

## AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015

### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

#### FRAUD AND CORRUPTION UPDATE REPORT

##### EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

##### PURPOSE

To provide Members with an update of Counter Fraud work completed to date during the financial year 2014/15.

##### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee endorses:

1. The updated Fighting Fraud Checklist for Governance (**Appendix 1**)
2. The Counter Fraud Work Plan (**Appendix 2**)
3. The Fraud Risk Register (**Appendix 3**)

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Audit Commission publishes a report "Protecting the Public Purse" on an annual basis which considers the key fraud risks and pressures facing councils and related bodies. It identifies good practice in fighting fraud. As part of the report, the Audit Commission has produced a checklist for those charged with governance to enable an assessment of the effectiveness of the Council's current counter-fraud arrangements to be made. The Fighting Fraud Checklist for Governance has been updated with the current status to date and is attached as **Appendix 1**.

The Counter Fraud Work Plan forms part of the Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement, Strategy & Guidance Notes and has been updated to reflect progress to date and is attached as **Appendix 2** for Members' information.

In line with good practice, a Fraud Risk Register is maintained and reviewed on a quarterly basis. The latest Fraud Risk Register is attached as **Appendix 3**.

Work has progressed with the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) across the Council on the data matches identified in the 2014/15 run which were released in February 2015. In total, 1104 data matches were identified with 240 of these being recommended for investigation. So far, 562 data matches have been processed with 1 error identified with a total error cost of £733.

##### RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

## **LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND**

None

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

None

## **REPORT AUTHOR**

Angela Struthers ex 234

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

## **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 1 – Fighting Fraud Checklist for Governance**

**Appendix 2 – Counter Fraud Work Plan**

**Appendix 3 – Fraud Risk Register**