



AUDIT COMMITTEE

COUNTER FRAUD PLAN 2019/20

REPORT BY AUDIT, RISK AND COUNTER FRAUD MANAGER

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform the Audit Committee of the 2019/20 counter fraud plan.

B. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Audit Committee approves the 2019/20 counter fraud plan.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Being honest, open and accountable. Making best use of our resources. Working in partnership.
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Investigations into allegations of fraud and corruption are undertaken in accordance with the council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy as well as the council's Whistleblowing Policy.
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	Effective counter fraud arrangements are an essential component of effective performance management.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	The plan is based on the available staff resource.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	Audit, Risk and Counter Fraud staff.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

The Counter Fraud Plan 2019/20 sets out the work to be undertaken by the Counter Fraud Team from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and is attached as an appendix to this report.

The main elements of the plan are to:

- maintain the council's whistleblowing hotline and mailbox;
- record, assess and investigate fraud referrals, whether received via whistleblowing methods or via direct referrals from management;
- review the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy;
- review counter fraud procedures for continued effectiveness;
- administer the biennial National Fraud Initiative (NFI) data matching exercise, and co-ordinate the investigation of data matches by services;
- continue to provide counter fraud advice and roll out the new online fraud and whistleblowing awareness training to services.

E. CONCLUSION

The counter fraud plan is an essential component of the council's counter fraud arrangements.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

None.

Appendices/Attachments: Counter Fraud Plan 2019/20

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