

Report to **Policy & Resources Committee**
Date **19 February 2026**
By **Head of Governance and Monitoring Officer**
Title of Report **Corporate Risk Register**

Note

Recommendation: The Committee is recommended to:

1. Receive and consider the Corporate Risk Register as at February 2026.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Policy and Resources Committee has terms of reference which include "... to ensure the robustness of risk management and performance management arrangements."
- 1.2 The Corporate Risk Register is reported to each meeting of the Committee and members have the opportunity to discuss the register with officers in advance of the committee as part of the ongoing risk management process. The register is regularly monitored by the organisation's Operational Management Team and issues escalated to Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as required.

2. Policy Context

- 2.1 Corporate Governance comprises the arrangements put in place to ensure that the intended outcomes for stakeholders are defined and achieved. It includes the systems and processes, and cultures and values, by which public bodies are directed and controlled and through which they account to and engage with their partners, communities and citizens.
- 2.2 Risk management is a key aspect of corporate governance and is one of the 7 principles in the 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework (2016)' and the 2025 addendum to the framework developed by CIPFA and SOLACE (Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy and Society of Local Authority Chief Executives & Senior Managers) to help public bodies make open, transparent and better-informed decisions that take full account of risk and opportunities.

3. Issues for consideration

- 3.1 **Appendices 2 and 3** show the risk register in a graphical way which allows Members to see, at a glance, the likelihood and impact of risks. Explanatory information, which was updated at the last meeting of the P&R Committee as part of the revised Risk Management Policy and Guidance, is provided at **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 3.2 Updates to mitigations and actions, where identified, across all risks are documented in **Appendices 2 and 3** to this report. **Appendix 3** is not for publication as it contains

exempt information within paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

3.3 There is one significant change to the Corporate Risk Register. Risk 7.1 has been updated to reflect risks around the delivery of the recently approved South Downs National Park Partnership Management Plan. There are two further updates of note:

- Risk 2.2 – It is proposed through the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill that National Park Authorities be granted a General Power of Competence, similar to that of other local authorities. This would support the Authority’s efforts to widen its income generating activities.
- Risk 8.1 – The Mayoral elections in Hampshire and Sussex have been delayed until May 2028. This means that, under the current timescales, the mayors will be elected at the same time as the new unitaries authorities formally become operational.

4. Options & cost implications

4.1 Members are asked to receive and consider the Corporate Risk Register.

4.2 Management of risk is a key aspect of the organisation’s governance and is undertaken within existing corporate budgets.

5. Next steps

5.1 Further updates on the Corporate Risk Register will be brought to future meetings of the Committee.

6. Other implications

Implication	Yes/No
Will further decisions be required by another committee/full authority?	No
Does the proposal raise any Resource implications?	There are no additional resource requirements arising directly from this report. Any additional resources required for the delivery of identified mitigations will be subject to the Authority’s usual decision-making requirements.
How does the proposal represent Value for Money?	Effective risk management contributes to the efficient running of the organisation.
Which PMP Outcomes/ Corporate plan objectives does this deliver against	Risk management at the SDNPA underpins the effective delivery of PMP Outcomes and Corporate Plan Priorities.
Links to other projects or partner organisations	As the SDNPA works in partnership with many other organisations, some risks will inevitably impact on project and/or partnership working.
How does this decision contribute to the Authority’s climate change objectives?	Risks to SDNPA’s objectives and action plan would be monitored through risk management procedures and, if required, would be escalated to the Corporate Risk Register.
Are there any Social Value implications arising from the proposal?	No

Implication	Yes/No
Has due regard been taken of the South Downs National Park Authority's equality duty as contained within the Equality Act 2010?	There are no equalities implications arising from this report. Actions and mitigations are subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment where this is appropriate.
Are there any Human Rights implications arising from the proposal?	There are no implications arising from this report.
Are there any Crime & Disorder implications arising from the proposal?	There are no implications arising from this report.
Are there any Health & Safety implications arising from the proposal?	Whilst risks on the register may have H&S implications and mitigations in place for the Authority, there are no implications arising directly from this report.
Are there any Data Protection implications?	There are none

7. Risks Associated with the Proposed Decision

- 7.1 There are no direct risks arising from this report. The report outlines the current major risks facing the Authority and how they will be mitigated.

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- Appendices:
1. Explanatory Information
 2. Corporate Risk Register February 2026
 3. Corporate Risk Register February 2026 (Exempt)

This appendix is not for publication as it contains exempt information within paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, being information relating to the financial and business affairs of a particular person including the Authority and that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exempt information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

SDNPA Consultees: Chief Executive Officer; Director of Placemaking; Director of Landscape and Strategy; Director of Growth and Organisational Development; Chief Finance Officer; Solicitor.

External Consultees: None

Background Documents: None

