

# Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	27 July 2020
Title of Report:	<b>Counter Fraud Services Annual Report 2019-20</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)
Lead Strategic Director:	Andrew Hardingham (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Ken Johnson Counter Fraud Services Manager
Contact Email:	Ken.johnson@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	AS/CFST
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## **Purpose of Report**

This report summarises the work carried out during 2019/20 by the Counter Fraud Services Team in order to counter fraudulent threats to the Council's budget and reputation.

## **Recommendations and Reasons**

The Audit Committee is recommended to note the Annual Report.

## **Alternative options considered and rejected**

Effective counter fraud processes are an essential element of internal control and as such are an important element of good corporate governance. For this reason alternative options are not applicable.

## **Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan**

Maintaining sound systems of internal control and protecting the public purse ensures that those who legitimately need the support and services of the Council get them and this therefore supports the achievement of corporate and service objectives.

## **Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:**

None arising specifically from this report.

## **Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:**

n/a

## **Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:**

*\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

The Counter Fraud Services Team specifically support the council's overall governance arrangements.

## Appendices

\*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Counter Fraud Services Annual Report							

## Background papers:

\*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

## Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Andrew Hardingham (Service Director for Finance)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 15/07/2020											
Cabinet Member approval: Approved by Councillor Mark Lowry by email.											
Date approved: 15/07/2020											