

Pendle Borough Council – Risk Management Policy Statement

The Council is committed to identifying and managing risks affecting the organisation.

The Council recognises that it is not always possible to completely eliminate risk and that a level of risk may always exist. However, the Council recognises its responsibility to manage risks effectively and supports a structure and focussed approach to managing them by approval of this Risk Management Policy.

By doing this it aims to:

1. Better achieve its corporate objectives and priorities.
2. Manage its resources effectively.
3. Improve the quality of its business decisions.
4. Anticipate and respond to change (e.g.: political, social, environmental, legislative, technical and their associated risks) in a proactive and systematic way.
5. Prevent loss or injury to Staff, Councillors, members of the public and other visitors.
6. Provide greater protection of its assets and guard against impropriety or poor value for money.
7. Enhance corporate governance.
8. Reduce complaints against the council.
9. Protect the reputation of the Council and enhance community confidence.
10. Reduce the cost of insurance, incidence of claim and improve the Council's ability to defend claims.

To achieve these aims the Council will:

1. Raise awareness of the need for effective risk management, by all those connected with service delivery, through advice and training; and provide opportunities for shared learning.
2. Maintain risk management systems and processes which reflect best practice.
3. Determine the Council's appetite or tolerance to risk.
4. Allocate resources to identified priority areas.
5. Establish clear roles, responsibilities and reporting lines for risk management within the Council.
6. Incorporate risk management into the business planning process and embed risk management within the culture of the organisation.
7. Incorporate risk management into reviews of services.
8. Incorporate risk management into all substantive service developments and projects.
9. Monitor risk management arrangements on an on-going basis and take appropriate measures.