

**REPORT TO:** Business Efficiency Board  
**DATE:** 8 June 2016  
**REPORTING OFFICER:** Operational Director – Finance  
**PORTFOLIO:** Resources  
**SUBJECT:** Fraud & Corruption Update Report  
**WARD(S):** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 The Business Efficiency Board is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the adequacy of the Council's anti-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements. The purpose of this report is to update the Board with details of developments in regard to those arrangements.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That;**

- (i) The fraud and corruption update be received;**
- (ii) The actions being taken to counter fraud and corruption be endorsed.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 This report is presented to the Business Efficiency Board for information purposes. It provides an overview of developments in regard to the Council's arrangements to counter fraud and corruption. As such it forms one of the sources of assurance that support the Council's Annual Governance Statement.

3.2 The attached report provides details of:

- Reported fraud and corruption from 2015/16;
- A summary of the results from the 2014/15 National Fraud Initiative;
- Developments in the Council's counter fraud and corruption arrangements.

## **4.0 POLICY, FINANCIAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The responsibilities of public sector entities in relation to the prevention and detection of fraud and error are set out in statute, standards and other guidance. Local authorities also have a statutory duty to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.

4.2 The report provides details of proposals to update the Anti-fraud and Anti-corruption Strategy.

- 4.2 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However, the report provides details of the value of fraud identified by the Council in 2015/16.

## **5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **5.1 Children and Young People in Halton**

The maintenance of an effective framework to minimise the risk of fraud and corruption contributes to the achievement of all the Council's priorities.

### **5.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton**

See 5.1

### **5.3 A Healthy Halton**

See 5.1

### **5.4 A Safer Halton**

See 5.1

### **5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

See 5.1

## **6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

This report highlights specific actions that the Council has already taken, and continues to take, to minimise the risk of fraud. Failure to maintain effective counter fraud measures would result in the Council being susceptible to an increased risk of financial loss.

## **7.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

None

## **8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

None