REVIEW OF THE ANTI FRAUD & CORRUPTION STRATEGY (Report by the Audit & Risk Manager)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report details the outcome of the annual review of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy.

2. THE STRATEGY

- 2.1 The Strategy provides details of the Council's approach to the identification and mitigation of the risk of fraud and corruption. Having reviewed the Strategy it is proposed that it be amended in light of experiences of the past year.
- 2.2 The proposed amendments, which are highlighted in the attached Annex, are intended to:
 - Increase the number of bodies to which significant matters of fraud and corruption can be reported; and
 - Clarify the decision making process in respect of a significant matter.
- 2.3 The changes have the support of both the S151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer.

3. SUPPORTING FRAMEWORK

- 3.1 In December 2008 the Panel approved an Anti-Fraud and Corruption Framework, This document is used by the Panel as a check-list to help confirm that the Strategy is being effectively implemented.
- 3.2 In September 2009 the Audit Commission published a reported entitled 'Protecting the Public Purse Local Government Fighting Fraud'. The report considers the key fraud risks and pressures facing Councils and identified much good practice including a fraud checklist. It is the intention to review and amend the Framework to take account of the issues included in the fraud checklist.
- 3.3 A report on progress against the Framework will be made to the June 2010 Panel meeting.

4 RECOMMENDATION

4.1 It is recommended that the Panel adopt the changes proposed to the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

None

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