
REPORT TO:	FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT	AGENDA ITEM: 13
DATE OF MEETING:	23 OCTOBER 2008	CATEGORY: RECOMMENDED
REPORT FROM:	DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	PAM CARROLL (595784)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	CORPORATE ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY	REF: IB
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	TERMS OF REFERENCE: FM08

1.0 Recommendation:

- 1.1 Members are asked to approve the Authority's draft Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy (attached)

2.0 Purpose of Report:

- 2.1 The report seeks members approval of a revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and the approval of a Corporate Anti-Fraud Team

3.0 Content:

- 3.1 It is recognised good practice within Local Government for Authorities to publicise a statement outlining its policies with regard to the prevention, detection and investigation of fraud and corruption.
- 3.2 The Authority's existing Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy has been in place since April 2003. However the policy needs regular review and revision and it is therefore appropriate to review, revise and re-issue it.
- 3.3 The revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy as proposed is more comprehensive than the Authority's current Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and outlines the corporate framework that supports anti-fraud and corruption activity, prevention, detection and investigation, deterrence, raising fraud awareness and review.
- 3.4 The revised policy also proposes the establishment of a Corporate Anti-Fraud Team, formed from the existing Benefit Investigations Unit in which a Certified Counter-Fraud Specialist and an Accredited Counter-Fraud Specialist are currently employed.
- 3.5 Members are asked to consider approving the revised policy and the establishment of a Corporate Anti-Fraud team

4.0 Staffing Implications:

- 4.1 This could change some of the duties of the staff involved but it is not anticipated that this will be significant. The current job descriptions of the people involved will need to be reviewed should this policy be adopted and we will only report back to committee if the changes are material. Any changes to current jobs will be considered under the Council's Pay & Grading Review.

5.0 Financial Implications:

- 5.1 None for the purpose of this report.

6.0 Corporate Implications:

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out on the policy with an overall assessment of low impact

7.0 Community Implications

- 7.1 The new Corporate Anti-Fraud and Corruption policy will assist in protecting public resources and ensure that we are able to continue to provide high quality services and excellent service provision.