

## ACTION PLAN 2010/11

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

ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE	PROGRESS
<b>OBJECTIVE: Apply checklist from 2009 Audit Commission report "Protecting the public purse"</b>			
Establish WDC compliance with Audit Commission checklist in order to identify any gaps and to consider if further counter fraud measures need to be introduced.	Audit and Risk Manager	September 2010	Completed. Compliance with the checklist has been established and a number of minor gaps have been identified. These will be addressed during the currency of the action plan. A copy of the completed checklist is attached as Appendix B.
<b>OBJECTIVE: WDC counter fraud measures form part of the governance arrangements for partnerships</b>			
Examine the governance arrangements for all WDC partnership ventures and ensure that WDC counter fraud and corruption measures are included.	Audit and Risk Manager	December 2010	Not scheduled for completion at this stage.
Ensure that all those involved in partnership arrangements are clear on this requirement.	Audit and Risk Manager	December 2010	Not scheduled for completion at this stage.

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ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE	PROGRESS
<b>OBJECTIVE: Improve publicity of successful fraud cases</b>			
Make arrangements to publicise details of successful prosecutions in fraud cases in all available and appropriate media sources in order to act as a deterrent.	Head of Customer and Information Services	December 2010	Details of the numbers of successful prosecutions and the numbers of people receiving financial penalties and formal cautions were published in the summer 2010 edition of District Focus. Very brief personal details occasionally appear in the "Court Reports" feature of The Courier. Following the next successful prosecution a press release will be prepared and submitted for publication to the Communications Officer.
<b>OBJECTIVE: Ensure the implications of the Bribery Act 2010 for the public sector are addressed</b>			
Establish the implications of the Bribery Act 2010 for WDC and take action as appropriate in respect of the Strategy and advice to Members and managers.	Audit and Risk Manager	September 2010	Completed. Any implications for the Strategy will be considered when it is next reviewed. An Intranet notice for staff has been prepared together with briefings for Members and senior managers. The notice for staff is attached as Appendix C as an example.

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ACTIONS	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMESCALE	PROGRESS
<b>OBJECTIVE: Effectively manage the council's role under the National Fraud Initiative (NFI)</b>			
Address the issues identified impairing the council's ability to meet its obligations under the NFI, including strengthening the management framework and raising awareness.	Audit and Risk Manager	July 2010	Completed. A report was presented to SMT in July and to Finance and Audit Scrutiny Committee in August. An update report will be presented to the February 2011 meeting.
<b>OBJECTIVE: Ensure Internal Audit staff remain aware of best practice and new developments</b>			
Arrange for attendance of Internal Audit staff at appropriate training events and professional networking groups.	Audit and Risk Manager	March 2011	Ongoing. Appropriate and affordable training events have been attended and are booked in the future.
<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	June 2011	Not scheduled for completion at this stage.
As part of the review, benchmark the Strategy against other publicly available examples.	Audit and Risk Manager	January 2011	Not scheduled for completion at this stage.
Obtain and examine latest CIPFA and Audit Commission guidance on fraud and corruption and consider if any of the recommendations impact on WDC's fraud prevention procedures or the policy and strategy.	Audit and Risk Manager	December 2010	The Audit Commission's latest report on fraud in the public sector "Protecting The Public Purse 2010" was published at the end of October. A copy has been received and its content and recommendations will be examined.
Present an annual report recording progress against the Action Plan together with a revised Action Plan.	Audit and Risk Manager	Annually	Not scheduled for completion at this stage.
Present a mid term report recording progress to date against the Action Plan.	Audit and Risk Manager	November 2010	Completed as part of this report.

