



Report for:	Corporate Committee 26 June 2014	Item number	
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Title:	Corporate Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy
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Report authorised by :	Assistant Director of Corporate Governance
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Lead Officer:	Anne Woods, Head of Audit and Risk Management Tel: 020 8489 5973 Email: anne.woods@haringey.gov.uk
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Ward(s) affected: ALL	Report for: Non-Key Decision
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1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 As part of the 2013 UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS), Haringey Council needs to ensure that there are appropriate processes in place for the reporting and investigation of allegations of fraud and corruption.
- 1.2 The Corporate Committee is responsible for Anti-fraud and Corruption arrangements as part of its Terms of Reference. In order to provide assurance that the corporate policy is consistent with relevant regulations and other best practice requirements, it is reviewed on a regular basis. The Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy was last presented to members at the Corporate Committee in October 2011 for formal approval.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 Not applicable

3. Recommendations



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

4. Other options considered

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. Comments of the Chief Financial Officer and Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Investigations into allegations of fraud and corruption are undertaken using existing available resources within Audit and Risk Management and relevant service areas, where applicable.
- 5.2 The risks of fraud and any associated potential financial losses are identified and recorded in the Corporate Governance risk register. Ensuring that the Council has dedicated fraud prevention and investigation resources assists in both reducing the risk of financial losses from occurring and in the recovery of resources from identified frauds.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance and been consulted and approves the content of this report. There are no direct legal implications arising out of this report.

7. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

- 7.1 This report outlines how the Council deals with allegations of fraud and corruption across all areas of the Council, which have an impact on various parts of the community. Improvements in managing risks and controls and reducing the opportunity for fraud will therefore improve services the Council provides to all sections of the community.

8. Head of Procurement Comments

- 8.1 Not applicable.

9. Policy Implications

- 9.1 There are no direct implications for the Council's existing policies, priorities and strategies. However, reducing the opportunity for fraud to take place in the first place, and taking appropriate action to detect and investigate identified fraud will assist the Council to use its available resources more effectively.

10. Use of Appendices

- 10.1 Annex 1 – Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy
Fraud Response Plan
Whistleblowing Policy
Sanctions Policy



11. The Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy

- 11.1 The Council's Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy gives guidance to relevant individuals, employees, Councillors, members of the public and organisations working in partnership with the Council, on what the Council wants to know about in relation to fraud and corruption, what people should do if they suspect fraud and corruption and how the Council will deal with any allegations made.
- 11.2 The Council's Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy and the related appendices are published on the Haringey website and intranet site. 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.
- 11.3 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance is identified as the responsible officer for maintaining the Whistleblowing policy, but this policy along with the Anti-bribery policy has previously been under the remit and management of the Council's Human Resources service area. In discussion with the Assistant Director for Human Resources, it has been agreed that the Whistleblowing Policy and Anti-bribery Policy will both rest within the Corporate Governance area and form part of the suite of policies under the main Anti-fraud Policy. The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance and Head of Audit and Risk Management will undertake annual reviews and consult with the Assistant Director for Human Resources when any reviews are undertaken to ensure that all relevant employment issues are incorporated into any changes to the policies.
- 11.4 Annual reminders to all staff on how to report suspected cases of fraud and corruption, together with contact details, are provided via corporate newsletters. This approach ensures that all staff are made aware of the Council's expectations and processes in relation to fraud and how to report it. The Council is developing its anti-fraud procedures to focus on more preventative and pro-active measures and will be undertaking further awareness and training sessions across the organisation during 2014/15.
- 11.5 The Council's Anti-fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy follows CIPFA's guidance and best practice recommendations. The Council's Whistle-blowing policy conforms to the best practice guidance issued by Public Concern at Work, the independent charitable organisation which advises on whistle-blowing and governance matters.