SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO:	Cabinet	DATE:	18 th April 2017
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WARD(S):	All		
PORTFOLIO:	Commissioner for F	inance & Stra	tegy, Councillor Munawar

PART I NON-KEY DECISION

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE AUDIT & CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - COUNTER FRAUD STRATEGY

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to consider the recommendation of the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee to approve the Counter Fraud Strategy, which includes the Sanction Policy and Anti-Fraud Response.

2. <u>Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action</u>

The Cabinet is requested to resolve that the Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy as attached at Appendix 1 be approved.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

The report indirectly supports all of the strategic priorities and cross cutting themes.

The maintenance of excellent governance within the Council to ensure that it is efficient, effective and economic in everything it does is achieve through the improvement of corporate governance and democracy by ensuring effective management practice is in place.

4. Other Implications

(a) <u>Financial</u>

There are no direct financial implications of this report

(b) Risk Management

This report is concerned with the risk management and other governance arrangements of the Council.

(c) <u>Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications</u>

There are no human rights issues arising from this report.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

There are no equality issues arising from this report.

5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 The Council has had a number of anti-fraud policies and procedures in place for many years. To ensure that policies and procedures remain effective and up to date, it is good practice to review them on a regular basis, and revise them where necessary to ensure they continue to be fit for purpose. The amended Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy, (and appendices) are included at Appendix 1 has been reviewed and updated accordingly.
- 5.2 The document is comprised of the following key elements:
 - Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy
 - Anti-Fraud Response Plan
 - Anti-money Laundering Policy
 - Anti-bribery Policy
 - Sanction Policy
- 5.3 The accompanying policy statement makes it clear that the Council operates a 'zero tolerance' approach towards fraud and corruption, using the full range of sanctions available against any individual or organisation found to be committing fraud. The policy applies to all parts of the Council and to all employees, volunteers, contractors and consultants in relation to their work with/for the authority.

6. Comments of Other Committees

The draft strategy was considered by the Audit & Corporate Governance Committee on Thursday 16th March 2017 and it was agreed to recommend the document to the Cabinet.

7. Conclusion

The Cabinet is requested to consider the Audit & Corporate Government Committee's recommendation to approve the attached Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy at Appendix .1

8. Appendices Attached

Appendix 1 - Counter Fraud and Corruption Strategy

9. Background Papers

None.