

## **REPORT TO FINAL ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2006**

### **ANTI-FRAUD AND ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGY**

#### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1. To present to the Final Accounts and Audit Committee the draft Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Strategy for approval (attached as Appendix 1).

#### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1. That the draft Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption is approved.

#### **3. Links to the Corporate Business Plan**

- 3.1. Effective financial management underpins the delivery of all the Council's work.

#### **4. General Background Information**

- 4.1. The Council is required to review its Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption strategy on an annual basis, to ensure it remains up to date and reflects Best Practice.
- 4.2. The Internal Audit Manager has conducted a review of the Strategy, and has made a number of changes to reflect recent changes in management structure and the return of Internal Audit as an in-house function.
- 4.3. A fraud response plan has also been introduced, in line with best practice. This will ensure all investigations are carried out consistently and are adequately and appropriately documented at all stages.
- 4.4. The Council Tax and Housing Benefits Team Leader has been consulted to ensure that references to the Housing Benefits Investigations Team are correct. The Unions have also been invited to comment on the revised Strategy.
- 4.5. The most significant change to the strategy is to introduce procedures to address the issue of Money Laundering. A number of pieces of legislation have been passed recently on this subject, and the Council has taken steps to protect its employees and other stakeholders.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1. None.

#### **6. Community & Environmental Implications**

- 6.1. None.

#### **7. Equal Opportunities Implications**

- 7.1. None.

**8. Human Resources Implications**

8.1. None.

**9. Documentation used in the preparation of this report**

9.1. Background papers

**REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT MANAGER TO THE FINAL ACCOUNTS  
AND AUDIT COMMITTEE ON 29<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2006**

Report prepared by  
Rob Granger, Internal Audit Manager  
Tel: 01249 706221  
email: rgranger@northwilts.gov.uk