



**London Borough of Sutton**  
**Overall Risk Statement May 2019**

*The Chief Executive and CMT are ultimately accountable for ensuring that risk management is fully embedded in the council's business planning and monitoring processes as well as having overall accountability and responsibility for leading the delivery of the council's Risk Management Strategy and Framework. CMT take a leading and proactive role in ensuring that risks are managed effectively and that risk management is communicated, understood and implemented by Councillors, managers and staff.*

*The Corporate Management team last considered the Corporate Risk Register on 1st May 2019, this statement from CMT summarises the key risks to the organisation and actions required to mitigate these.*

The Council continues to face unprecedented financial pressures as a result of grant reductions, new (underfunded) burdens from central government and increased demand for services as a result of demographic pressures. There are a number of areas where there are growing risks to the Council's ability to meet its statutory obligations, including Homelessness, SEN provision, Homecare services and services for Looked After Children. It should be noted that these pressures also impact on risk levels in other areas for example there is an increase in risk related to health and safety as the workforce will be more likely to come into contact with people with higher needs and very acute issues. The knock-on risks arising from these financial pressures will continue to be monitored closely over the short to medium term, including recruitment and retention of qualified staff.

Given the level of savings required in the medium term it is acknowledged that it will not possible to mitigate the impact sufficiently so as not to have an impact on service delivery. Even with work currently ongoing, including the Sutton Plan, the Outcomes Based Commissioning Programme, various reform agendas including Welfare Reform and Health and Social Care Integration the Council envisages that there will at least be a moderate impact going forward. The target risk level has therefore been adjusted accordingly.

The delivery of Health and Social Care integration has been acknowledged by both the Council and CCG as vitally important as mitigation for both sectors' financial and service risks. Failure to extract economy and efficiency through further integration would have significant implications for all relevant services, including the potential for significant service failure. Integration is integral to the NHS's Sustainability and Transformation Plan and a key priority for the delivery of the Sutton Plan. We are making good progress with this work, but risks remain.

The Council's preparedness to respond to a catastrophic incident has been tested and is believed to be robust. This mitigation will continue to be monitored closely. The Council and our wider partners in resilience will continue to train, test and exercise our response.

A new corporate risk has emerged around the increased complexity involved in overseeing and managing the various delivery models (shared, outsourced, spun out) that are now delivering services on behalf of Sutton Council. This risk and steps to mitigate have been assessed and various actions have been taken or are underway, for example revised governance for our LATCs through Sutton Shareholdings Board, and new Strategic and Operational Shared Service Boards for the services shared with RB Kingston.

Finally the impact of a no deal Brexit (although now appearing to be less likely / imminent), would be significant across the Council and the Borough more generally. As a result the CMT are closely monitoring progress with Brexit and a working group has been set up to identify, track and mitigate risks where appropriate.

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