

Appendix 2: Land Quality Strategy Risk Register

Title	Risk description	Opp/ threat	Cause	Consequence	Date Raised	Owner	Gross		Current		Residual		Comments	Controls					
							I	P	I	P	I	P		Control description	Due date	Status	Progress %	Action Owner	
Financial	New information indicating significant possibility of significant harm received. OCC responsible for investigating the land to determine if it is "Contaminated Land"	T	Responsibilities of Local Authority under Part 2A of the EPA 1990.	Oxford City Council may need to fund all or part fund investigation and remediation and communicate carefully if the appropriate person cannot be identified.	20.10.2025	PS	3	1	3	1	3	1		Accept the Risk					
Financial, Reputational and Physical	Oxford City Council identified as the "appropriate person" (as defined in Defra's Contaminated Land Statutory Guidance 2012), ie. City Council liable for remediation costs etc.	T	New information received indicating that historic contamination is causing significant harm, land is investigated and determined as "Contaminated Land" under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.	Oxford City Council would need to fund investigation and remediation and communicate carefully.	20.10.2025	PS	3	2	3	2	3	2		Accept the Risk					
Financial	Oxford City Council is not the "appropriate person" but still incurs costs due to hardship assessment.	T	New information received indicating that historic contamination is causing significant possibility of significant harm, land is investigated and determined as "Contaminated Land" under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.	Oxford City Council would need to fund or part fund investigation and remediation and communicate carefully.	20.10.2025	PS	3	1	3	1	3	1		Accept the Risk					
Reputational	Council fails to "lead by example"	T	Poor planning/ poor management/ lack of communication between departments.	Damage to Council standing.	20.10.2025	PS	2	2	2	2	2	1		Reduce the Risk					
Reputational/ Physical	Investigation and remediation through the planning process is not properly monitored or enforced through the planning process.	T	Lack of resource in planning department to monitor and enforce planning conditions etc.	Damage to Council standing. Potential risk to public health/environment.	20.10.2025	PS	4	3	4	3	4	2		Reduce the Risk					
Reputational/ Physical	Investigation causes property blight	T	Investigation not managed properly by the Council. Poor communication.	Damage to Council standing. Damage to local economy and local communities.	20.10.2025	PS	4	2	4	2	4	1		Reduce the Risk					
Reputational/ Physical	Land quality data not managed efficiently	T	Resources for internal contaminated land work reduced and/or processes not followed.	Inability for the Council to control management of contaminated land through planning and meet Land Quality Strategy objectives.	20.10.2025	PS	4	2	4	2	4	1		Reduce the Risk					

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