East Lothian Council Corporate Support Risk Register

Risk ID	Category	Title	Description	Impact	Probability	Current Risk Score	Residual Risk Score	Corrective Actions	Review Date
R127	Impact on Reputation	External IT Security Threats	Council IT systems are compromised by criminal 3rd party (e.g. hacker, terrorism) - causing the loss of a system(s) and/or loss/disclosure of data due to a a virus/Trojan/ransomware infection. The Council's increased participation in shared services escalates this risk as the council's network boundaries are being opened up to enable data sharing with other agencies. Due to the current conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East there is a continuous risk of Nation State led cyberattacks on the UK which could potentially affect National Infrastructure in a way that has a direct impact on East Lothian Council.	4	5	20	16	Specific corrective actions have not been included to ensure information is not published which could compromise our IT systems. The Council's Monitoring Officer has advised elected members directly of the control measures and corrective actions in place'	01/12/2025

| R129 | Impact on Reputation | Data Breaches and Compliance | Breach of personal data through:
  - accidental disclosure or loss of personal data in transmission;
  - lack of staff awareness
  - intentional or malicious misuse of personal data;
  - lack of appropriate provisions for storage or disposal of personal data;

Risks include:
  - breach of relevant laws;
  - breach of duty of care;
  - harm to individuals;
  - legal action and fines;
  - requirement to pay compensation;
  - adverse publicity;
  - damage to the Council's reputation.

The Council has shifted its focus to digital Service delivery and changes to working practices continue to evolve, Information Governance controls must remain resilient and responsive. | 4 | 4 | 16 | 12 | Revise our disciplinary policy and procedures to ensure that a deliberate data breach is a clear disciplinary matter attracting major sanctions as gross misconduct.

Data Breach Dashboard currently in development to support high level reporting to senior managers re trends in data breaches and contributing factors.

Undertake procurement exercise to identify best value for Digital Strategy document management services to improve storage, security and service improvement. | 30/03/2026 |

R128	Impact on Reputation	Internal IT Security Threats	Council IT systems and/or infrastructure are compromised by the actions of an internal employee. This could result in the loss of systems, the introduction of virus/trojan/ransomware infection or loss/disclosure of data.	4	4	16	12	Specific corrective actions have not been included to ensure information is not published which could compromise our IT systems. The Council's Monitoring Officer has advised elected members directly of the control measures and corrective actions in place'	01/12/2025
R132	Business Continuity	Legal Service Staffing	Unplanned loss of a key employee or employees due to resignation, long-term sickness absence etc. may affect the quality and scope of the legal service resulting in a failure to meet statutory objectives and provide an adequate legal service. Currently the Legal Service is short of one Solicitor (Commercial) within the current establishment. Recruitment is challenging but there have been steps to re-grade Solicitors to grade 10 which may assist combatting certain market conditions. Where there is a lack of resource and increased demand for Legal Services the team continue to find it difficult to fulfil service requests timeously without considering outsourcing at an additional cost to the Council. The increased workload falling on the remaining members of the team may	4	4	16	9	On a temporary basis consideration will be given to bringing in suitably qualified solicitors through agencies and-or outsourcing to external legal firms. While these may assist these people may require training etc. which will take some time.	30/04/2026

			result in further absence due to stress. Outsourcing legal work to external firms incurs unbudgeted costs for client services, which can be significant for complex matters.						
R150	Business Continuity	Failure of power and-or cooling in the John Muir House Data Centre	This has the potential to cause major loss of network, application and Internet services for a prolonged period of time as has happened previously. Please note that the DC is on a protected electrical circuit and we have an on site generator with a fuel contract / SLA Calling these data centres is not appropriate these are server rooms with slightly better electrical protection and fire protection. Note that if the FM system is activated it is extremely likely a high degree of equipment will still be damaged / written off	4	3	12	4	Colocation Facility Presence - Look at a 3rd presence in dedicated secure Datacentre (single rack floor print) Look at upgrading physical security measures on JMH data centre	30/11/2025