

Appendix D

Craven District Council - Risk Management Policy Statement

The diverse range and complexity of services for which the Council is responsible presents the potential for personal injury, loss and damage unless effective action is taken to manage the risks involved. It is essential for the Council to develop a Risk Management programme which ensures that, in discharging its responsibilities to the public, staff and Members, the likelihood of personal injury and loss or damage to physical assets is minimised by means of anticipating and controlling the exposure to risk.

This policy emphasises the Council's commitment to a positive Risk Management culture, by ensuring that every Member and employee of the Council has regard for the management of risks in the decision making process and everyday work situations. The Risk Management Culture is concerned with identification, analysis and control of all threats to the achievement of its Strategic and Operational objectives. The Risk Management Culture is also concerned with the protection of reputation, image, service delivery, performance management and safety of assets. It therefore links with and embraces the disciplines of Health and Safety, property protection and security.

Accordingly it is the responsibility of every member of staff to assist in the identification, analysis, elimination and control exposures to risk and to minimize such losses where they may occur.

The purposes of the Risk Management Policy, Risk Management Strategy and Risk Management Group are to achieve the following:

- Evidence the Council's commitment to effective risk management
- Provide a clear framework and associated guidance for Risk Management in practice
- Identify, assess and prioritise the strategic and operational risks and appropriate control measures
- Support Units in their efforts to appraise the risks to which they are exposed.
- Provision of advice through networks of specialists.
- Promote best practice and shared learning relating to Risk Management
- Encourage and assist Members and officers to manage risks effectively
- Ensure that risk financing issues are considered as part of the Council's corporate service and financial planning cycle

To assist Members and managers, the Corporate Risk Management Group meets on a regular basis to ensure that the awareness of this policy remains high on the corporate agenda, as well as addressing the issues raised by the identification of strategic and operational risks. This group reports to Council's Corporate Leadership Team and the Audit & Governance Committee.

Council Members and the Chief Executive have approved this policy. The co-operation and commitment of all employees is required to ensure its success.

Reviewed August 2013