

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

20 NOVEMBER 2018

REPORT OF HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT

COUNTER FRAUD ACTION PLAN UPDATE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To update Members on the implementation and latest status of the Counter Fraud Action Plan.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 **That Members note the status of the Counter Fraud Action Plan.**

3.0 ACTION PLAN

3.1 When the Council's Counter and Corruption Policy and Fraud Response Plan were updated in 2016/17 it was recommended by Internal Audit that a separate action plan be developed and maintained outside of these policy documents. This action plan should ensure that the counter fraud arrangements are constantly monitored and strengthened in line with latest trends and developments and that best practice is adopted wherever possible.

3.2 An action plan was developed which incorporated all areas for possible improvement identified in the assessment against the CIPFA Code of Practice (completed in 2017) and any other areas already identified by management and/or Internal Audit. A copy of the latest copy of this Plan is provided in Appendix A to this report. All actions have an allocated owner and timescale for implementation. Progress against this plan is monitored by Internal Audit on a quarterly basis.

3.3 All actions from the last update have been completed.

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The report allows the Committee to obtain independent assurance about the quality of the Council's internal control framework.

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial or other resource implications arising directly from this report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 There are no community safety implications arising directly from this report.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 There are no equalities implications arising directly from this report.

9.0 **RISKS**

9.1 The assessment against best practice standards and the development of an action plan should assist the Council in proactively managing its exposure to the risk of fraud and corruption.

10.0 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

10.1 There are no climate change implications arising directly from this report.

11.0 **CONSULTATION**

11.1 N/A

12.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All wards are indirectly affected by the report.

Contact Officer Rachel Ashley-Caunt

Date: 05/11/2018

Appendices : A – Counter Fraud Action Plan

Background Papers: N/A

Reference : N/A