



**Corporate Policy &  
Resources Committee**

**Thursday, 24 July 2025**

**Subject: Recommendation from JSCC: Review of the Counter Fraud,  
Corruption and Bribery Policy**

Report by:

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Purpose / Summary:

To review the updated policy which outlines the Council's approach to preventing and identifying all forms of fraud, corruption, theft and bribery.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

1. That Members accept the recommendation from the Joint Staff Consultation Committee, and the revised Counter Fraud, Corruption and Bribery Policy be approved.
2. That minor housekeeping amendments be delegated to the Section 151 Officer following consultation with the Chairmen of the JSCC and CP&R Committees

## IMPLICATIONS

**Legal:** The legal duties around fraud, bribery and corruption are detailed within the policy.

**Financial: FIN/56/26/VA**

There are no financial implications arising from this report. Low risk investigations can be carried out by Human Resources; medium risk investigations by the Monitoring Officer; and high risk investigations by the Section 151 Officer, supported by external legal and/or specialist fraud investigation support. There is a necessary cost when engaging specialist external investigation resource.

**Staffing:** There are no staffing implications arising from this report. However, the report does make reference to key contacts for whistleblowing.

**Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:**

There are no implications arising from this report.

**Data Protection Implications:**

There are no implications arising from this report.

**Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:**

There are no implications arising from this report.

**Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:**

There are no implications arising from this report.

**Health Implications:**

There are no implications arising from this report.

**Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report :**

**Risk Assessment:**

The Fraud Risk Assessment was provided to Members of the Governance and Audit Committee in July 2024.

**Call in and Urgency:**

**Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?**

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

**Yes**

☐

**No**

☒

**Key Decision:**

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

**Yes**

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**No**

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## **1. Background**

- 1.1 This report recommends a revised Counter Fraud, Corruption and Bribery Policy, attached at Appendix 1. The previous policy has been in place for in excess of seven years and, following an external review of the council's fraud policies and processes, a review of the existing policy was recommended.
- 1.2 The revised policy provides a clear framework for the Council to undertake necessary, legal and proportionate actions where evidence supports an investigation into an allegation of fraud, and sets out that the Council will seek recovery of defrauded monies through all legal means.
- 1.3 The policy also sets out that the minimisation of losses to fraud and corruption is essential to ensure that public resources are used for their intended purpose of providing services to local residents.
- 1.4 The policy also sets out the Council's no tolerance stance to all forms of bribery, corruption and fraud, and references the policy framework with which our staff, contractors, members and suppliers must comply. Reporting mechanisms are also included.
- 1.5 Following the introduction of this revised policy, staff and member training will be provided, in addition to an update in our supplier terms and conditions.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 That Members of the Corporate Policy & Resources Committee accept the recommendation from the Joint Staff Consultative Committee, and the revised Counter Fraud, Corruption and Bribery Policy be approved.
- 2.2 That minor housekeeping amendments be delegated to the Section 151 Officer following consultation with the Chairmen of the JSCC and CP&R Committees.