

### Business Voice Report Risk Webinar

# Using ERM to Balance Risk and Reward

**March 2022** 

### With you today



Sara McAllister

Partner, Business Risk Services. Grant Thornton Sara is a partner in Grant Thornton and Head of Business Risk Services for the Irish firm.

She is a highly accomplished risk professional with over 25 years national and international experience across all aspects of enterprise risk, operational risk and controls assurance.

Sara started her professional services career in a Big 4 firm and has held a number of senior Risk, Compliance and Internal Audit positions both in professional practice and industry at home and abroad.

She advises clients across a broad range of sectors including technology, pharmaceuticals, food and beverage, distribution and consumer goods. She is commercially orientated and focuses on providing clients with business insight across governance, risk, security, control and process efficiency challenges.

Sara is a fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland (ACA) and she holds the following qualifications:

- Postgraduate Diploma (Masters) in Advanced Banking Risk Management, U.C.D
- Postgraduate Diploma (Masters) in Accounting, U.C.D
- > Bachelors of Commerce (Undergraduate Degree), U.C.D
- Six Sigma, Green Belt



# Purpose

Today's presentation will cover an overview of Risk Management:



#### **Overview**

The primary objective of Enterprise Risk Management is to ensure that the outcomes of risk taking activities are consistent with an organisation's strategic objectives, business plans and risk appetite, and that there is an appropriate balance between risk and reward.



### **Traditional RM approach Vs ERM**

**Comparing Traditional Risk Management with ERM** 

Aspects of a traditional RM Approach

- Silo based (Vertical)
- Incomplete risk coverage
- Lack of standardised approach
- Inadequate reporting
- Unowned risks
- Lack of integration
- Not aligned to performance management

Aspects of Enterprise Risk Management

- Holistic (Horizontal)
- Standardised
- Focus on inter-relationships
- Risk is integrated to performance management
- Full risk accountability
- Better resource utilisation

In contrast with the traditional approach, ERM recognises that risks in one part of the organisation can relate to risks occurring elsewhere and these links and relationships need to be managed just as much as individual risks in isolation.

#### **Features**

The primary objective of Enterprise Risk Management is to ensure that the outcomes of risk taking activities are consistent with the organisation strategic objectives, business plans and risk appetite, and that there is an appropriate balance between risk and reward

- Risk should be managed holistically and on an **enterprise wide** basis
- Ultimate accountability for Risk sits with the Board of Directors who in turn delegate its day to day management to its senior leadership team
- Implementing a risk management framework enables risk to be actively owned and managed by an organisation
- The core components of an ERM framework include a risk policy, risk appetite and tolerances, risk assessment, risk reporting and risk training & education
- Risk assessment and risk register mechanisms are the fundamental building blocks to managing risk

- You cannot gain transparent assurance on your internal controls unless the AC considers enterprise wide risks on a risk assessed basis.
- An ERM framework is used to manage all current and emerging risks of which there are many in a diversified business such as Microsoft
- It covers enterprise risks on a horizontal and vertical basis
- Responsibility for controls tends to be vertical but ownership and management of risk by the Board should be enterprise/ group wide and horizontal

- A Board and/ or Audit Committee cannot achieve a real time and holistic view of organisational risk without a risk management framework in place
- ERM incorporates ALL risks deriving from people, processes and technology

**Benefits of ERM** 



### **Critical Success Factors**



# **Definitions**

**Risk and Risk Management** 

### Risk

The possibility that events will occur and affect the achievement of strategy and business objectives. NOTE: "Risks" (plural) refers to one or more potential events that may affect the achievement of objectives.

"Risk" (singular) refers to all potential events collectively that may affect the achievement of objectives.

### **Risk Management**

COSO definition of risk management is – "a process, effected by an entity's board of directors, management and other personnel, applied in strategy setting and across the enterprise, designed to identify potential events that may affect the entity, and manage risks to be within its risk appetite, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of entity objectives."

# **Definitions**

**Risk Capacity, Risk Appetite and Risk Tolerance** 

### **Risk Capacity**

Risk Capacity is the maximum amount of risk that an organisation is able to tolerate.

### **Risk Appetite**

Risk Appetite is the amount of risk, on a broad level, an entity is willing to accept in pursuit of value. It reflects the entity's risk management philosophy, and in turn influences the entity's culture and operating style.

