

Risk Management Title	Risk management briefing for those working in partnership with Birmingham City Council (2010)
Context	<p>This briefing summarises the key points for partners to be aware of in relation to the existing risk management practices within Birmingham City Council (BCC).</p> <p>Using risk management as a tool to help deliver the outcomes required of partnerships is recognised as good practice – this does not have to be the BCC processes as partners may have other approaches that they want to use instead.</p> <p>Risk management is about being in the best position to take advantage of opportunities. In order to improve services, risks have to be taken. This is fine as long as the risks are identified, can be managed and the potential benefits outweigh the risks. The idea is to be risk aware, not risk averse.</p> <p>With regard to partnership working, risk management needs to be applied when objectives are being set and plans are being drawn up – this can be at a strategic or operational level. The resulting risk register should be monitored and reviewed to help with the performance management of the partnership outcomes and to provide valuable information for the partners on progress.</p>
What is risk	<p>Events or actions that can prevent a partnership from achieving its planned objectives, in part or in full.</p> <p>The failure to take advantage of opportunities to help the partnership to achieve its objectives.</p>
What is risk management	<p>The process is a cyclical one with five main stages:</p>  <pre> graph TD A[RISK IDENTIFICATION] --> B[RISK ANALYSIS] B --> C[PRIORITISATION] C --> D[RISK MANAGEMENT] D --> E[MONITORING] E --> A </pre>

Risk Management

<p>Benefits of risk management</p>	<p>Formally incorporating risk management into the day-to-day management of the partnership increases the focus on what needs to be done (and not done) to meet objectives. This results in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More satisfied stakeholders • Better management of change programmes • Supports innovation and quality improvements in service delivery • Greater control of insurance costs • Supports the Best Value and Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) process • Conformance with good practice and supports and is complimented by the Equality Impact and Needs Assessment (EINA) process. • Improved management performance (good risk management is good management) • Consistent approach avoiding damaging or embarrassing gaffes, fewer complaints, and enhanced ability to justify actions taken • Compliance with legislation • Securing funding (funding bodies including the government are increasingly interested in the effective management of risk).
<p>With reference to</p>	<p>The Council has established a Risk Management Policy, Strategy and Methodology. These documents are freely available on the Birmingham Assist website.</p> <p>Please click here Risk Management to access a link to the page where they are attached.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding these documents please contact the author below.</p>
<p>Author</p>	<p>Tina Spiers, Group Auditor, Birmingham Audit. Enquiries to: Tina_spiers@birmingham.gov.uk Telephone 303 2143</p>