews have confirmed compliance with these procedures.
- 3.3 The Council's SRR continues to be updated by the SMT on a bi-annual basis on dates agreed with the Chief Internal Auditor however it will also be updated if and when the Strategic Management Team (SMT) feel there is a specific requirement.
- 3.4 As required by the revised risk management manual, the SMT also review all risks in the ORRs which have been classified as 'red' by the Departmental Management Teams (DMT) to determine whether they should be escalated to the SRR.
- 3.5 A further, and welcomed, development in the past year is the introduction of an annual strategic risk assurance mapping report which provides the Audit and Scrutiny Committee with Internal Audit's assessment of the sources of assurance on the management of the Council's strategic risks. This, alongside the annual Internal Audit plan including a three year cycle providing audit coverage across all the identified risks, provides assurance that the Council continues to proactively manage its risks.
- 3.6 Appendix 1 to this paper provides a copy of the current SRR and demonstrates how the Council are treating the identified risks in terms of the

mitigations currently considered to be in place and the action being taken to further reduce the residual risk

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 The SRR is subject to regular review by the SMT as are the red risks highlighted in ORRs by the DMTs. Risks are actively managed to reduce their impact upon the Council and the likelihood of them being realised.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy None
- 5.2 Financial None directly from this report however effective risk management assists with effective governance and stewardship of Council resources
- 5.3 Legal None
- 5.4 HR None
- 5.5 Fairer Scotland Duty None
- 5.5.1 Equalities None
- 5.5.2 Socio-Economic Duty None
- 5.5.3 Islands Duty None
- 5.6 Risk The report sets out the strategic risks facing the Council
- 5.7 Customer Service None

Pippa Milne Chief Executive 22 September 2020

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Appendices:

1. Strategic Risk Register