

Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	27 September 2021
Title of Report:	Updated Anti-Fraud Bribery and Corruption Policy and Updated Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy and Response Plan.
Lead Member:	Councillor Nick Kelly
Lead Strategic Director	Brendan Arnold (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Ken Johnson Counter Fraud Services Manager
Contact Email:	Ken.johnson@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	AFBC/CFST
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

Both documents subject to a light touch update to reflect changes in statistical information available, changes to linked documents and organisations. The Strategy has also been updated to reflect the latest Fighting Fraud and Corruption Locally (A strategy for the 2020's).

Changes highlighted in yellow with an explanation of the change in blue font for ease of reference.

Recommendations and Reasons

The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to agree the changes to the Policy and the Strategy and Response Plan to support the Councils ongoing commitment in reducing fraud to the lowest possible levels.

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. The Equality Impact Assessment has been completed to give assurance that the issues concerned have been thought about and addressed where relevant.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

None arising specifically from this report.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None arising specifically from this report

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	Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy							
B	Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Strategy and Response Plan							
C	Equality Impact Assessment							

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: Brendan Arnold
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 23/08/2021 (CMT)
Cabinet Member approval: Approved by Councillor Kelly (Leader) Date approved: 13/09/2021