Risk appetite guides resource allocation. Risk appetite assists by aligning the organisation, people, and processes and designing the infrastructure necessary to effectively respond to and monitor risks.

#### **Risk Tolerance**

Risk Tolerance is the acceptable level of variation relative to achievement of a specific objective, and often is best measured in the same units as those used to measure the related objective.

In setting risk tolerance, management considers the relative importance of the related objective and aligns risk tolerances with risk appetite.

Operating within risk tolerances helps ensure that the entity remains within its risk appetite and, in turn, that the entity will achieve its objectives.

Framework

An effective ERM framework comprises tools designed to identify, assess, monitor and report key risks as well as Frameworks and Policies which articulate relevant risk governance roles and processes.



Risk Assessment is a key component of the Risk Management process

**Risk Categories** 

#### Strategic

Risks surrounding the execution of organisation's strategies. These risks can relate to organisational strategy, execution thereon, and the competitive, political and market environment.

### Operational

This includes items related to how organisations carry out their business operations including risks deriving from people, processes and systems engaged in operational activities.

#### Regulatory & Compliance

Regulatory & Compliance Risk is the current and perspective risk to earnings or assets arising from violations of, or non-conformance with laws, rules, regulations, prescribed practices, internal policies and procedures or ethical standards.

#### Financial

This category refers to risks that can negatively affect the capital and sustainability of the business, such as profitability, liquidity, funding risks etc.

Impact of Risk





### **Risk Register**

Also known as a Risk Log, the Risk Register is a tool for documenting risks, and actions to manage each risk. The Risk Register is essential to the successful management of risk. As risks are identified they are logged on the register and actions are taken to respond to the risk.

Risk Registers change as new risks emerge and existing risks diminish, so that the registers reflect the current threats to the relevant strategic objectives.



• The risk description

# **Illustrative Risk Register**

### 1. Risk details and Inherent Risk Rating

Risk Detail Risk ID	Risk Category	Process	Risk Description	Risk Owner	Inherent Impact	Inherent Probability	Inherent Impact RAG	Inherent Impact Score
CR 13	Operational Risk	Operational Resilience	The level of reliance on a small team of senior leadership and key subject matter experts heightens operational resilience risk materially for the Institute.	MD / Board	Moderate	Likely	High	12

### 2. Controls and Residual Risk Rating

	Control ID	Actual key controls	Control Owner/ Operator	Control Frequency	Residual Impact		Residual Impact RAG	Residual Probability Score	
	C 13.1	A SLT succession plan exists and is reviewed annually by the CEO and the Board	-	Annual	Minor	Possible	Low	4	<
-	-		-	-			F		

### **3. Remedial Actions**

Action Required	Action Owner	Action Due Date
HR Director to finalise the analysis and identification of resources that could potentially be placed into current SME roles.	HR Director	XX

# **Risk Reporting**

Risk reporting is the vehicle for communicating the value that the Risk function brings to an organisation. It allows for proactive risk management as organisations identify and escalate issues either as they arise, or before they are realised to take a proactive approach to managing risks. Effective risk reporting should focus on how risk activities impact individual business unit and enterprise risk profiles.



# **Using ERM to Balance Risk & Reward**

**Questions?** 

Contact us Sara McAllister Partner, Business Risk Services

Email: sara.mcallister@ie.gt.com Direct: (01) 680 5716

https://www.grantthornton.ie/insights/factsheets/risk-is-back-on-the-agenda/

https://www.grantthornton.ie/insights/factsheets/2021-riskpriorities/#:~:text=As%20we%20move%20through%202021,heightened%20risk%20of%20data%20breaches.

https://www.grantthornton.ie/insights/factsheets/technology-risk--operational-resilience/





#### © 2022 Grant Thornton Ireland. All rights reserved.

'Grant Thomton' refers to the brand under which the Grant Thornton member firms provide assurance, tax and advisory services to their clients and/or refers to one or more member firms, as the context requires. Grant Thornton International Ltd (GTIL) and the member firms are not a worldwide partnership. GTIL and each member firm is a separate legal entity. Services are delivered by the member firms. GTIL does not provide services to clients. GTIL and its member firms are not agents of, and do not obligate, one another and are not liable for one another's acts or omissions.