

5. COUNTER FRAUD PLAN 2019/20

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Audit, Risk and Counter Fraud Manager providing details of the 2019/20 counter fraud plan.

The Counter Fraud Plan 2019/20 set out the work to be undertaken by the Counter Fraud Team from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and was attached as an appendix to the report. The plan's main elements were: maintaining the council's whistleblowing hotline and mailbox; recording, assessing and investigating fraud referrals; reviewing the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy; reviewing counter fraud procedures for continued effectiveness; administering the biennial National Fraud Initiative data matching exercise and coordinating the investigation of matches; and providing counter fraud advice and training.

Discussion focused on the National Fraud Initiative data matching exercise and use of technology was suggested for systematic and efficient data comparison between organisations. Engagement with online training on fraud and whistleblowing awareness was also discussed and it was noted that monitoring of training completion was done on a service by service basis and reported to each Head of Service.

It was recommended that the committee approve the 2019/20 counter fraud plan.

Decision

To approve the terms of the report.