

Business Assurance - Counter Fraud Progress Report for 2017/18 Quarter 3 (including the Quarter 4 Counter Fraud Plan)

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REASON FOR ITEM

The attached report presents the Audit Committee with summary information on all Counter Fraud work covered in relation to 2017/18 Quarter 3 and assurance in this respect. It also provides an opportunity for the Head of Business Assurance to highlight to the Audit Committee any significant Counter Fraud issues that have arisen which they need to be aware of.

Further, the report enables the Audit Committee to hold the Head of Business Assurance to account on delivery of the Quarter 3 Counter Fraud work and facilitates in holding management to account for managing issues identified during the course of the Business Assurance Counter Fraud Team (BACFT) activity.

The attached report also presents the Audit Committee with the Quarter 4 Counter Fraud Plan which has been produced in consultation with Corporate Management Team. The Plan sets out the programme of proactive Counter Fraud coverage which is due to commence in the 1st January to 31st March 2018 period.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee is asked to note the Counter Fraud Progress Report for 2017/18 Quarter 3 and consider the Quarter 4 Counter Fraud Plan and, subject to any further minor amendments, approve it.

The Audit Committee should ensure that the coverage, performance and results of BACFT activity in this quarter are considered and any additional Counter Fraud requirements are communicated to the Head of Business Assurance.

INFORMATION

The BACFT, formerly known as the Corporate Fraud Investigations Team, supports the Council in meeting its statutory responsibility under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 for the prevention and detection of fraud and corruption. The work of the BACFT underpins the Council's commitment to a zero tolerance approach to fraud, bribery, corruption and other irregularities, including any money laundering activity.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Business Assurance service holds various background research documents in relation to the Quarter 4 Counter Fraud Plan.