



City of Westminster

Audit and Performance Committee Report

Meeting:	Audit and Performance Committee
Date:	Tuesday 25 November 2024
Classification:	For General Release
Title:	Counter Fraud Policy Review 2024/25
Wards Affected:	All
Financial Summary:	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However, the application of approved anti-fraud policies is intended to protect the Council against loss through fraud and corruption.
Report of:	Gerald Almeroth, Executive Director of Finance and Resources
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Audit and Performance Committee is responsible for the effective scrutiny of anti-fraud arrangements and activities, the Committee:
- review and approve anti-fraud policies
 - is responsible for gaining assurance that policies are kept up to date and are fit for purpose.
- 1.2 This paper contains three revised anti-fraud policies for review and approval. They are:
- Fraud Response Plan (Appendix 1)
 - Anti-Bribery Policy (Appendix 2)
 - Anti-Money Laundering Policy (Appendix 3)

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Committee approve the revised anti-fraud and corruption policies.

3. Reasons for decisions

3.1 To inform the Committee of policy revisions and to provide assurance that policies are kept up to date and are fit for purpose.

4. Anti-fraud policies

4.1 Reducing losses due to fraud and corruption is crucial for ensuring that the Council's resources are utilised for their intended purposes.

4.2 Staff are often at the front line of defence and the first to spot possible cases of wrongdoing. Therefore, staff are encouraged and, indeed, expected to raise any concern that they may have, without fear of recrimination. All reported concerns will be handled with the utmost confidentiality and will undergo a thorough investigation.

4.3 It is therefore vitally important that anti-fraud policies are kept up to date to support and guide Council staff, ensuring compliance with laws and regulations, giving guidance for decision-making, and streamlining internal processes.

David Hughes
Director of Internal Audit, Risk, Fraud & Insurance

Local Government Access to Information Act – background papers used:
Case Management Information

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