

ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA

AUDIT AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE – 8 March 2021

REPORT BY THE SHARED SERVICE DIRECTOR AUDIT, FRAUD, RISK AND INSURANCE

ANTI-FRAUD POLICY REVIEW

The Audit and Transparency Committee's Terms of Reference require that the Committee is responsible for the effective scrutiny of anti-fraud arrangements and activities including the review and approval of anti-fraud policies.

FOR APPROVAL

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The Audit and Transparency Committee is responsible for the effective scrutiny of anti-fraud arrangements and activities. The Audit and Transparency Committee:

- review and approve anti-fraud policies and strategies
- is responsible for gaining assurance that policies are kept up to date and are fit for purpose.

1.2 This paper contains two revised anti-fraud policies, reported in the appendices to this report, for review and approval. They are:

- Whistleblowing policy
- Anti-money laundering policy

1.3 There are no material changes resulting from the review of the Whistleblowing Policy, while the Anti-money laundering policy now includes a section detailing the offence of "tipping off".

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Note the revised policies and approve.

3. REASONS FOR DECISIONS

3.1 To inform the Committee of policy revisions and to provide assurance that policies and strategies are kept up to date and are fit for purpose.

4. ANTI-FRAUD POLICIES

- 4.1 Minimising any losses to fraud and corruption is an essential part of ensuring that all of the Council's resources are used for the purposes for which they are intended.
- 4.2 Staff are often the first to spot possible cases of wrongdoing at an early stage and are therefore encouraged and, indeed, expected to raise any concern that they may have, without fear of recrimination. Any concerns raised will be treated in the strictest confidence and will be properly investigated.
- 4.3 It is therefore vitally important that anti-fraud policies and strategies are kept up to date to support and guide Council staff, ensuring compliance with laws and regulations, giving guidance for decision-making, and streamlining internal processes.
- 4.4 The table below details the key anti-fraud policies, their dates of revision and date of their next review.

Policy	Last review	Next review
Anti-bribery policy	December 2020	November 2021
Anti-money laundering policy	March 2021	November 2021
Fraud response plan	December 2019	November 2021
Whistleblowing policy	January 2021	November 2021
Anti-fraud & corruption strategy 2020-2023	September 2020	September 2023

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Local Government Access to Information Act – background papers used:
Case Management Information

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