

# **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

## **NOTICE AND AGENDA**

For a meeting to be held in the Penn Chamber, Three Rivers House, Northway, Rickmansworth on Monday, 9 June 2025 at 7.30 pm

Members of the Policy and Resources Committee:-

Councillors:

Stephen Giles-Medhurst (Chair)  
Oliver Cooper  
Stephen Cox  
Steve Drury  
Vicky Edwards  
Rue Grewal  
Philip Hearn

Sarah Nelmes (Vice-Chair)  
Chris Lloyd  
Chris Mitchell  
Louise Price  
Reena Ranger  
Jon Tankard

---

*Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive  
Friday, 30 May 2025*

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public on agenda items at the Policy and Resources Committee meetings. Details of the procedure are provided below:

For those wishing to speak:

Members of the public are entitled to register and identify which item(s) they wish to speak on from the published agenda for the meeting. Those who wish to register to speak are asked to register on the night of the meeting from 7pm. Please note that contributions will be limited to one person speaking for and one against each item for not more than three minutes.

In the event of registering your interest to speak on an agenda item but not taking up that right because the item is deferred, you will be given the right to speak on that item at the next meeting of the Committee.

Those wishing to observe the meeting are requested to arrive from 7pm.

In accordance with The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 any matters considered under Part I business only of the meeting may be filmed, recorded, photographed, broadcast or reported via social media by any person.

Recording and reporting the Council's meetings is subject to the law and it is the responsibility of those doing the recording and reporting to ensure compliance. This will include the Human Rights Act, the Data Protection Legislation and the laws of libel and defamation.

**7. RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AMENDMENT**

(Pages 3  
- 6)

This report proposes an amendment to the Risk Management Strategy and providing a delegation to the Associate Director of Corporate, Customer and Community to authorise minor changes to the policy.

**General Enquiries: Please contact the Committee Team at**  
[committeeteam@threeivers.gov.uk](mailto:committeeteam@threeivers.gov.uk)

# **RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AMENDMENT**

09/06/2025

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
PART I  
Amendment to the Risk Management Strategy 2024  
(ADCCC)

## Summary

- 1.1 Following Full Council on 10 December 2024, Officers have been asked to consider the following amendment to the Risk Management Strategy.

1.2 “To add a separate column to the right of the second table at Appendix A, concerning impact of the Green Belt. The precise risk thresholds to be agreed by the Audit Committee.”

- 1.3 At the Audit Committee meeting held on 25 March 2025, a report addressing the proposed amendment was presented. The resolution from that agenda item is as follows:

1.4 “‘Risk to Green belt’ is to be added to the risk register as a category as per the agreed amendment.

## 2 Details

- 2.1 Following the amendment to the Risk Management Strategy 2024 requested by Full Council, Officers carefully reviewed the amendment and identified several challenges that suggest it may not be the most effective approach.

- 2.2 No other authority whose risk management strategies or policies were reviewed includes a single stated environmental factor, such as the impact on the Green Belt, as a distinct risk category within their framework.

- 2.3 One of the main objectives of the strategy is “to identify and assess potential risks that could impact the organisation's objectives, projects, or operations.” Risk management strategies are designed to assess risks in a balanced and comprehensive manner, ensuring no single issue is given disproportionate emphasis without clear, overarching justification.

- 2.4 The impact of the Councils broad range of activities on the Green Belt is inherently difficult to quantify in a consistent and tangible way, as it involves evolving factors such as planning policies, environmental considerations, and socio-economic implications.

- 2.5 Establishing precise risk thresholds for this factor would be challenging and may not fit the structured, measurable approach needed for effective risk management across the Council's responsibilities. While the Green Belt is an important consideration, risks such as service disruption, financial loss, reputational damage, legal non-compliance, and impacts on people require extensive undertakings. more immediate focus within the Council's

- 2.6 Green Belt is a specific planning policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Council's Local Plan and other planning policies must be in accordance with the NPPF. The extent of Green Belt and whether there need to be adjustments to its boundaries in order to accommodate new development will be considered through local plan preparation. The Local Plan is examined by an independent planning inspector to ensure it meets all the legal and national policy requirements. This process already exists and is clearly set

out in legislation and national policy, and as such adding Green Belt to the risk register will have no effect on the outcome of this process.

- 2.7 It may be more pragmatic to ensure that the Green Belt is recognised as a strategic risk within the Council's Strategic Risk Register or as an operational risk consideration within specific service-level risk registers.

3 Options and Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 To retain the current risk categories of; Service disruption, Financial loss, Reputation, Failure to meet legal obligation and People as agreed at Full Council on 10 December 2024.

4 Policy/Budget Reference and Implications

- 4.1 None

5 Financial, Legal, Equal Opportunities, Staffing, Environmental, Community Safety, Public Health, Customer Services Centre, Communications & Website, Risk Management and Health & Safety Implications

- 5.1 None specific.

6 Recommendation

- 6.1 That:

The Councils Risk Management Strategy is not altered and the version agreed at Full Council on 10 December 2024 remains as adopted.

The Committee agrees to give delegated Authority to Associate Director of Corporate, Customer and Community to authorise minor changes to the policy, such as terminology, clarification, or administrative corrections with no significant impact.

Report prepared by: Phil King, Data Protection and Resilience Manager

