

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

21 January 2014

COUNTER-FRAUD STRATEGY UPDATE

Report of the Director of Resources

STRATEGIC AIM:	All
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1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the current status of the action points appended to the Counter-Fraud Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the current status of the Counter-Fraud Strategy Action Plan be noted.
- 2.2 That the Audit and Risk Committee note the future work planned on Fraud prevention.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To monitor progress on the agreed action points.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Council agreed the recommendation of this Committee to approve the Counter-Fraud Strategy, considered by the Committee on 25 September 2012, at its meeting on 12 November 2012 (Min 467 of 2012/13). Progress against the strategy was reported in April 2013 (100/2013) and has been updated as at end December 2013.
- 4.2 The majority of the recommendations have been implemented. However, the new Head of Corporate Governance and Assistant Director (Finance) have undertaken a further review of arrangements and want to further strengthen arrangements. Work planned includes:
- Development of a stand alone fraud risk register which would be reported periodically to Members;
 - Production of an Annual Report on Fraud; and
 - Assessment of the Council's arrangement against regulatory guidance.

- 4.3** The intention is to produce the Annual Report and first fraud register for the Audit and Risk Committee in April 2014.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK	IMPACT	COMMENTS
Time	LOW	The Action Plan includes target dates up to 30 September 2013.
Viability	LOW	There are no implications.
Finance	LOW	There are no direct implications.
Profile	LOW	The Counter-Fraud Strategy itself attracts little public interest.
Equality and Diversity	LOW	No impact assessment has been carried out as there are no direct implications.

Background Papers
None

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