

## ANTI-FRAUD & CORRUPTION STRATEGY

Audit Committee - 18 April 2017

Report of Chief Finance Officer

Status: For Consideration

Key Decision: No

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This report supports the Key Aim of Effective Delivery of the Corporate Plan

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Scholey

Contact Officer(s) Lisa Nyon Ext. 3004

Bami Cole Ext. 7236

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**Recommendation to Audit Committee:** That Members review and approve the proposed amendments to the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy as set out in Appendix A to the report.

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**Reason for recommendation:** Section 5 of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy states that this document is subject to review and any changes will be subject to approval and endorsed by the Audit Committee, and will take into consideration the views of users of the Strategy and any relevant professional or regulatory changes.

This report sets out the proposed amendments to the Council's existing Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, which was last reviewed by Members in 2011.

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### Introduction

- 1 The Bribery Act 2010 came into force in July 2011. The Act introduced new requirements which UK organisations (both commercial and public bodies) must comply with.
- 2 The purpose of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy is to set out the Council's commitment towards the prevention of fraud and corruption from both internal and external sources.
- 3 The Strategy covers the Council's expectations and responsibilities of its officers, members, contractors and all who associate with the Council to act with propriety and accountability. It sets out four inter-related procedures (Culture, Prevention, Detection and Investigation and Training) designed to prevent any attempted fraudulent or corrupt act.

### Amendments to Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy

- 4 The existing Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy is consistent with good practise and is attached as Appendix A to this report. Only minor changes

have been made where appropriate, which in the main are references made to the Anti-Fraud team.

5 The Strategic Management Team has reviewed these amendments which are shown below: -

- As this is no longer a joint policy references made to Dartford Borough Council have been removed.
- References made to the Anti-Fraud Team have been replaced with Counter Fraud Team.
- Reference is made to the Local Taxation/Council Tax Support Fraud and Compliance Strategy which is a document produced by the Counter Fraud Team.

## Key Implications

### Financial

This report has no financial implications.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

The Council is required to have sound anti-fraud and corruption arrangement as part of its overall governance framework. By adopting the requirements of The Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, the Council will be compliant with regulatory requirements, as well as ensuring that it has effective arrangements in place to manage the risk of fraud occurring.

No additional legal implication beyond the Council's duty to comply with the Bribery Act 2010

### Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

**Appendices**     Appendix A - Anti Fraud & Corruption Strategy 2017

**Background Papers:**     Anti-Fraud & Corruption Strategy 2011

[Charter and Other Policy Documents\Anti-Fraud & Corruption Strategy\Previous Versions\Final - Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy V2.1 March 2012.doc](#)

Bribery Act 2010

[S:\Charter and Other Policy Documents\Bribery Act\bribery-act-2010-quick-start-guide.pdf](#)

**Adrian Rowbotham**  
**Chief Finance Officer**