

		Insert name and date of meeting in this box. Executive. 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2008.	Agenda Item No.
<b>Title</b>		Anti Fraud and Corruption Progress Report	
<b>For further information about this report please contact</b>		John King Tel: (01926) 456816 E Mail: john.king@warwickdc.gov.uk	
<b>Service Area</b>		Finance	
<b>Wards of the District directly affected</b>		Not applicable	
<b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006</b>		No	
<b>Date and meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number</b>		Executive – 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2007 Minute 568	
<b>Background Papers</b>		Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy	

<b>Contrary to the policy framework:</b>	No
<b>Contrary to the budgetary framework:</b>	No
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Included within the Forward Plan? (If yes include reference number)</b>	No

<b>Officer/Councillor Approval</b>		
With regard to officer approval all reports <u>must</u> be approved by the report author's relevant director, Finance, Legal Services and the relevant Portfolio Holder(s).		
<b>Officer Approval</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
Relevant Director		
Chief Executive		
CMT	15.05.2008	
Section 151 Officer	15.05.2008	Mary Hawkins
Legal		Simon Best
Finance	08.05.2008	Mike Snow
Portfolio Holder(s)		Councillor Coker
<b>Consultation Undertaken</b>		
Not applicable		
<b>Final Decision?</b>		Yes
<b>Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)</b>		

## **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy was approved by Executive in September 2005 with the intention that it be reviewed annually and that an action plan was formulated to help deliver its objectives.
- 1.2 This report details progress against the 2007/2008 action plan and presents the 2008/2009 action plan.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That members note the report and its contents, in particular the progress being made in implementing the action plan for 2007/08. (Appendix A)
- 2.2 That members approve the updated action plan for 2008/2009. (Appendix B)

## **3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1 The strategy has been reviewed to ensure that it remains current and appropriate and no changes are considered necessary
- 3.2 A revised action plan for 2008/2009 needs to be approved.

## **4. ALTERNATIVE OPTION CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 There are no alternatives to approving the updated action plan.

## **5. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1 It is possible for fraud and corruption to have some bearing on all of the Council's activities. However, approval of the action plan does not have a direct impact on any budget.

## **6. POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 6.1 The Council is committed to managing its services and resources openly, fairly and efficiently. The Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy assists in delivering those aims.

## **7. BACKGROUND**

- 7.1 Since the mid 1990s the level of fraud and corruption in the public sector has been a cause for concern.
- 7.2 The Audit Commission, CIPFA and associated Government bodies have since then advocated the creation of an anti fraud culture supported by a formally adopted policy and strategy which states an authority's stance and sends a clear message to all concerned that fraud and corruption will not be tolerated.
- 7.3 The Council first adopted a policy in September 1995 and this was replaced by the current policy and strategy in September 2005.

## REVIEW OF PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING ACTION PLAN 2007/08

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE	REVIEW OF PROGRESS
<b>OBJECTIVE: State publicly the Council's stance on fraud and corruption</b>			
Consider incorporating a statement, briefly outlining the Council's stance on fraud and corruption, in Council leaflets, application forms, contracts and other documents.	Audit and Risk Manager	March 2008	Statement approved by Audit and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in February 2008.
Consider the production of an Anti Fraud and Corruption leaflet to be distributed to staff and made available to the public.	Audit and Risk Manager	March 2008	Leaflet produced and approved by Audit and Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in February 2008.
<b>OBJECTIVE: Develop fraud and corruption training</b>			
Establish the need for training for managers and those staff involved with internal control systems.	Audit and Risk Manager	March 2008	Need for training still being established along with the best way of meeting that need.
Assess content of Members' training programme.	Audit and Risk Manager	March 2008	To be included in 2008/2009 Members' training programme.
<b>OBJECTIVE: Review Strategy and Action Plan</b>			
Review the currency of the Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy annually and report to Members.	Audit and Risk Manager	Annually	Undertaken as part of this report.
Present an annual report recording progress against the Action Plan together with a revised Action Plan.	Audit and Risk Manager	Annually	Undertaken as part of this report.

**ACTION PLAN 2008/09**

An action plan to improve further the Authority's arrangements for countering fraud and corruption is set out below.

<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>TIMESCALE</b>
<b>OBJECTIVE: : State publicly the Council's stance on fraud and corruption</b>		
Compile details of all Council produced leaflets, application forms and other documents and arrange for the approved statement to be included where appropriate.	Audit and Risk Manager	September 2008
Publicise and distribute the Anti Fraud and Corruption leaflet to staff and members of the public using all available means.	Audit and Risk Manager	September 2008
<b>OBJECTIVE: Develop fraud and corruption training</b>		
Establish the need for training for managers and those staff involved with internal control systems and delivery of that training by appropriate manner.	Audit and Risk Manager	March 2009
Assess content of Members' training programme.	Audit and Risk Manager	March 2009
<b>OBJECTIVE: Review Strategy and Action Plan</b>		
Review the currency of the Anti Fraud and Corruption Strategy annually and report to Members.	Audit and Risk Manager	Annually
As part of the review, benchmark the Strategy against other publicly available examples.	Audit and Risk Manager	Annually
Present an annual report recording progress against the Action Plan together with a revised Action Plan.	Audit and Risk Manager	Annually