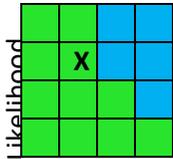
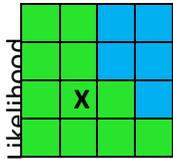


## Appendix 2

Audit Committee requested a review of Strategic Risk 5 'Impact of the welfare Reform on Communities' to be reported to April 2019 meeting.

The Council has many mitigations to reduce poverty and alleviate against universal credit impacts and these are listed below.

<p><b>Strategic Risk 5</b> Impact of the Welfare Reform on communities</p> <p><b>Description</b> The Council maintains this risk to mitigate as far as possible against the impacts of welfare reform. Welfare reform is a major element of recent government spending cuts resulting in significant changes to taxes and benefits - impacting on low-income tenants and social landlords. With the transfer to Universal Credit there have been widely reported issues and impacts on claimants across England. Central Government monitor the impacts of welfare reform and makes mitigating adjustments. Also South Lakeland District Council has put in place a series of mitigations which seek to reduce impacts – these mitigations can be seen below.</p> <p>The current risk position is proportionate in terms of the likelihood and impact across the whole of South Lakeland. The Council has put in place many mitigations to reduce poverty and to alleviate against universal credit impacts - the main mitigations are listed below.</p> <p><a href="#">Back to 'Heat Map'</a></p>	<p><b>Current Position of Risk</b></p>  <p>Green zone: review annually Blue zone: manage quarterly</p> <p><b>Review Date</b> Annual – end of March</p>	<p><b>Target Position of Risk</b></p>  <p>Green zone: review annually Blue zone: manage quarterly</p> <p><b>Target Date</b> 31/03/20</p>
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Mitigation	Mitigation Progress	Mitigation Action Owner	Mitigation Due Date
Revenues and Benefits has regular 'Keep in Touch' meetings with Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and also Citizens Advice (CAB)	These regular meetings share intelligence and situational awareness on any adverse impacts.	Operational Lead Support Services	Regular meetings are in place
Revenues and Benefits 'Discretionary Housing Payment'	This payment eases financial pressures for eligible claimants	Operational Lead Support Services	Mitigating payments are in place for eligible claimants
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	This payment helps to reduce the financial pressures for eligible claimants	Operational Lead Support Services	Mitigating payments are in place for eligible claimants
Building Financial Resilience Group was set up by South Lakeland District Council – it is a multi-agency collaboration to reduce poverty.	This group meets on a regular basis and delivers on a poverty reduction (financial resilience) action plan.	Strategy Lead Specialist	Regular meetings are in place
<b>History of Risk Improvement</b>	<p>This risk is within risk tolerance and requires an annual review during Quarter Four.</p> <p>Q4 2016/17: RISK POSITION UNCHANGED ↔ - SMT review indicates no change.</p> <p>Q1 2017/18: RISK POSITION - This risk is within risk tolerance and requires an annual review during Quarter Four.</p> <p>Q4 2017/18: RISK POSITION UNCHANGED ↔ - The risk will be retained on the risk register whilst there is a potential for impacts.</p> <p>Q4 2018/19: RISK POSITION UNCHANGED ↔ - This risk received a special review at the request of Audit Committee. It was felt that the current risk position was proportionate in terms of the likelihood and impact across the whole of South Lakeland. The Council has put in place many mitigations to reduce poverty and alleviate against universal credit impacts and these are now listed.</p>		
<b>Risk Owner</b>	Finance Lead Specialist	<b>Portfolio</b>	Culture, Wellbeing and Leisure Portfolio