

Audit and Governance Committee



Date of meeting:	18 November 2025
Title of Report:	Counter Fraud Services Report 2025/26
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 2025/26 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

- I. The Audit and Governance Committee is recommended to note the Counter Fraud Report.

Alternative options considered and rejected

- I. 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 Liz Bryant / LB)

There are no specific legal considerations arising from this report.

None arising specifically from this report.

** 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.*

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*

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	PCC Counter Fraud Services Report 2025/26							

**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

Fin	ITG. 25.26 .080	Leg	LS/00 0036 09/44 /LB/0 6/11/ 25	Mon Off	Click here to enter text.	HR	Click here to enter text.	Assets	Click here to enter text.	Strat Proc	Click here to enter text.
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Ian Trisk-Grove, Service Director for Finance (S151)											

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 23/10/2025

Cabinet Member approval: Cllr Lowry, verbal via Service Director for Finance (S151)

Date approved: 05/11/2025