

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET – 20 OCTOBER 2015

Title of report	REVIEW OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE POLICIES
Key Decision	a) Financial Yes b) Community No
Contacts	Councillor Nick Rushton 01530 412059 nicholas.rushton@nwleicestershire.gov.uk Chief Executive 01530 454500 christine.fisher@nwleicestershire.gov.uk Head of Finance 01530 454520 ray.bowmer@nwleicestershire.gov.uk
Purpose of report	To approve the updated Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and Anti-Money Laundering Policy.
Reason for Decision	To formally approve the Council's updated Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy and Anti-Money Laundering Policy.
Council Priorities	Value for Money
Implications:	
Financial/Staff	The adoption of these policies has no financial or staffing implications in itself.
Link to relevant CAT	N/A
Risk Management	Fraud risks are identified and monitored though the business planning process.
Equalities Impact Screening	N/A
Human Rights	None
Transformational Government	No direct implications
Comments of Head of Paid Service	Report is satisfactory

Comments of Section 151 Officer	Report is satisfactory
Comments of Monitoring Officer	Report is satisfactory
Consultees	Internal Audit
Background papers	Draft minutes – Audit and Governance Committee – 23 September 2015
Recommendations	<p>THAT CABINET:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APPROVES THE ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE; 2. APPROVES THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING POLICY; AND 3. DELEGATES AUTHORITY TO THE HEAD OF FINANCE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CORPORATE PORTFOLIO HOLDER, TO MAKE ANY MINOR AND CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE ANTI-FRAUD AND CORRUPTION POLICY OR THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING POLICY RESULTING FROM CHANGES IN LEGISLATION AND PRACTICAL CIRCUMSTANCES (E.G. RESTRUCTURES).

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report is to seek approval of two of the Council’s Corporate Governance policies:
1. Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy (Appendix 1).
 2. Anti-Money Laundering Policy (Appendix 2).

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and appropriate standards. In discharging this responsibility the Council has in place arrangements for governance of its affairs and staff.
- 2.2 The following documents constitute the Council’s suite of Corporate Governance policies:
- Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy;
 - National Fraud Initiative Fair Processing Notice;
 - Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing) Policy;
 - Anti-Money Laundering Policy;
 - Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) Policy;
 - ICT Security Policy;
 - Internet and Email Conditions of Use;

- Risk Management Strategy; and
- Local Code of Corporate Governance.

3.0 REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE POLICIES

- 3.1 The Anti-Fraud and Corruption and Anti-Money Laundering Policies have been reviewed to ensure they remain fit for purpose, reflect current legislation and best practice. Amendments have been made to both policies and are attached as Appendix 1 and 2 for approval.

4.0 COMMENTS FROM AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ON 23 SEPTEMBER 2015

- 4.1 The revised policies were considered by the Audit and Governance Committee on the 23 September 2015 for members to provide any comments it may have for consideration by Cabinet. A committee member raised a comment regarding whether we offered financial incentives to encourage employees/members of the public to report fraud. The Council does not currently offer incentives. No other comments were received from the committee.

- 4.2 Extracts from the minutes are provided below for the Cabinet to consider:

Councillor T Neilson asked if, in cases which resulted in a conviction, there was any incentivisation to encourage people to report fraud.

The Head of Finance stated that he was not aware of any reward schemes. He added that ethics of this may be questionable as the Council would want any reports to be genuine.

Councillor T Neilson commented that he did not consider there to be an ethical dilemma with incentivising fraud reporting so long as controls were in place.