Criteria Guide for Impact Levels

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Negative Impact	Description
4 Critical	Inability to deliver a number of strategic objectives or a priority. Major loss of service, including several important service areas Major reputation damage - adverse central government response, involving threat of / removal of delegated powers or adverse and persistent national media coverage Loss of Life Major personal privacy infringement - All personal details compromised / revealed Huge financial loss/cost - >£1M in a year. Up to 75% of budget.
3 Substantial	 Major disruption to project / huge impact on ability to achieve project objectives. Inability to deliver an organisational priority or strategic objective. Major disruption to important service or a number of service areas. Significant reputation damage - adverse publicity in professional/municipal press or adverse local publicity of a major and persistent nature. Major injury. Many individual personal details compromised / revealed Major financial loss/cost - >£500K - <£1M in a year. Up to 50% of budget Significant disruption to project / significant impact on ability to achieve the project's objectives.
2 Marginal	Significant disruption to important service or major disruption to non crucial service. Moderate reputation damage - adverse local publicity / local public awareness Serious injury Some individual personal details compromised / revealed High financial loss/cost → ≥£100K - <£500K in a year. Up to 25% of budget Moderate disruption to project / moderate impact on ability to achieve the project's objectives.
1 Negligible	Brief disruption to important service or significant disruption to non crucial service. Minimal reputation damage - no external publicity and contained within Council Minor injury or discomfort. Isolated individual personal detail compromised/ revealed Low or medium financial loss/cost <£100K in a year. Up to 10% of budget Minor disruption to project / minor impact on ability to achieve the project's objectives.

Opportunity

Positive Impact	Description
4 Exceptional	 Exceptional improvement to service(s) (e.g. quality, level, speed, cost, etc) and/or delivery of strategic objectives/priorities National award or recognition/elevated status by national government Positive national press/media coverage Major improvement to the health, welfare & safety of stakeholders Income/savings of >£500K in a year or exceptional saving of resource (e.g. time and labour)
3 Major	 Major improvement to service(s) (e.g. quality, level, speed, cost, etc) and/or delivery of strategic objective/priority. Regional recognition for initiative, partnership or arrangement. Positive publicity in professional/municipal press or sustained positive local publicity. Significant improvement to the health, welfare & safety of stakeholders Income and/or savings of >£250K - <£500K in a year or major savings of resource (e.g. time and labour).
2 Moderate	 Moderate improvement to service(s) (e.g. quality, level, speed, cost, etc) and/or delivery of strategic objective/priority. Borough or County wide recognition for initiative, partnership or arrangement. Positive local publicity / local public awareness Moderate improvement to the health, welfare & safety of stakeholders. Income and/or savings of >£100K - <£250K in a year or moderate savings of resource (e.g. time and labour).
1 Minor	 Minor improvement to service(s) (e.g. quality, level, speed, cost, etc) and/or delivery of strategic objective/priority. Local level recognition for initiative, partnership or arrangement. Minor positive local publicity Minor improvement to the health, welfare & safety of stakeholders. Income and/or savings of <£100K in a year or minor saving of resource (e.g. time and labour)

Criteria Guide for Likelihood Levels

Risk

Likelihood	Description
4 Very Likely	More than 75% chance of occurrence Will probably occur at some time or in most circumstances. Circumstances frequently encountered - daily, weekly, monthly and quarterly.
3 Likely	Between 40% and 75% chance of occurrence. Fairly likely to occur at some time or in some circumstances. Circumstances occasionally encountered - occurs once every 1 to 2 years.
2 Unlikely	Between 10% and 40% chance of occurrence. Fairly unlikely to occur, but could occur at some time. Occurs once every 2 to 3 years
1 Very Unlikely	Less than 10% chance of occurrence. May occur only in exceptional circumstances. Has never or very rarely happened before.

Opportunity

Likelihood	Description
4 Very Likely	 More than 75% chance of happening. A clear opportunity already apparent, which can easily be achieved with a bit of further work or management. Achievable in under 1 year (12 months)
3 Likely	 Between 40% and 75% chance of happening. An opportunity that has been identified and/or explored and may be achievable but will require some further work or management. Achievable between 1 to 2 years
2 Unlikely	Between 10% and 40% chance of happening Opportunity that is fairly unlikely to happen that will need full investigation and require considerable work or management. Achievable between 2 to 3 years
1 Very Unlikely	 Less than 10% chance of happening. Opportunity that is very unlikely to happen that will need full investigation and require considerable work or management. Achievable in more than 3 years

Risk/Opportunity Matrix & Priority Table

