

MEETING:	AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE:	26 NOVEMBER 2014
TITLE OF REPORT:	DRAFT ANTI-FRAUD, BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION POLICY 2014
REPORT BY:	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND INTERNAL AUDIT – SOUTH WEST AUDIT PARTNERSHIP

Classification

Open

Key Decision

This is not an executive decision

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To present to the Audit and Governance Committee the draft Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy for comment.

Recommendation

That the Audit and Governance Committee comment on the draft update of the Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy

Alternative Options

- 1 There are no alternative options as this is a draft for comment.

Reasons for Recommendations

- 2 The audit and governance code requires this committee to approve the council's anti-fraud and corruption policies and to review them on a biennial basis. The policy attached at Appendix A has been drafted using best practice from other authorities but needs to go through the council's governance and decision framework for policy revisions to ensure that the policy is legal and any other policies affected by it are also revised. The committee are invited to comment on the draft before it goes through this process.

Key Considerations

- 3 The draft policy summarises the culture of the council with regard to its opposition to fraud and corruption.

The policy also sets out clearly to members, employees, contractors, the council's partners, and the public:

- The council's commitment to tackling fraud, bribery and corruption
- Its actions to promote the prevention of fraud, bribery and corruption
- The responsibility of members and employees in minimising the risk of fraud and reporting any suspicions they may have

Community Impact

- 4 The report does not impact on this area.

Equality and Human Rights

- 5 The report does not impact on this area.

Financial Implications

- 6 There are no financial implications.

Legal Implications

- 7 There are no legal implications as the report is seeking comments on the draft.

Risk Management

- 8 The committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the council's anti-fraud, bribery and corruption policies; if this is not done there is the risk that policies will not be sufficient and robust in addressing fraud.

Consultees

- 9 The Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 Officer) was consulted in the drafting of this policy.

Appendices

Appendix A – Anti-Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy

Background Papers

- None identified.