

**Report for:** Standards Committee – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**Item number:**

**Title:** Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy (including Bribery)

**Report authorised by :** Director of Finance, Jon Warlow

**Lead Officer:** Minesh Jani, Head of Audit and Risk Management  
Tel: 020 8489 5973  
Email: [minesh.jani@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:minesh.jani@haringey.gov.uk)

**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:** Information

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 The Corporate Committee is responsible for Anti-fraud and Corruption arrangements as part of its Terms of Reference under the Council's constitution. The Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and the accompanying documents are under review and are scheduled to be presented to the Corporate Committee in July 2022.
- 1.2 This paper was requested by the Standards Committee to refresh the Committee's awareness of Council's arrangement for dealing with fraud and corruption.

**2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 2.1 Not applicable.

**3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 That the Standards Committee notes the Corporate Anti-fraud and Corruption Strategy together with the appended Fraud Response Plan, Whistle-blowing Policy, Sanctions Policy, Anti-money Laundering Policy and the Anti-bribery Policy.

**4. Reasons for decision**

- 4.1 The Corporate Committee is responsible for approving the Council's Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy under its Terms of Reference and last endorsed the current policy in December 2020. The Standard Committee is asked to note this report.

**5. Alternative options considered**

- 5.1 Not applicable.

## **6. Background information**

- 6.1 Haringey Council seeks to maintain high standards of probity and has put in place arrangements for protecting the public purse. Sound systems to demonstrate public accountability are also vital for effective management of services and in maintaining public confidence; the minimisation of losses from fraud and corruption is essential for ensuring resources are used for their intended purpose.
- 6.2 The Council's Anti-fraud and Corruption Strategy gives guidance to relevant individuals, employees, Councillors, members of the public and organisations working in partnership with the Council, on the Council's stance on Fraud and Corruption and the steps people should take if they suspect fraud and corruption. The strategy also sets out how the Council will deal with any allegations.
- 6.3 The strategy states the Council has a zero tolerance to fraud and corruption and the Council will use the full range of sanctions to act against individuals or organisations found to be committing fraud against the Council.
- 6.4 The Council's Anti-fraud and Corruption Strategy and the related appendices are published on the Haringey website and intranet site. In addition, all policies are published separately to enable anyone searching for the individual policy to locate these easily. The website pages also provide details of how to report suspected cases of fraud and corruption.
- 6.5 The Head of Legal and Governance and Head of Audit and Risk Management are the responsible officers for maintaining the Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy, together with all related policies: Whistleblowing, Sanctions, Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-bribery. The Head of Legal and Corporate Governance and Head of Audit and Risk Management review all anti-fraud and corruption policies to ensure they reflect current legislation and recommended best practice.

## **7. Contribution to strategic outcomes**

- 7.1 The Council has an important role to demonstrate stewardship of the public purse. The management of fraud risks is an important part of the Council's work to enable the Council to utilise its resources to achieve its corporate aims.

## **8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)**

### **8.1 Finance and Procurement**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The strategies will be implemented within existing agreed budgets.

### **8.2 Legal**

The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report, and in noting that the policies, plan and strategy follow legislative requirements / industry guidance and best practice, has no comments.

8.3 Equality

There are no direct equality implications for the Council's existing policies, priorities and strategies as a result of this report. However, ensuring that the Council has effective anti-fraud and corruption arrangements in place and taking appropriate action to improve these where required will assist the Council to use its available resources more effectively.

**9. Use of Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Fraud Response Plan

Appendix 2 – Whistleblowing Policy

Appendix 3 – Sanctions Policy

Appendix 4 – Anti Money Laundering Policy

Appendix 5 – Anti Bribery Policy

**10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

Not applicable.