

13 June 2018**Agenda Item: 16****REPORT OF SERVICE DIRECTOR, FINANCE, PROCUREMENT &
IMPROVEMENT****ANNUAL FRAUD REPORT 2017/18****Purpose of the Report**

1. To present to Members the Council's Annual Fraud Report, and to invite feedback on its content.

Information

2. The Council's strategy for countering fraud and corruption includes the requirement for an Annual Fraud Report to be submitted to the Governance & Ethics Committee. This requirement is included in the strategy with a view to demonstrably strengthening the counter-fraud culture at the Council.
3. The attached report represents the third edition of the Annual Fraud Report. It sets out an update regarding the known fraud risks facing the County Council, the incidence of fraud picked up over the past 12 months, and an assessment of the Council's resilience to attacks. The report also reviews progress against the fraud related actions planned for delivery in 2017/18, along with those to be pursued in the coming year to ensure the Council's defences against fraud are maintained.

Other Options Considered

4. None, since the requirement to publish an Annual Fraud Report is a feature of the Council's refreshed strategy for countering fraud and corruption.

Reason for Recommendation

5. To inform the Committee of the Council's current arrangements for tackling fraud and corruption and to invite suggestions for how those arrangements can be improved.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That the Committee notes the content of the Annual Fraud Report 2017/18.
- 2) That the Committee offers its feedback on the adequacy of the Council's current and planned arrangements for tackling fraud and corruption.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Constitutional Comments [SLB 29/05/2018]

Governance and Ethics Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments [RWK 30/05/2018]

There are no specific financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972:

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All