

2 May 2018**Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND SECTION 151 FINANCE
OFFICER****LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION'S BRIBERY & FRAUD PREVENTION
WORKBOOK FOR COUNCILLORS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To bring to the attention of Members the Local Government Association (LGA)'s workbook for councillors on bribery and fraud prevention, and to seek approval for its issue to all Council Members.

Information and Advice

2. The risk that all councils face from fraud and corruption is well documented and this Committee receives reports setting out the arrangements at the County Council to mitigate and counter these threats.
3. Central to this is the Annual Fraud Report. This presents a review of the incidence of fraud picked up at the Council over the preceding year, along with an update of current fraud risks and an assessment of the Council's counter-fraud arrangements. The next issue of the Annual Fraud Report is scheduled in the Committee's work programme for the June 2018 meeting.
4. In advance of that, Members' attention is drawn to a workbook on bribery and fraud, issued by the LGA (*see Appendix 1*). This is specifically aimed at councillors to assist them in understanding the threats, the expected response from councils and the contribution that councillors may make.

Other Options Considered

5. It is considered both important and relevant for Members' attention to be drawn to the content of the LGA's workbook, and this may be achieved in a number of ways. The alternative of not ensuring Members are aware of this publication was discounted.

Reason for Recommendation

6. To assist Members in understanding and developing the contribution they may make to the overall arrangements at the Council for countering fraud and corruption.

Statutory and Policy Implications

7. 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 approves the issue of the workbook to all Council Members.

Jayne Francis-Ward
Corporate Director - Resources

Nigel Stevenson
Service Director – Finance, Procurement & Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:
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Constitutional Comments (SLB 20/04/2018)

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

Financial Comments (RWK 23/04/2018)

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