

RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

Stafford Borough Council is aware that some risks will always exist and will never be eliminated.

The council recognises that it has a responsibility to manage risks (both positive and negative) and supports a structured, systematic and focussed approach to managing them by approval of the risk management strategy.

In this way the council will:-

- Demonstrate effective corporate governance
- Better achieve its corporate objectives
- Enhance the value of services it provides to the community.

The objectives of the council's risk management strategy are to:-

- Integrate risk management into the culture of the council
- Manage risk in accordance with best practice
- Anticipate and respond to changing social, environmental and legislative requirements
- Prevent injury, damage and losses and reduce the cost of risk
- Raise awareness of the need for risk management by all those involved with the delivery of council services.

These objectives will be achieved by:-

- Establishing clear roles, responsibilities and reporting lines within the council for risk management
- Providing opportunities for shared learning on risk management across the council
- Offering a framework for allocating resources to identified priority risk areas
- Reinforcing the importance of effective risk management as part of the every day work of employees by offering training
- Incorporating risk management into business planning
- Incorporating risk management considerations into partnership arrangements, project management, change management programmes, contracts
- Monitoring arrangements on an on-going basis.