

Crawley Borough Council

Report to Cabinet 6 July 2022

Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy

Report of the Head of Corporate Finance – FIN/576

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To request approval for the adoption of the revised Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy in appendix A.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To the Cabinet

The Cabinet is recommended to:

- a) Approve the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy (Appendix A) for adoption and subsequent publication.
- b) Delegate authority to the Head of Corporate Finance, in consultation with the Leader, to review and make minor amendments to the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy as further changes to legislation and statutory guidance are introduced. (*Generic Delegation 7 will be used to enact this recommendation*).

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

- 3.1 To fulfil the Council's duty to review and publish updated guidance relating to Anti-Fraud and Corruption.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Council takes its responsibilities to protect the public purse very seriously and is committed to the highest standards of openness and accountability in order to ensure the proper use and protection of public funds and assets.

5. Description of Issue to be resolved

- 5.1 The Council's existing policy was published in 2018. A review was carried out in 2022 and it was decided that an updated policy would be drafted based on that review.
- 5.2 The draft Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy was prepared following the 2022 review and it is proposed that it will, if adopted, replace the Council's existing Fraud and Corruption Policy.
- 5.3 The main changes that have been made to the existing policy from 2018 are:
- Renaming titles where Heads of Service posts have changed
 - Internal audit is now replaced by Southern Internal Audit Partnership

6. Information & Analysis Supporting Recommendation

6.1 The Policy is based upon three key themes:

- Acknowledge
- Prevent
- Pursue

6.2 The Council will not tolerate fraud or corruption by its employees, councillors, suppliers, contractors or service users and will take all necessary steps to investigate allegations of fraud or corruptions and peruse sanctions when appropriate.

7. Implications

7.1 Staffing – There are no direct staffing implications associated with implementing the Fraud and Corruption Policy

7.2 Financial – There are no financial implications associated with implementing the Fraud and Corruption Policy.

7.3 Legal - There are no legal implications associated with implementing the Fraud and Corruption Policy.

7.4 Equalities Impact Assessment. There are no impacts of note with implementing the Fraud and Corruption Policy.

8. Background Papers

Fraud Act 2006

Bribery Act 2010

Local Government Finance Act 1992

[Officer Code of Conduct](#)

[Code of Conduct for Councillors](#)

Whistleblowing Policy

[Financial and Budget Procedure Rules](#)

[Procurement Code](#)

Proceeds of Crime Act

Social Security Administration (Fraud) Act 1997

The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Detection and Enforcement) 2013

Report author and contact: Chris Corker, Operational Benefits and Corporate Fraud Manager

Direct Line: 01293 438598

Email: chris.corker@ Crawley.gov.uk