

Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	22 July 2025
Title of Report:	Counter Fraud Service Annual Report 2024/25
Lead Member:	Councillor Mark Lowry (Cabinet Member for Finance)
Lead Strategic Director:	Ian Trisk-Grove (Service Director for Finance)
Author:	Tony Rose, Head of Devon Assurance Partnership
Contact Email:	tony.d.rose@devon.gov.uk
Your Reference:	AR/CFST/24-25
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

This report summarises the work carried out during the financial year 2024/25 by the Counter Fraud Services Team at Devon Audit Partnership to support the Council and counter fraudulent threats to the Council's budget and reputation, as well as providing reassurance to the residents of Plymouth that the public purse is being protected appropriately.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to note the Annual Report.

Alternative options considered and rejected

1. 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.

Financial Risks

None

Legal Implications

(Provided by LB)

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

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

No impacts directly arising from this report. The work of the internal audit service is an intrinsic element of the Council's overall corporate governance, risk management and internal control framework.

*Add rows as required to box below

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Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Sign off:

Fin	ITG.2 5.2.03 4	Leg	LS/00 0036 09/33 /LB/I 1/07/ 25	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Assets	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Ian Trisk-Grove, Service Director for Finance											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 08/07/2025											

Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Mark Lowry approved via email

Date approved: 11/07/2025