

Brighton & Hove City Council

Audit, Standards and General Purposes Committee

Agenda Item 11

Subject: Counter Fraud Strategy

Date of meeting: 23rd June 2026

Report of: Director Property and Finance (S151)

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Ward(s) affected: All

For general release

1. Purpose of the report and policy context

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the recently updated Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy.

2. Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the committee approve the Council's Counter Fraud Strategy.

3. Context and background information

3.1 The purpose of this report is to provide details of the main changes and rationale for updating and amending the Council's Counter Fraud Strategy (attached as Appendix 1).

3.2 This counter fraud strategy is aligned to 'Fighting Fraud & Corruption Locally' (FFCL), a strategy for the 2020s, which provides a blueprint for a robust response to fraud and corruption perpetrated against local authorities.

3.3 The amendments made to the Strategy include the following:

- Update to contact details;
- Refreshed links to external websites.

4. Analysis and consideration of alternative options

4.1 The report highlights key issues for the year, including a summary of investigations and proactive work.

5. Community engagement and consultation

- 5.1 Internal Audit and Counter Fraud engage with all directorates on fighting fraud and quarterly progress reports summarise counter fraud activities and investigation work.

6. Financial implications

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. Counter Fraud activities are delivered within existing budgetary resources. Whilst it is not anticipated, should any additional pressures arise in delivering the strategy, this will be reported through the council's Targeted Budget Monitoring (TBM) process.

Name of finance officer consulted: Haley Woollard Date consulted:
05/06/26

7. Legal implications

- 7.1 The recommendations contained within this update report are not considered to give rise to any direct legal implications.

Name of lawyer consulted: Victoria Simpson Date consulted (28/05/26):

8. Risk implications

- 8.1 The recommendations contained within this update report will help reduce the risk to the Council arising from fraud-related activity.

9. Equalities implications

- 9.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

10. Sustainability implications

- 10.1 There are no sustainability implications arising from this report.

11. Other Implications [delete any or all that are not applicable]

- 11.1 There are no other implications arising from this report.

12. Conclusion

- 12.1 The Committee is asked to approve the Counter Fraud Strategy.

Supporting Documentation

Appendices

1. Counter Fraud Strategy

