

Risk Management Policy Statement



Heathfield and Waldron Parish Council is aware that some risks cannot be eliminated fully and has in place a strategy that provides a structured, systematic and focused approach to managing risk.

The Council recognises that it has a responsibility to manage various risks and associated hazards and support a structured and focused approach to managing them by means of an approved risk management strategy. It needs to take all reasonable and practical measures to safeguard its employees, assets, liabilities, the people it works with and provides services for, and to protect the natural and built environments for which it is responsible. By doing this it will protect against potential losses, minimize uncertainty in achieving its aims and objectives and will maximise the opportunities to achieve its vision.

The Council's risk management strategy objectives are as follows:

- Integrate risk management into the culture of the council
- Embed risk management through the ownership and management of risk as part of all decision-making processes;
- Manage risk in accordance with best practice and legislative requirements
- Anticipate and respond to changing social, environmental, financial and legislative requirements
- Inform policy and operational decisions by identifying risks and their likely impact
- Prevent injury, damage and other losses and reduce the cost of risk
- Raise awareness of the need for risk management by all those connected with the delivery of the Council's services

These objectives will be achieved by:

- Establishing clear roles, responsibilities and reporting lines for the delivery of risk management
- Ensuring that all involved receive proper training in the understanding and delivery of risk management
- Identifying risk and providing resources to identified priority risk areas
- Undertaking risk assessments

- Managing the risk and recording actions
- Effective communication with, and active involvement of employees
- Reinforcing as appropriate the importance of effective risk management in the everyday culture and delivery of the Council's services
- Establishing and continuing appropriate and effective monitoring arrangements on an on-going basis
- Ensuring that the Council approves a risk list covering both joint areas of activity as well as ones specific to particular committees, that this is reviewed annually and updated as necessary
- Ensuring that all Committees of the Council consider risk management as an integral part of their decision-making processes

Fiona Hensher July 2023

L Hurst Reviewed July 2024

H Johnson reviewed January 2025

F Hensher reviewed January 2026