



# Report to Audit and Governance Committee

**Date:** 10 June 2020

**Title:** Draft Counter Fraud Plan

**Author and/or contact officer:** Michael Frost (Audit and Anti-Fraud Manager)

**Ward(s) affected:** N/A

**Recommendations:** Members are recommended to **approve** the Counter Fraud Plan

**Reason for decision:** N/A

## Executive summary

1.1 The purpose of the report is to present the draft Counter Fraud Plan for approval.

## Content of report

1.2 The report outlines the internal and external fraud risks faced by the council and the proposed areas of pro-active audit fraud work to be delivered across the year in addition to reactive fraud investigations.

1.3 As in any crisis, fraudsters are capitalising on Covid-19 to take advantage of those who are seeking help, and as such we have seen an increase in the risk of fraud across the sector. This includes fraudulent applications for Business Rate Grants, fake PPE providers and a significant number of phishing emails.

1.4 As such, the counter fraud plan for 2020/21 will seek to pro-actively review a number of the key risk areas as a result of the impact of the pandemic.

## Other options considered

1.5 N/A

## Legal and financial implications

1.6 None.

## Corporate implications

1.7 None.

## Consultation and communication

1.8 None.

## Next steps and review

Progress against delivery of the Counter Fraud Plan will be reported to the Audit and Governance Committee on a quarterly basis.

## Background papers

Buckinghamshire Council Draft Counter Fraud Plan 2020/21

