

## COUNCIL

11th SEPTEMBER 2012

### Report of the Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee

#### COUNTER FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY STATEMENT, STRATEGY & GUIDANCE NOTES AND WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

##### EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

##### PURPOSE

To seek Member approval for the adoption of the revised Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement, Strategy & Guidance Notes and Whistleblowing Policy.

##### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council endorses:

1. The Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement, Strategy & Guidance Notes (Appendix 1).
2. The Whistleblowing Policy (Appendix 2).

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A review and update of the Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement, Strategy and Guidance Notes has been completed against best practice and in line with recent guidelines published – “Protecting the Public Purse” and “Fighting Fraud Locally – the Local Government Fraud Strategy”. The updated version is attached as **Appendix 1**. Changes to the previous version are shown in the document. Changes made include reference to the Bribery Act 2010, advocating zero tolerance to fraud, and a Recovery, Sanction and Redress section – again showing our commitment in countering fraud. The document also includes a specific Internal Audit Counter Fraud Work Plan. Although work has previously been completed by Internal Audit around the areas identified, they have not previously been detailed in a work plan.

In addition, the Whistleblowing Policy has been reviewed and updated in line with best practice and is attached as **Appendix 2**. An assessment of the Policy against the British Standards Institute (BSI) Whistleblowing Arrangements Code of Practice has been completed.

Both the Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement, Strategy and Guidance Notes and the Whistleblowing Policy have been endorsed by the Audit & Governance Committee at their meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012.

## **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND**

If the Policies are not adopted the arrangements for Anti Fraud and Whistleblowing will not comply with best practice.

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Protecting the Public Purse 2011  
Fighting Fraud Locally – The Local Government Fraud Strategy

## **REPORT AUTHOR**

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## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

## **APPENDICES**

- Appendix 1 Counter Fraud and Corruption Policy Statement, Strategy & Guidance Notes
- Appendix 2 Whistleblowing Policy