

COUNTER FRAUD & COMPLIANCE TEAM REPORT 2019/20

Audit Committee - 16 July 2020

Report of Chief Officer Customer and Resources

Status: For Consideration

Key Decision: No

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

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Dickins

Contact Officer(s) Glen Moore Ext. 7471

Recommendation to Audit Committee:

That Members note the work of the Counter Fraud & Compliance Team carried out during the year ended 31 March 2020.

Reason for recommendation: The Audit Committee is required to review the work of the Counter Fraud & Compliance Team.

Introduction and Background

- 1 The Counter Fraud & Compliance Team is based within the shared service Revenues & Benefits Department.
- 2 Sevenoaks District Council is committed to supporting the most vulnerable groups within the district by awarding them the discounts, exemptions, reductions and reliefs to which they are entitled.
- 3 The Counter Fraud & Compliance Team co-ordinate the Council's participation in the government led anti-fraud initiatives and creates pro-active exercises designed to protect valuable Council Tax and Business Rate revenue collection.

Summary of Key Issues in the Report

- 4 An overall summary of the work conducted by the Counter Fraud & Compliance Team during 2019/20.
- 5 A breakdown of the successes achieved by the Counter Fraud & Compliance Team during the period April 2019 to March 2020.
- 6 A summary of future plans for 2020/21.

Key Implications

Financial

Not applicable.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

The Council is required to have effective anti-fraud arrangements in place in order to safeguard public funds and prevent the pursuance of crime. The Counter Fraud & Compliance Team will contribute towards the council's fraud prevention initiatives.

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

Conclusions

This report sets out the work conducted by the Counter Fraud & Compliance Team during 2019/20. Members are requested to note the report and the plans for the future.

Appendices

Appendix A - Counter Fraud & Compliance Team
End of Year Report 2019/20.

Background Papers:

None.

Jim Carrington-West
Chief Officer Customer and Resources