

# Counter Fraud & Investigation



## Proactive Work Plan 2022/23



# Counter Fraud & Investigation Annual Strategy 2022/23

## Our Fraud Control Strategy

Our Strategy ensures all of our actions are considered and justified.

The Counter Fraud & Investigation team's work ensures that we are able to identify at an earlier stage intelligence relating to the key priorities below, particularly those affecting the most vulnerable of society.

### Who are We?

A specialist function to protect public finance from fraud and serious crime, using our legal framework as a local authority service

### What is Our Purpose?

- 1 Protect the public purse from crime
- 2 Support the wider-public sector with shared, advanced capabilities

### What are Our Priorities?

Crimes affecting a vulnerable adult or child

Insider threats in local government

Organised crime targeting local government

Improving local government's resilience to cyber crime

### How do we Succeed?

Always acting Ethically in everything that we do, working to our values, attitudes and principles

Consider opportunities to work collaboratively with others for the benefit of our purpose, sharing our knowledge, experience and expertise

Apply the 4 'P' Strategy to Prevent, Protect and Prepare local government for economic crime, pursuing offenders where necessary

Ensure our teams are fully equipped to respond to the threats faced from economic crime

## Proactive Work Plan 2022/23

Risk Area	Activity	When	Current Status	Responsible Officer	Date Complete
Council-wide	<p><b>Training of high risk areas in counter fraud measures</b></p> <p>Ensure understanding of the threats posed to those areas. To be tailored to the areas and ongoing support offered via a Single Point of Contact with CFI. This is a yearly activity that CFI will continue to deliver.</p>	July 2022 to June 2023	<p>Ongoing and will be delivered to the high-risk areas. Intention to deliver fraud training to members within next 6 months. Two new employees have started with the fraud team to develop this.</p> <p>The use of ICT and the fraud awareness package that was previously used is to be pushed out across the council to all members of staff.</p> <p>Member training is a priority for the function and it is hoped to be delivered before the June deadline.</p>	Michael Dineen	
Council-wide	<p><b>Review all relevant policies concerning fraud aspects of the council's business</b></p> <p>Ensuring that all hold the most up to date legislative information as well as ensuring best practice is always adhered to.</p>	Jan 2023	<p>This was due to be completed by end of January, however a change in role for the responsible officer has meant this is to be pushed to be completed by June 2023. There has already been a review of the Money Laundering policy with others to follow.</p>	Michael Dineen	
Council-wide	<p><b>A Fraud Health Check on the Social Care Application Process</b></p> <p>Ensuring the applicants that apply for Social Care assistance are entitled to and worthy of such care assistance, specifically direct payment care.</p>	Apr 2023	<p>This will require staff in post to ensure a comprehensive check is completed. A resource review has deemed this suitable for CFI action, however it is likely this will be pushed to 2023/24 due to recruitment processes.</p>	Michael Dineen	To be moved to 2023/24 work plan.

Risk Area	Activity	When	Current Status	Responsible Officer	Date Complete
Council-wide	<p><b>Targeting POCA and Civil Legislation to maximise effect on criminal behaviour</b></p> <p>Ensure that CFI utilise the appropriate legislation to maximise the effects on criminals beyond just criminal convictions and where this takes place ensure that our vision of protecting the public purse is adhered to by promoting this work through all media streams.</p>	June 2023	This will be continued and working with Environment Crime Unit will be first to utilise the relationship. This continues and the CFI will work with current AFIs to ensure best value for money in relation to the sharing of resources. There is an overall strategy to target criminals not only by criminal convictions, but to also strip them of their wealth that has been gained by criminal activity, this is in line with all law enforcement agencies across the UK.	Michael Dineen	

As well as the proactive work, the CFI will continue to work on all the reactive investigations that continue every day from the referrals it receives. This is predominately the work that is required to be completed to ensure a successful CFI.