

North East Derbyshire District Council

Audit Committee

15 April 2024

Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy

Report of the Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)

Classification: This report is public

Report By: Jayne Dethick, Director of Finance & Resources (S151 Officer)

Contact Officer: Jayne Dethick

PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- To present the reviewed Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy to the Audit Committee for consideration

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Audit and Corporate Governance Scrutiny Committee approves the refreshed Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy (attached).

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk

Yes ✓

No

Contained within the report and strategy. There are no additional financial implications arising.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal including Data Protection

Yes ✓

No

Contained within the report and strategy. There are no additional legal implications arising.

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing**Yes****No ✓**

There are no staffing issues arising directly from this report.

On Behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i>	No
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	No
District Wards Significantly Affected	None
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input type="checkbox"/> SMT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	No Details:

REPORT DETAILS**1 Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy**

- 1.1 The Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy aims to set out the Council's commitment to promoting a strong counter fraud culture to prevent, detect and deter fraud and corruption.
- 1.2 The Council has a responsibility to protect the public purse and is committed to protecting the funds that it administers at all times. Therefore the highest standards of probity and conduct from members, employees, contractors, partners and any other parties involved in the delivery of its services to the public is expected at all times. This includes a requirement to act lawfully and comply at all times with the Council's policies and procedures as well as statute and regulation.
- 1.3 The Strategy is part of a collection of policies aimed at maintaining high standards of probity including the Codes of Conduct for members and

employees, the Financial Regulations embedded in the Constitution and the Whistle Blowing Policy.

- 1.4 The purpose of the strategy is to provide management with a tool to ensure the fraud resilience measures are in place and fit for purpose and to demonstrate the stewardship of public funds. It adopts the principles included in *Fighting Fraud and Corruption Locally 2020* which is the counter fraud and corruption strategy for local government, which provides a roadmap for dealing with fraud and corruption in local authorities.
- 1.5 The routine review of the Strategy has taken place and no major changes have been made. Additionally, there are no updates to the Fraud Act 2006 or the Fighting Fraud and Corruption Locally 2020 principles that need to be incorporated. The action plan within the Strategy has been updated to reflect the review outcomes.

2 Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 The strategy demonstrates the Council's commitment to promoting a strong counter fraud culture to prevent, detect and deter fraud and corruption and is periodically reviewed to ensure it continues to do so.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 4.1 There are no alternative options for consideration.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy March 2024
Background Papers	