



Policy, Finance and Development Committee	Tuesday, 27 June 2023	Matter for Decision
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Report Title: **Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy**

Report Author(s): **Bev Bull (Head of Finance / Deputy Section 151 Officer)**

Purpose of Report:	To present the updated Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy for Oadby and Wigston Borough Council for approval by PFD Committee.
Report Summary:	The Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy sets out the key roles and responsibilities for fraud, bribery and corruption prevention, what to do if fraud, bribery and corruption is suspected and the action that will be taken by management if fraud, bribery and corruption is detected.
Recommendation(s):	That the Committee approve the Council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy (at set out at Appendix 1).
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	<p>Sal Khan (Interim Strategic Director and S151 Officer) (0116) 257 2635 sal.khan@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Bev Bull (Head of Finance / Deputy S151 Officer) (0116) 257 2649 bev.bull@Oadby-Wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Rashpal Sohal (Finance Manager) (0116) 257 2705 rashpal.sohal@Oadby-Wigston.gov.uk</p> <p>Jon Owst (Revenue and Benefits Manager) (0116) 257 2859 jon.owst@oadby-wigston.gov.uk</p>
Strategic Objectives:	Our Council (SO1)
Vision and Values:	"Our Borough - The Place To Be" (Vision) Customer & Community Focused (V1) Proud of Everything We Do (V2) Collaborative & Creative (V3)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Financial:	There are no implications directly arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	Decreasing Financial Resources / Increasing Financial Pressures (CR1) Reputation Damage (CR4) Regulatory Governance (CR6) Increased Fraud (CR10)
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. EA not applicable

Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Consultees:	None.
Background Papers:	Previous version of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy. Fighting Fraud and Corruption Locally guidance (2020)
Appendices:	1. Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Local Authorities have a duty to safeguard public funds. The fight against fraud is an ongoing and a constantly evolving process. The Council is responsible for protecting public assets, acting in the public interest and making best use of resources to achieve intended outcomes.
- 1.2 The Council should have in place a policy which set out its approach to preventing, detecting and investigating fraud, bribery and corruption. This is the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy.
- 1.3 Fraud is the intentional distortion of records by persons internal or external to us, which is carried out for gain.
- 1.4 Bribery is an inducement or reward offered, promised or provided to gain personal, commercial or contractual advantage which is done either directly or via a third party.
- 1.5 Corruption is the offering, giving, soliciting or acceptance of an inducement or reward which may influence the action of any other person.
- 1.6 The periodic review of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and procedures ensures the Council's approach is up to date and accords with current thinking and best practice.

2. Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy Review

- 2.1 The Anti-Fraud & Corruption Policy has been updated to include a section detailing the types of sanctions that could be taken, including the different types of criminal and civil redress that the Council could pursue. This is in accordance with the Fighting Fraud and Corruption Locally guidance (2020), which provides a framework for local authorities to consider the effectiveness of their counter fraud framework in four key areas: Govern, Acknowledge, Prevent and Pursue.
- 2.2 The Anti-Fraud & Corruption Policy has also been updated to include appendices outlining the reporting procedures for employees, elected members, and members of the public. Whilst these procedures have always been detailed in the policy, the appendices have now been included for ease of reference.

