

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

25th SEPTEMBER 2014

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 against. 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 2012/13 run. In total, 1461 data matches were identified and the majority of these have been investigated. To date, a total of , 4 frauds/errors have been identified with a total fraud/error cost of £5,160.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None

LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

None

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

None

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Fighting Fraud Checklist for Governance

Appendix 2 – Counter Fraud Work Plan

Appendix 3 – Fraud Risk Register